

**Social Determinants and the Law Through the Lens of DSRIP©**  
*A Training Curriculum for HealthCare Professionals*

**SAMPLE PHYSICIAN'S LETTER – Housing Conditions**

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## HOSPITAL LETTERHEAD

[Date]

To: [Landlord Name, Address]

RE: [Patient's Name]

To Whom It May Concern:

**1) Explain your relationship to the patient.**

*I am the treating physician of [Patient Name] who resides at [Patient Address inc. Apt #].*

**2) Describe the patient's health condition[s] and treatment.**

*[Patient Name] suffers from severe asthma, is on maximum doses of treatment therapy, and she has nonetheless had numerous Emergency Room visits.*

**3) Relate housing conditions as described by the patient.**

*[Patient Name] has informed me that her apartment is infested with rodents and roaches that enter through holes in the walls and gaps between the doors.*

**4) Describe how current housing conditions are adversely impacting the patient's health condition[s].**

*Both rodents and roaches are triggering agents for asthmatics. [Patient Name] reports that her asthma worsens when she is in the apartment, leading me to conclude that she is at a grave risk of having a serious asthma attack should these conditions remain uncorrected.*

**5) Request the necessary repair or remediation.**

*Given the severity of [Patient's Name]'s health condition, I request that you immediately repair the holes in her apartment and exterminate so that the infestation may be abated.*

Sincerely,

*[ Treating Physician's Signature ]*

[Physician's Phone Number]

[Physician's Email]

CC: [Attorney Name, Esq., New York Legal Assistance Group]