

Consensus best practices for lower extremity health professionals

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As a global community of lower extremity health professionals, we aspire to hold ourselves to a higher standard of care in order to restore a reputation of effectiveness. Treating symptoms while ignoring root causes is no longer acceptable. Establishing consensus best practices for the prevention and resolution of lower extremity dysfunction is essential. We believe five critical practices serve as a gold standard for effective care and must be adopted by all professionals. Consensus is achieved through professional endorsement as a method to signal agreement and validate effectiveness. Each practice includes a reference document which offers a deeper explanation and practical guidance for application. References are updated monthly based on feedback and best practices are reviewed quarterly by a council of professionals from varying specialties.

Health professional is defined as any individual whose primary profession is helping individuals restore natural function. We believe natural function is the default state of human physiology and is defined as a strong, stable, mobile, resilient lower extremity that is free of longstanding pain. Lower extremity is defined as a subsystem of the body which includes hip, thigh, knee, leg, ankle and foot. Based on the SAID principle, the lower extremity must be protected from unnatural behaviours and exposed to natural behaviours in order to effectively restore natural function.

Health professionals are expected to apply best practices in their own lives and to orient their practice around helping individuals restore natural function. While we acknowledge pain as a major consideration, improved function must remain the primary objective. Best practices include education about movement, footwear, pain and mindset along with simple movement screens. If you are a health professional and agree with these best practices, please consider helping us build consensus by endorsing this paper. If you disagree or have feedback to offer, your input is needed to help evolve best practices.

Best practices checklist:

- ✓ Movement education [1]
- ✓ Footwear education [2]
- ✓ Pain education [3]
- ✓ Mindset education [4]
- ✓ Movement screens [5]

Thank you for holding yourself to a higher professional standard.

Thank you for helping us build consensus.

Next quarterly review call: 8.21.24

Reference documents

[1] Movement (https://github.com/LEHP829388/Building_Apollo/blob/main/_bpr_movement)

[2] Footwear (https://github.com/LEHP829388/Building_Apollo/blob/main/_bpr_footwear)

[3] Pain (https://github.com/LEHP829388/Building_Apollo/blob/main/_bpr_pain)

[4] Mindset (https://github.com/LEHP829388/Building_Apollo/blob/main/_bpr_mindset)

[5] Screens (https://github.com/LEHP829388/Building_Apollo/blob/main/_bpr_screens)

Endorsements

To view current professional endorsements, go to:

https://github.com/LEHP829388/Building_Apollo/blob/main/_BP_endorsements

To better understand the rationale underlying best practices, read the full Apollo Whitepaper:

<https://www.runningapollo.com/whitepaper>