

## General Device

### Information

#### *Device Cleaning*

- Clean the device with mild soap and water
- Air dry
- Liners should be stored with the gel facing inward to avoid debris sticking to it

#### *General Comfort*

- Redness (present longer than 20 minutes after the prosthesis is removed), bruising, or other uncomfortable symptoms should be discussed with a prosthetist

#### *Weather/Environment*

- Devices are not to be submerged in water, unless specifically designed for such an activity
- If device is exposed to salt or chlorinated water, rinse immediately with untreated water
- Limit exposure to extreme heat and sun

#### *When should I come in for an adjustment or repair?*

Call to book an appointment if:

- Your activity level has changed
- The fit of your device has changed
- A change in weight has occurred
- Growth has occurred

## Expectations of Care

RCC P/O staff should:

- Provide adequate information regarding device and care
- Consider client perspectives
- Provide functional testing and practice if required

Prosthetic device users should:

- Use device as directed by clinicians
- Care for device as discussed
- Discuss any design concerns or questions about device with clinicians as soon as possible



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# A Clinical Guide for Above-Knee Prosthetic Use



*Rehabilitation Centre for  
Children: Prosthetics &  
Orthotics Department*



# Prosthetics Appointments

## Evaluation and Casting:

At this appointment, your prosthetist will ask about your general medical history and perform a casting or scan of your limb

**Appointment Length: 90 minutes**

*Following appointment booked for:  
1-3 weeks*

## Fitting (2-5 appointments):

Your clinician will ensure proper fit and alignment of your prosthesis and perform modifications to the socket as necessary

**Appointment Length: 60-90 minutes**

*Following appointment booked for:  
1-3 weeks*

## Delivery:

After confirming the final fit of your prosthesis, you will be taught how to properly:

- don and doff your device
- perform any specific functions of the device
- care and maintain the device

**Appointment Length: 60-90 minutes**

*Following appointment booked for:  
1-4 weeks*

## Follow up appointment:

Your prosthetist will confirm that your prosthesis is fitting and functioning well

**Appointment Length: 60-90 minutes**

\*Factors affecting the length of time before the next appointment may include:

- Living arrangements
- Componentry ordered
- Type of device

## Device Options Specific to Above-Knee Prosthetics

*Devices are custom designed for patients based on multiple factors such as age, presentation, and other contextual factors*

### Interface

This refers to the layer between your skin and the prosthesis. Often this is in the form of a liner or socks.

*See “A Clinical Guide for Lower Extremity Prosthetics Use” for more options*

### Suspension

This refers to the way we keep the prosthesis on your residual limb.

*See “A Clinical Guide for Lower Extremity Prosthetics Use” for options*

### Knees



Single axis – A simple knee with free bending similar to a door hinge. This knee is typically quite durable and simple to use, but only allows comfortable walking at one speed.

*Example: Fillauer Mighty Mite*



Polycentric – This knee has a high level of stability in all phases of walking, and allows for a more natural gait pattern.

*Example: Ottobock 3R67*



Pneumatic/hydraulic – particularly useful for active patients, this knee allows for adjustments in walking through the use of air or liquid within the knee.

This also allows for walking at various speeds.

*Examples: Aquaknee, Ottobock 3R60*



Microprocessor – This knee operates through feature sensors, software, and battery operation. Note it often has weather limitations

*Example: Ossur Rheo knee*

### Feet and Cosmetic Covers

*See “A Clinical Guide for Lower Extremity Prosthetics Use” for options*

## Device Options—What to Consider?

### Interface

#### Limb sensitivity

- Users with sensitive skin may prefer certain materials over others
- Silicone roll-on liners provide the most hygienic option for many patients

#### Limb shape

- Silicone roll-on liners tend to adhere best to limbs with high levels of soft tissue
- TPE roll-on liners tend to adhere best to limbs with unique shapes or greater bony prominences

#### Plan for suspension

- Masterflex liners are best paired with anatomical suspension methods
- Roll-on liners are best paired with pin suspension methods
- A combination may be used depending on the suspension choice and socket design

### Suspension

#### Ease and comfort to use

- Preference regarding ease of donning and doffing device, as well as ease of adjustment of device, should be considered

#### Activity level and type

- Different activities, in duration, type, and intensity should be considered

### Knees & Feet

#### Activity level and type

- Different activities, in duration, type, and intensity should be considered. Think about the types of activities you plan to participate in with your prosthesis.

### Cosmetic Finishes

#### Device external appearance

- Soft covers often look more realistic
- Hard covers are more durable and easier to clean

