Above-knee prosthesis users invited to participate in a research study involving walking and standing balance

Optimization of prosthetic knee and foot on standing and walking

A study is being conducted to compare different combinations of two prosthetic knees and two prosthetic feet on the walking and standing balance of persons with single above-knee amputations.

The research will take place at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center Motion Analysis Research Laboratory located within the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center at 680 N Lake Shore Drive in Chicago.

During the study, participants will be fit with four combinations of the study knees and study feet. Functional performance data will be collected for each combination after a two week accommodation period. Fitting of the prosthetic knees and feet will take place at the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center.

The study lasts approximately 8 weeks and involves 5 study visits.

Please contact Rebecca Stine (Research & Development) at (312) 503-5726 or rebecca.stine@VA.gov if you are interested in learning more about the study or potentially participating.

Participants must meet the following criteria:

- Be 18 to 65 years old
- Have a single above-knee amputation
- Have used a prosthesis for one or more years
- Do not require the use of assistive devices (canes or crutches) to walk
- Can walk continuously for a minimum of 30 minutes without undue fatigue
- Have good sensation and good skin integrity on your residual limb
- Not currently taking medications that are known to affect balance or walking

Participants will receive compensation for taking part in this study.

You may call the Jesse Brown VAMC IRB at (312) 569-7441 to determine if this study is real.

Study Title: “Optimal Selection of Prosthetic Knee and Foot Combinations for Improving Walking and Standing Performance in Transfemoral Prosthesis Users”
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