



Date:

RE:

Referred by

Dear Sir:

This is to inform you that the above-named patient is under my care for orofacial myology. This patient has been referred by their physician and orthodontist since these services are unavailable within their offices. We are submitting a claim for payable benefits and for exception to the preferred provider status since there are only two providers in the State of Nebraska.

Orofacial myofunctional therapy is the treatment of an orofacial muscle disorder, a deviate swallowing pattern, or complete labial incompetency with a high incidence of facial bony growth malformation which may lead to chronic mouth breathing and upper respiratory difficulties. It is a psycho-physiological program of therapeutic neuromuscular retraining and proprioception; involving the coordination of full range of motion aimed at the establishment of a correct deglutition pattern and improved orofacial musculature. The treatment being performed with the above patient is a form of oral orthopedics and physical therapy of the face. These both serve to develop normal neuromusculature and function. The process is a complex one involving the coordination of many nerve and muscle groups. In the beginning stages of treatment, therapy is performed on a conscious level utilizing neuromuscular facilitation. As soon as possible, treatment moves to a more subconscious level where stabilization of muscle function and synchronization of deglutition are achieved.

This treatment is highly specialized and is performed by certified orofacial myologists. This is a profession shared by both dental hygienists and speech language pathologists; requiring formal post graduate education and internships, culminating with written and clinical board exams, then certification. A list of certified orofacial myologists in the state of Nebraska may be found at [www. IAOM.com](http://www.IAOM.com) under "directory".

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If there are any questions, please contact me at one of the telephone numbers below.

Sincerely,

Patricia Brinkman-Falter, RDH, MS, COM
Board Certified Orofacial Myologist