



Client Eligibility: Clients eligible for this demonstration project are trauma caused clients, who are reliant upon a mechanical ventilator for long term breathing and survival, who are Florida residents, who have been treated at a Florida verified trauma center for their trauma injuries, who are Florida Medicaid eligible or who are already on Florida Medicaid and who will remain in Florida for at least a minimum of one year following implantation. They, or their designated health care surrogate, must agree in writing voluntarily to participate in the implantation, specialized rehabilitation program, and to the demonstration project documentation information necessary to develop data for determining both short term and long term success of the implantation, problems and cost of rehabilitation for after care.

Eligibility Determination: Basic criteria for medical eligibility for this program are at a minimum: Medical eligibility will be determined by the implanting hospital:

- Age 21 or over and cognitively intact. (However, if a hospital is willing to do implantation on an 18-21 year old they can be considered.)
- Level of injury is C1-3 and been dependent on a mechanical ventilator.
- Injury medically deemed complete.
- Consistent caregiver support systems willing to assume support and care roles.
- Eligible for home health care, while not mandatory, is a positive consideration.
- Free of underlying lung disease that precludes ventilator weaning.
- Free of a serious disorder that might affect nerve phrenic conduction.
- The client would be able to be independent in a majority of activities of daily living, with or without support, if not on mechanical ventilator support.
- The client has a permanent address in the state of Florida.
- The client does not carry a Do Not Resuscitate Order.
- The patient is free of active infections.
- Female clients (of child bearing age) must have a negative pregnancy test. They also can not be pregnant or breastfeeding.
- The client does not require long term oxygen use.
- The client does not have a significant chest deformity or scoliosis.
- The client is not significantly overweight or obese.
- The client's physician must verify that there is no medical reason for not doing the implantation of the pacer unit.
- All hospitalization, medical procedures, complications and transportation costs will be paid by Medicaid or other non-department resources and patient is eligible for Florida Medicaid following hospital discharge.