

## **AmpEBR: The Amputation Rehabilitation Evidence-Based Review**

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**Objective:** To develop an evidence-based review of the amputation rehabilitation interventions and outcomes based on rigorous standardized methods of appraisal. Specific objectives are:  
1) to identify priority areas in amputation rehabilitation for which research evidence is strong and should be transferred rapidly and effectively to improve existing programs and services; and  
2) to identify areas where evidence for effectiveness is lacking and more research is required.

**Design:** Systematic review.

**Methods:** There are 2 separate processes for AmpEBR. Process I) - Systematic review of outcome measures employed in amputation rehabilitation. Process II) - Systematic review of interventional and other articles appropriate to amputation rehabilitation. Relevant articles were identified from various bibliographic databases from 1980-2006. Relevant data were extracted from each paper and the findings grouped by topic and summarized based on levels of evidence. Psychometric and clinimetric properties were summarized for each clinically relevant outcome measure and these outcome measures were classified according to the ICF (Process I). Methodological quality of interventional and other studies (Process II) was evaluated using the Downs and Black checklist and PEDRO (RCTs only).

**Project Status:** To date, 49 individual outcome measures have undergone data extraction, classification by the ICF (Process I) and a separate draft manuscript has been prepared for each ICF category (i.e., Body Function, Activity, Participation). For the interventional review (Process II), over 3,000 articles were initially identified for title and abstract screening, of which 1/3 have been targeted for full article review. At present, data have been extracted from 250 articles with preliminary topic areas identified including models of rehabilitation delivery, therapy approaches, function, mobility and balance, prosthetic fitting, vocational outcome, and long term complications. This presentation will provide an overall project update, focusing on Activity-related outcome measures and also reviewing the status of the data extraction process with special emphasis on ensuring the identification of clinically relevant areas.

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