

Paediatric Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy

Snapshot

*Liam is a 17 year old boy with quadriplegic cerebral palsy and severe scoliosis who lives at home. His mother needed some respite from the physical care. *Lesley is delighted to see how much Liam has benefitted from the stimulation and companionship of his carers and has increased his care, improving both the quality of Liam's life and her own.

“Prestige has made such a difference to my life. They are friendly, approachable, flexible, committed, trustworthy and reliable.”

Lesley, Liam's mum.

For more information please contact us via email on info@prestige-nursing.co.uk or call **0800 0237 222**

Interventions

Button peg feed; suctioning; CPAP -1l of oxygen overnight; emergency oxygen for daytime; SATS monitor overnight; catheter care; PRP (platelet rich plasma therapy); visual impairment requiring eye level presentation; hoisting and handling; personal care and social stimulation.

Liam and the family's goals

After spinal rods were inserted, Liam frequently suffered chest infections. He was also struggling with his sleep and de-saturation due to occluded airways so needed CPAP. Liam's nursing needs changed after the CPAP intervention; Lesley was exhausted, physically and emotionally, and was concerned about meeting his needs in adulthood. Worried about introducing a clinical environment into the home, she wanted young carers to stimulate Liam, promote his independence and encourage his sociable nature.

Meeting the needs

Lesley immediately liked “the enthusiasm, the friendliness and the confidence in being able to meet Liam's needs.” Prestige chose a team of young carers who started with ‘two to one’ care on alternate Saturday mornings and evenings. This relieved her of the hoisting and handling and enabled her to go out with her husband. Lesley was so happy with the care that Liam now has care every morning and full-time care on holiday week days.

The 1-to-1 training is overseen by the branch nurse and only signed off when Lesley is happy. She says, “Prestige carers follow protocol but in such a non-clinical way. Liam needs somebody with a spark, who can laugh and joke with him and this is what they all do.” She also appreciates the flexibility to change shifts at short notice.

The carers

*Callum is new to care and has enjoyed each step. He particularly likes how his care makes Liam's life richer. “You definitely need to be kind, open and just try and help them enjoy as much as they can.”

*Ruth has worked in care for 6 years. “I love working with young people. I like the activities, seeing them smiling and happy.” Lesley adds, “I have a brilliant relationship with the carers. They just go above and beyond.”

The outcome

The carers plan holiday activities and often take Liam out in the motability vehicle, on picnics, to Sea Life, a Science Centre, a zoo and swimming. Lesley is now able to enjoy life with her husband, family and friends, knowing that Liam is well cared for. “I want more care and I want it through Prestige. I know how much Liam's benefitting so that makes me happy.”

Working in partnership

The continuing complex care nurse recommended Prestige who work closely with the CCG and Social Services to provide the complex care for Liam.