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Medical Necessity Letter

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To, John Smith

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11/22/1975

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Diagnosis

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M17.11 (Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, right knee)

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Proposed Treatment

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Right Total Knee Arthroplasty (TKA)

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Detailed Explanation

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has advanced, symptomatic primary osteoarthritis of the right knee, confirmed by radiographic evidence of severe joint space narrowing, osteophytes, and subchondral sclerosis. He experiences debilitating pain (VAS 8/10 at rest, 10/10 with activity), significant functional limitations including inability to walk more than 100 feet, climb stairs, or perform activities of daily living without severe discomfort. Conservative management, including physical therapy, NSAIDs, corticosteroid injections, and hyaluronic acid injections, has been extensively trialed over 18 months with minimal and transient relief. Failure to proceed with TKA will result in continued severe pain, progressive joint destruction, worsening immobility, and a significant decline in his quality of life, potentially leading to increased reliance on pain medication and further deconditioning. TKA is the definitive treatment for end-stage knee osteoarthritis, offering pain relief, restoration of function, and improved mobility.

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Doctor's Signature

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