Date

Medicare Operations Division
[Address]
[City, State and ZIP Code]

Re: [Patient's Name]
Member ID: [Member ID]

Reference Number: [from denial letter]

**Subject: 4th Level Medicare Appeals Council: Appeal of Denial of Coverage for** [Type of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant]

Dear Appeal Reviewer:

I am requesting a 4th level appeal, review of this case by Medicare Appeals Committee, on behalf of my *Medicare Advantage* patient, [Patient's Name], for the following adverse decision made by administrative law judge, [insert name here]. I have included the adverse determination as an attachment to this memorandum [include copy of letter from the administrative law judge].

The 3rd level ALJ appeal for [transplant type] was denied for the stated reason [put the reason here] by [insert name of reviewer if on denial letter]. Please understand that the reason given for denial is not valid [put reason here] **OR** [I am submitting additional information which will help you understand why this is the [best? only?] appropriate treatment for this patient.]

[Patient's Name] is under my care for [name of diagnosis, short description and ICD10 code], which is a [stage of disease?] [life threatening?] condition that causes [insert a description of patient’s S/S]. Without transplant this patient [what is prognosis without transplant?]

[Indicate here if patient has had and failed prior treatment – describe what the treatment was and the current state of the patient’s disease.]

**OR**

[Indicate here what alternative treatments are and why they are not appropriate for this patient.]

HCT [offers patients with this condition only chance of cure?] **OR** [Is the standard of care for this condition – explain in detail why transplant is the best treatment choice]. With transplant the likely outcome for [patient name] is [insert likely outcomes and longevity – insert any data you have here].

Transplant for [X condition] is accepted as the standard of care, and is well supported by respected scientific literature. [Summarize literature findings here.]

Please review the following enclosed medical journal articles that support this position:

* **Article #1**
* **Article #2**
* **Article #3**

**OR**

Due to the small number of patients with this [deadly? rare?] disease it is not possible to obtain enough participants for a clinical trial, hence we must rely on small case series to guide treatment. [Summarize published findings.] [Explain why you are taking the approach you are.]

* **Article #1**
* **Article #2**
* **Article #3**

Based on the available medical literature on [Patient's Name's] condition, I am filing this appeal, specifically requesting that you approve the required [HCT that was denied]. Transplant is the [only available **OR** best] treatment option for this condition and for this patient. Not approving this transplant leaves this patient with [insert prognosis here].

Sincerely,

[Physician's Name]**, M.D.**

**Enclosures:**

* Documents referred to in text.
* Signed Authorization of Representative Form