

Prosthetic fitting, use, and satisfaction following lower-limb amputation: A prospective study

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- Aim
 - Describe rate of successful prosthetic fitting over 12 mo.
 - Describe prosthetic use after amputation.
 - Determine factors associated with greater prosthetic fitting, function, and satisfaction.
- Relevance
 - Providing satisfactory, functional prosthesis following lower-limb amputation is primary rehabilitation goal.

- Study design:
 - Multicenter prospective cohort study of individuals undergoing their first major lower-limb amputation because of vascular disease and/or diabetes.

Results

- At 4 mo:
 - Unsuccessful prosthetic fitting associated with depression, prior arterial reconstruction, diabetes, and residual limb pain.
- At 12 mo:
 - 92% of subjects were fitted with prosthetic limb.
 - Subjects with transfemoral amputation were less likely to be fitted.
- Greater functional restrictions associated with:
 - Older age.
 - Major depressive episode.
 - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.
- Fewer prosthetic walking hours associated with:
 - Age >55 yr.
 - Major depressive episode.
 - Renal dialysis history.

Conclusion

- While most individuals achieve successful prosthetic fitting by 1 yr following a first major nontraumatic lower-limb amputation, numerous medical variables and psychosocial factors are associated with prosthetic fitting, utilization, and function.