

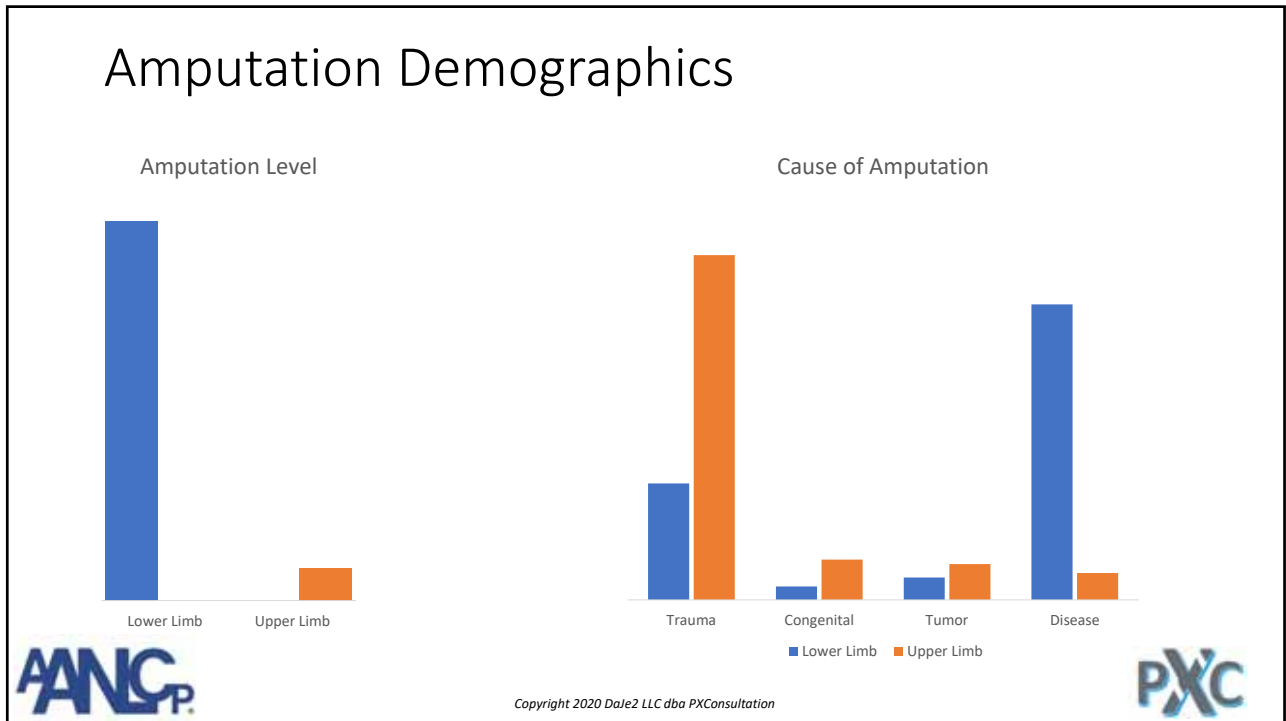
# Upper Limb Prosthetics Considerations for Life Care Planning... A Helping Hand

AANLCP National Convention  
San Diego, CA  
March 6, 2020

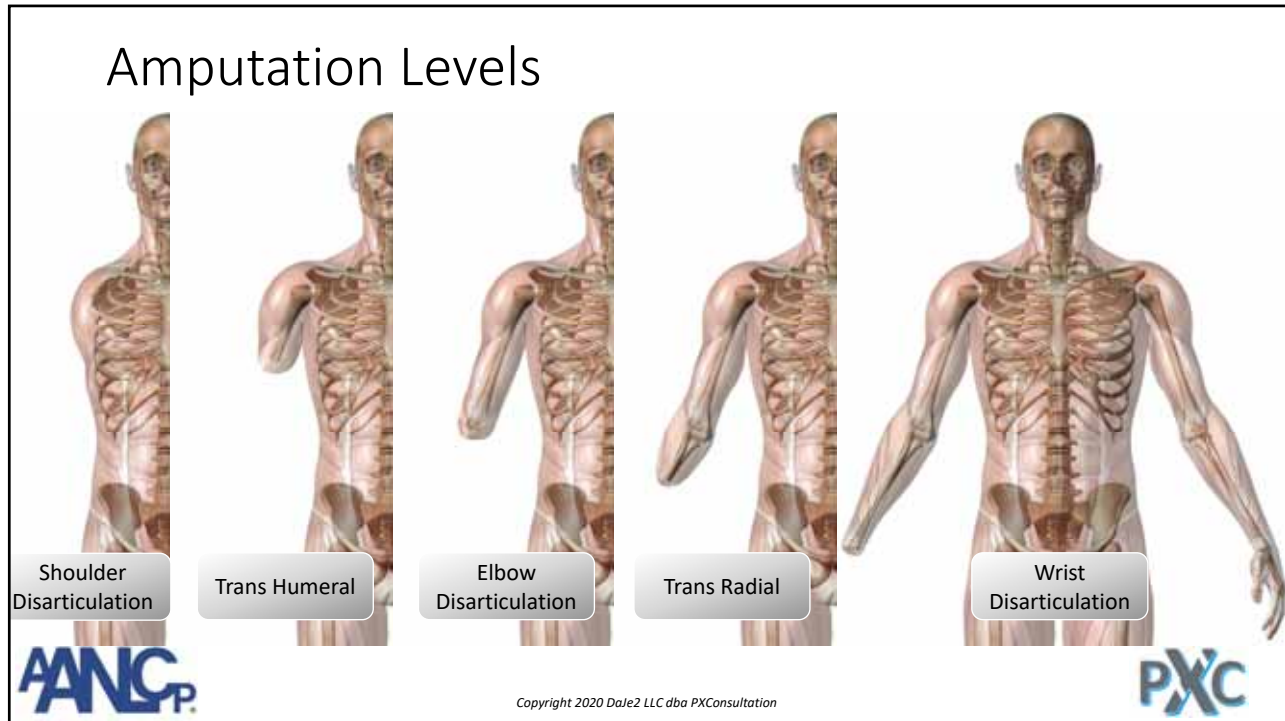
Dale Berry, CP, FAAOP, LP  
Prosthetic Xpert Consultation

