optimus PROSTHETICS

Fact Sheet

Amputation Statistics

In the United States, there are approximately 1.7 million people living with limb loss[1]. It is estimated that one out of every 200 people in the USA has had an amputation[2].

Each year, the majority of new amputations occur due to complications of the vascular system (of or pertaining to the blood vessels), especially from diabetes. These types of amputations are known as *dysvascular*. Although rates of cancer and trauma-related amputations are decreasing, rates for dysvascular amputations are on the rise. Between 1988 and 1996, there was an average of 133,735 hospital discharges for amputation per year[3]. Dysvascular amputations accounted for 82 percent of limb loss discharges and increased at a rate of 27 percent over the period studied. Lower-limb amputations accounted for 97 percent of all dysvascular limb loss discharges. Rates of trauma-related and cancer-related amputations have both declined by approximately half over the past 20 years. Incidence of *congenital* (present at birth) limb difference has seen little or no change over the past 30 years.

Amputation by Cause	
Dysvascular-Related Amputations	**82%**
Trauma-Related Amputations	**16%**
Cancer-Related Amputations	**1%**
Congenital-Related Incidences	**1%**

Amputation by Level	
Lower Limb	**86%**
Upper Limb	**14%**

Dysvascular-Related Amputations	
Lower Limb	**97%**
Upper Limb	**3%**

Trauma-Related Amputations	
Upper Limb	**69%**
Lower Limb	**31%**

Cancer-Related Amputations	
Lower Limb	**76%**
Upper Limb	**24%**

Congenital-Related Incidences	
Upper Limb	**58%**
Lower Limb	**42%**

[1] Kathryn Ziegler-Graham, PhD, et al. "Estimating the Prevalence of Limb Loss in the United States - 2005 to 2050," Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 89 (2008):422-429.

[2] Patricia F. Adams, et al, "Current Estimates from the National Health Interview Survey, 1996," Vital and Health Statistics 10:200 (1999).

[3] Timothy R. Dillingham, MD, et al, "Limb Amputation and Limb Deficiency: Epidemiology and Recent Trends in the United States," Southern Medical Journal 95 (2002): 875-83.