

# **STANDSURE** THERAPY AID BOARD

# FIELD TRIAL REPORT

### RUNNING FROM: JUNE 2022 - MAY 2023



### FIELD TRIAL PROCESS

Ashley Shepherd approached RMS near the end of 2021 with an initial concept for the StandSure board. She had tested the idea using a "homemade" version of the board with stroke rehabilitation patients to keep their feet static during therapy sessions. After being passed to our in-house R&D team for design and testing, RMS developed a final StandSure product range in early 2022.

This product was then shared with a key client of Ashley's, Brandon, to be able to track his progress over a period of weeks while using the StandSure during daily sit to stand therapy with his mother, Stephanie, something she had not been able to do on her own without the product. The report is laid out as follows:

- i. Brandon's requirements from the product
- ii. Brandon's first review carried out at 4 weeks.
- iii. Brandon's second review carried out at 28 weeks.
- iv. Final remarks from other therapist experiences.

### **REPORT CONTRIBUTORS**

#### WRITTEN ON BEHALF OF RMS

Mila Newbold, Communications Manager.

#### WITH SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FROM

Ashley Shepherd, Chartered Physiotherapist and StandSure inventor. Brandon and his mum Stephanie, who agreed to be recorded for this trial.

#### AND VALUABLE FEEDBACK FROM

NHS Therapist 'V', a Community Paediatric Physiotherapist. NHS Therapist 'M', a Specialist Neurological Paediatric Physiotherapist. NHS Therapist 'S', a Physiotherapy Apprentice.

## **INTRODUCING BRANDON**



### DIAGNOSIS

Brandon has a rare neurological condition called Bilateral Perisylvian Polymicrogyria, a brain deformation of the cerebral cortex causing global developmental delay.

### SITUATION

Due to his condition, Brandon was unable to stand or walk independently, requiring assistance with all daily activities.

At the time of this field trial Brandon was four years old and regularly seeing therapist Ashley Shepherd. This image was taken during his first session with the StandSure.

### **EQUIPMENT GOALS**

### **DESIRE FOR THE EQUIPMENT**

The StandSure board eliminates the need for a second adult to be on hand to hold his feet in place, allowing Stephanie to carry out Brandon's therapy on her own and on a daily basis, something she couldn't do before.

#### STANDSURE SHORT TERM GOALS

To allow Stephanie to carry out solo daily therapy with Brandon to hopefully increase his standing and mobility.

#### STANDSURE LONG TERM GOALS

To increase Brandon's mobility to the point where sit-to-stand, or basic walking, can be achieved without assistance.

# 4 WEEK REVIEW

### STANDING GOALS

- When first using the StandSure Brandon could be held in a standing position for 1 minute intervals at a time.
- After four weeks of using the StandSure as part of daily therapy Brandon could stand for 6 minute intervals at a time.

"We have been trying different ways to successfully make him stand on his own by holding his hand or holding an object, but it just doesn't give him comfort. With StandSure he can free stand watching his favourite cartoon and we noticed from week one he started from one minute and now, we're in week four and he can free stand for six minutes! It is huge progress! I am positive!"

### Stephanie, Brandon's Mother.

### 28 WEEK REVIEW

### **STANDING GOALS**

- After 28 weeks Brandon can now stand and take steps independently with holding support. This is after an extended period using the StandSure as part of everyday therapy.
- Brandon has exhibited greater strength in his lower body from using the StandSure board.
- While we accept that the StandSure was used as part of a wider therapy scheme, it is believed daily use of the StandSure has rapidly increased the speed of Brandon's progress.



# **EFFECTS ON BRANDON**

#### **BRANDON'S CONFIDENCE**

Without the ability to engage with his environment Brandon was switched off from certain aspects. Now the StandSure has progressed him to a point where he is walking in a semi-mobile fashion and can interact with his environment, this has had profound positive effects on his confidence.

