



# The Sibley Report

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... the place to find valuable information to help make your job – and your life easier!

You will receive a copy of this brief, easy-to-read report every month – and it will cover topics that are of interest to you! If you have a topic idea or any other suggestions, please give our Editor - Angie Catenaro - a call.

Sibley & Associates is a national disability management firm with a decade of experience, 115 plus healthcare professionals and state-of-the-art technology. Our customers benefit from all the advantages a large company has to offer...while also benefiting from the “small business” customer service philosophy of our dedicated **Insurance Services Division**.

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## Home Modification Assessments...What to Look For!

If you have ever handled a catastrophic file, you know that one of the main challenges you face is managing your client's housing issues. If your client sustains injuries that require modifications to his/her home, so that he/she can safely function within that environment, you require a home modification. Your efforts provide your client with the peace of mind he/she needs to concentrate on his/her rehabilitation program ...knowing that you are taking care of his/her long-term housing needs, as well as any issues concerning the transition from hospital to home.

As you know, under the Statutory Accident Benefits Schedule (SABS), an assessment of the claimant's residence (i.e., where he/she lived at the time of the accident) must be completed. This assessment is required to determine the extent and cost of providing your client with a fully accessible residence.

To feel confident in the quality of the assessment, the most important thing is to make sure that the assessment is conducted by a multi-disciplinary team of qualified professionals, such as an Occupational Therapist/Kinesiologist, a Construction Engineer and an Architect.

This kind of diverse, highly trained team has the skills necessary to compare your client's present/future needs with his/her present housing environment. This level of expertise ensures that all facets of your client's long-term housing requirements are appropriately assessed, based on barrier free design principles that are realistic, reasonable and effective.

You should also be looking for a very comprehensive, detailed report that includes:

- architectural drawing, outlining how the home can be.
- assessment of the site/lot; garage; exterior entrances; interior including main hallway/foyer, corridors, kitchen, bathrooms, bedrooms, laundry room; level changes to doors, windows, walls, stairs, and floor finishes; electrical and mechanical aspects of the home, as well as security.
- a cost summary for the proposed modifications.

With a safe and appropriate environment, your client will feel right at home!

We want your ideas....see attached

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