

Medical Source Opinion of Patient's Capability to Manage Benefits

In replying, use this address:
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

TELEPHONE NUMBER (Including Area Code)

DATE

SSA CONTACT

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION (SSA Only)
If different from patient

NAME OF WAGE EARNER OR SELF-EMPLOYED PERSON

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

PATIENT'S NAME

PATIENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

PATIENT'S DATE OF BIRTH

PATIENT'S ADDRESS (Number and Street, City, State, and ZIP Code)

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The patient shown above has filed for or is receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits. We need you to complete the back of this form and return it to us in the enclosed envelope to help us decide if we should pay this person directly or if he or she needs a representative payee to manage the Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits on his or her behalf.

Please Note: This determination affects how benefits are paid and has no bearing on disability determinations. Unfortunately, SSA cannot compensate you for the time it takes to provide this information. Thank you for your help.

WHAT IS A REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE

A representative payee is someone who manages the patient's SSA benefits to make sure the patient's basic needs are met. The payee has a strong and continuing interest in the patient's well-being and is usually a family member or close friend.

WHO NEEDS A REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE

Some individuals age 18 and older who have mental or physical impairments are not capable of managing their SSA benefits or directing others to manage them to meet their basic needs, so we select a representative payee to receive their benefits on their behalf. Examples of impairments that may cause incapability are dementia, brain damage or chronic schizophrenia. However, a person's need for some assistance with financial tasks such as bill paying, etc., does not necessarily mean he or she cannot make decisions concerning basic needs and is incapable of managing his or her own benefits. If the individual is able to direct the management of his or her own benefits, then we will consider the individual capable.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION ON THE REVERSE OF THIS FORM

PATIENT'S NAME

PATIENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

PATIENT'S DATE OF BIRTH

PATIENT'S ADDRESS (Number and Street, City, State, and ZIP Code)

1. Date you first saw the patient _____

2. Date you last saw the patient _____

3. How many times have you seen this patient? _____

4. Are you able to assess the patient's ability to manage or direct the management of funds? Yes No

If no, please skip the remaining questions and sign and date the form.

5. What is the basis for your assessment (e.g. observation, medical records, diagnostic tests, patient's self-report, family member's report)?

Note: Please keep in mind in responding to the following questions that the actual performance of the patient, when known, is usually the best indicator of the patient's abilities.

6. Does the patient:

- Have a general understanding of his or her finances (i.e., income, assets, expenses)? Yes No Unknown
- Have sufficient ability to handle a checking/savings account? Yes No Unknown
- Have sufficient ability to pay bills in a timely manner? Yes No Unknown

7. Can the patient successfully manage or direct the management of funds to meet basic needs (e.g. food, clothing, shelter)?

- Yes No Unsure
- If "Yes," please provide a brief summary of the findings that led to this conclusion, and complete question 8. Please also sign and date the form.
- If "No," please provide a brief summary of the findings that led to this conclusion, and complete question 8. Please also sign and date the form.
- "Unsure," please explain and sign and date the form.

8. Do you expect the patient to be able to manage or direct the management of his or her benefits in the future (e.g. the patient is temporarily unconscious)?

Yes No

Please explain your answer.

NAME OF MEDICAL SOURCE (Please print.)	TITLE
ADDRESS (Number and Street, City, State, and ZIP Code)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)

I declare under penalty of perjury that I have examined all the information on this form, and on any accompanying statements or forms, and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that anyone who knowingly gives a false statement about a material fact in this information, or causes someone else to do so, commits a crime and may be subject to a fine or imprisonment.

SIGNATURE OF MEDICAL SOURCE	DATE
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