

## What to expect when getting a prosthesis

- A Physician referral is made to The Amputee Care Clinic Team, who will determine readiness for a prosthesis. Additional healing or therapy may be necessary to reach this readiness.
- Once it is determined that the patient is ready, an Initial Assessment will be booked with our Certified Prosthetist who will review physical requirements and lifestyle needs and design the most appropriate training prosthesis. The training prosthesis is a device that allows for extensive gait training while undergoing wound healing, as well as rapid and extensive changes to the residual limb.
- A plaster mould of the residual limb will be done and measurements taken that will aid in the manufacture of the training prosthesis. A test socket made of clear plastic will be manufactured using the mould.
- A test fitting appointment will be scheduled in approximately one week. During this appointment the test socket will be reviewed for comfort and function and adjustments will be made if necessary. A training prosthesis will then be made using the test socket as a template.
- A final fitting appointment will be scheduled for one week. During this appointment the training prosthesis will be reviewed for comfort and function, adjusted if needed and dispensed.
- The training device will be used in a rehabilitation setting and further adjustments may be made as necessary. The training prosthesis will begin to be used in daily life. During this time The Amputee Clinic Care Team will follow the progress and once it is determined that use of the training prosthesis has been mastered and all accommodations have been completed, it is time to be fit with a definitive prosthesis. This training period lasts approximately 3 to 9 months.
- Once readiness for a definitive prosthesis has been determined by The Amputee Clinic Care Team, an appointment will be made with the prosthetist, who will review the physical requirements and lifestyle needs to design the most appropriate definitive prosthesis. A plaster mould of the residual limb will be made and measurements taken for the manufacture of the definitive prosthesis. As with the training device, a test prosthesis will be fabricated and fit to assess comfort and function. More than one test fitting appointment may be necessary.
- Once the best possible fit has been attained with the test device the definitive prosthesis is fabricated and a fitting appointment is scheduled for approximately one week.
- The definitive prosthesis is fit and any adjustments are made as necessary. A follow up appointment will be scheduled with the prosthetist after 2-4 weeks of daily use. Any necessary adjustments can be completed at this time.
- Cosmetic finishing of the prosthesis is completed once all final adjustments are made.
- Follow up appointments will be scheduled with The Amputee Clinic Care Team at 3 and 12 months.
- When the initial definitive prosthesis wears out or needs to be replaced due to a size change in the residual limb the amputee care team will recommend a replacement definitive prosthesis.