

“MY VOICE” LETTER OF MEDICAL JUSTIFICATION:

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The letter of medical justification (LMJ) for Variety’s “My Voice” Program must be completed by a licensed Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) with ASHA Certification who also completed an evaluation of the child using an iPad, and can then provide a recommendation for the appropriate communication application, which has been trialed by the SLP with the child.

If a licensed SLP is writing the LMJ, but does not have ASHA Certification, then he/she can have their ASHA Certified Supervisor sign off on the LMJ that’s being prepared for the child and submitted to Variety.

The LMJ should be printed on letterhead, signed, and dated.

Some essential elements required in the LMJ, include:

- A general statement that discusses the child’s background information, child’s documented diagnoses, child’s communication disorder(s), and current status/severity of the child’s communication disorder(s).
- What does the child currently demonstrate in regards to his/her speech?
- How does the child currently communicate?
- Does the child have a history of using an iPad as a communication device?
If so, what communication application(s) were used?
- Is an iPad appropriate for the child as a communication device?
- What application are you recommending for the child in using an iPad communication device?
- Does the child possess the fluent and intelligible speech skills necessary to communicate by solely using natural speech?
- What are the child’s specific communication needs at this time?
- Has any assessment or evaluation tools been used with the child in the past?

The licensed and ASHA Certified SLP completing the LMJ should include their full name, title, organization, phone number, an e-mail address, and any related credentials.