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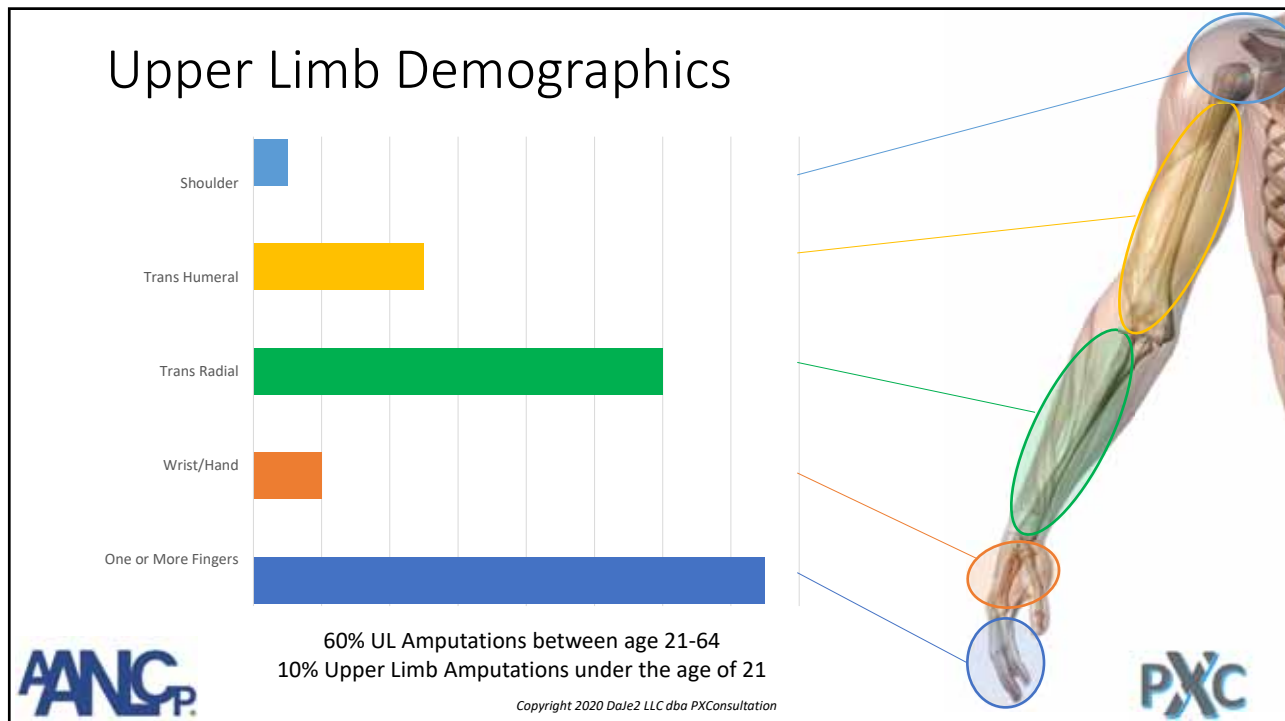
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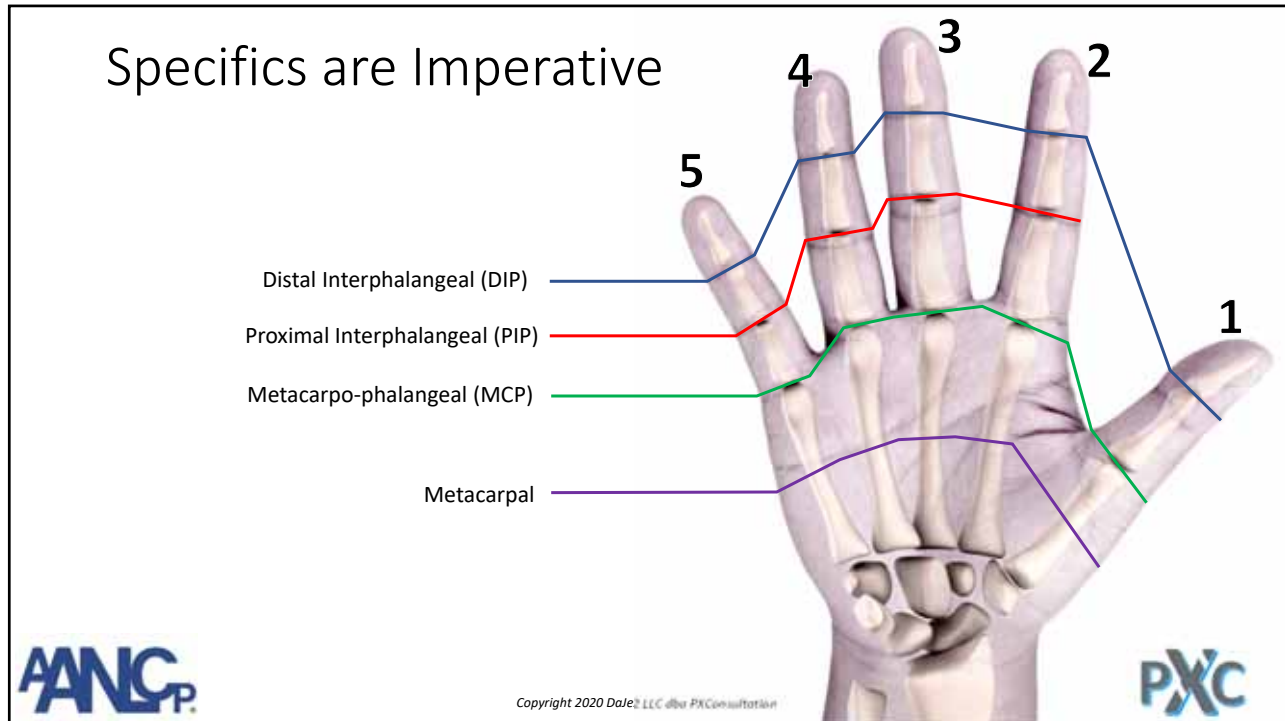
## Partial Hand Amputation...what does it mean?



