


**From:** Georgina Frank [Georgina.Frank@sswahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Georgina.Frank@sswahs.nsw.gov.au)   
**Subject:** would you be comfortable?  
**Date:** 15 September 2016 at 3:42 pm  
**To:** [craig@walkeasypedorthics.com.au](mailto:craig@walkeasypedorthics.com.au)  
**Cc:** Angelo Morelli [Angelo.Morelli@sswahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Angelo.Morelli@sswahs.nsw.gov.au)

GF

Hello Craig,

I have a rather complex patient, Peter Ihrig, who needs an AFO but has been having problems with the old hard plastic version.

Peter is a 20 year old gentleman with congenital myotonic dystrophy who currently resides in a group home. He has significant visual impairment and is non-verbal, but has relatively well preserved comprehension. He was diagnosed soon after birth, and his mother also had myotonic dystrophy. He was born with congenital talipes equinovarus and had multiple operations on the foot-ankle complex as a child (three operations on the right and one operation on the left). Peter can mobilise independently within the group home when wearing his AFOs. He needs prompting on uneven surfaces and steps; for example, his attendant carer verbally indicates whether a step is "big" or "small". His walking tolerance is approximately 100 metres on the flat. Although he can manage steps, he finds inclined surfaces very difficult. There have been no recent falls. Given the significant varus deformity of the right foot, he has developed a callus on the lateral midfoot, which causes intermittent pain, causing him to crawl around his house instead of walk at times.

Originally I thought to refer him to shoetech as they have the assessment equipment that may be needed but I am gathering that they are finding it difficult to get there. Do you think this is something you would be able to consider? There is an option to organise funding through the crgh aged care unit (Angelo Morelli is part of their team and I have Cc'd him into the email) up to \$2000.00 with the young man's father covering the remainder. The only caveat would be that the aged care unit advised that there is generally a 6-8 week wait for payment once an invoice has been issued.

I look forward to your advice,

Regards,

**Georgina Frank**

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