### AROUND THE HOME

"We walked in the backyard where there is a small pond and bridge. As soon as he saw the water from afar, he let out an excited noise and raced over. Again, he was good at walking up the slope of the bridge."

#### Stephanie, Brandon's Mother.

#### **IN ENGAGING ENVIRONMENTS**

"We revisited the transport museum and looked at the same displays. He is much more interactive and switched on - looking at glass displays leading me towards it and playing switches at the side of the steering wheel. I can see the difference!"



#### Stephanie, Brandon's Mother.

STANDSURE SPECIFICATIONS			
	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE
BOARD SIZE	45 cm x 45 cm	52.5 cm x 52.5 cm	60 cm x 60 cm
FOOT DISTANCE	10.5 cm	17.5 cm	24.5 cm
USER FOOT WIDTH	8 cm (max)	9.5 cm (max)	10.5 cm (max)
USER FOOT LENGTH	13 cm to 17 cm	15 cm to 22 cm	15 cm to 23 cm
USER ANKLE CIRCUMF.	16.5 cm to 21 cm	17.5 cm to 24 cm	24 cm to 28 cm

# **PRODUCT FEEDBACK**

### **'V'** - NHS COMMUNITY PAEDIATRIC PHYSIOTHERAPIST \*

"The board is portable and easily fits in my car, whilst being simple to use and easy to clean."

"I have had really good results with a young quadriplegic and noted improvements in transfers, sitting balance, and ability to maintain high kneeling and crawling. Interestingly, upper limb function has also improved; they needed a scribe in school for 100% of written tasks but are now managing around a third of it on their own. The patient also reports feeling more confident."

\* Name requested to be withheld for data protection purposes.

### **'M'** - NHS SPECIALIST NEUROLOGICAL PAEDIATRIC PHYSIOTHERAPIST \*

"This has been such a welcome adjunct to therapy and hugely successful in schools, clinics and home environments."

"I have been using it for better foot placement in sitting and standing generally. I have a few children who use it currently for practising sit-to-stand and vice versa to aid balance, strength and coordination. It has also been very successful in encouraging better posture in standing whilst engaging the child in activities to improve function, core stability and overall well-being."

"It is very easy to use and to teach others to carry out therapy (eg. parents, teachers) and is so handy to store and move around."

#### \* Name requested to be withheld for data protection purposes.

To find out more about the benefits of the StandSure or to place an order you can contact our friendly Customer Service Team by calling **01795 477280**, sending an email to **sales@rms-rehab.co.uk** or visiting our website at **www.rms-rehab.co.uk**.

# **PRODUCT FEEDBACK**

### ASHLEY SHEPHERD - CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPIST

"I have used StandSure with a broad cross spectrum of patients; hemi, di and quadriplegia. More recently I have used it with tip toe walking children and it is currently being trialled with dementia patients in a falls prevention unit, which is an area I had not imagined it could be used."

"Prime benefits include improved strength, posture, balance, gait, co-ordination and fine motor skills, which will be obvious to all therapists. More interestingly are the mental benefits; improved focus and attention, self-esteem, calming effects, a literal 'coming to the senses' of which I truly believe are products of seeing and feeling the world from a different perspective of having one's feet firmly planted on the ground (whether sitting or standing)."

"I hope I have produced something in partnership with RMS that will benefit many, and since using the StandSure I would not be without my 'extra pair of hands'."

### **'S'** - NHS PHYSIOTHERAPY APPRENTICE

"I've found this to be a great help in a busy acute environment reducing usual double handed sessions to single handed. Not requiring a second pair of hands to constantly support foot placement is amazing.

Additionally, StandSure enhances the patients active ability of key sitting and standing features.



From stroke patients with reduced unilateral control of lower limb or elderly patients that have had previous falls and presenting with high levels of disabling anxiety I've found the StandSure to anchor for additional sense of security"

\* Name requested to be withheld for data protection purposes.



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