5



6



7

## Upper Limb Compliance

- Prosthetic Rejection Rate 30%-80%
  - Lowest rejection for Trans-radial
  - Highest rejection rate:
    - Partial Hand
    - Shoulder
    - Trans Humeral
- 30%-50% do not use a prosthesis regularly
- Compliant users average wearing time 9.5 hours per day

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8

## Compliance Factors

- “Golden Period” to be fit with an upper limb prosthesis is 30-90 days after amputation
- Patients fit with a prosthesis with 6 months of amputation are 16 times more likely to use a prosthesis.
- Early prosthetic fitting and rehabilitation positively impacted prosthesis success



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9

## Prosthetic Options



10



## No Prosthesis

- Depending upon amputation level, 30 % - 80% choose not to wear a prosthesis.
- Common reasons for rejection are:
  - Weight
  - Discomfort
  - Cumbersome
  - Maintenance and Repair inconvenience
  - Hard to use
  - Perceived lack of need...easier to use the other hand.



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11

## Cosmetic Silicone

- Provides realistic lifelike appearance
- Reduces/eliminates sense of touch and sensory feedback for the residual limb
- Does not provide any functional movement



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## Point Design

- Extremely durable and functional
- Fixed position finger that can be moved into optimum position for specific tasks.



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13

## PIP Driver Prosthesis

- Requires the patient to have an intact PIP Joint.
- Provides for a high degree of natural function and movement
- Protects distal end of residual limb
- Reduces/eliminates sensory feedback of distal end of residual limb.



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14

## MCP Driver Prosthetics

- Requires patient to have an intact MCP joint with enough residuum distal to the joint to engage the ring
- Provides for a high degree of natural function and movement
- Reduces/eliminates sensory feedback of distal end of residual limb.



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15

## Myo Electric Partial Hand

- Requires amputation level to be at MCP level or proximal
- Miniature motors to open and close each finger independently
- Battery pack is contained in wrist strap.
- Batteries and motors add weigh, complexity and require regular maintenance.
- Durability can be a detractor.



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16



## Passive Prosthesis

- Provides cosmetic restoration.
- Assists with body balance and long-term spine alignment
- No functional purpose or capabilities



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## Body Powered

- Controlled with body movement of the shoulders with a harness.
- Most common and durable upper extremity prosthesis
- Extremely versatile and can be easily modified for special activities.
- Very cost effective



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18

## Myo Electric

- Controlled with EMG signals captured through muscle movement in the residual limb.
- Provides for greater range of motion for overall function
- No cables or harness
- More natural appearance
- Compared to body powered
  - Not as durable
  - Not waterproof or water resistant
  - Significantly more costly



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19

## Prosthetic Life Cost Projection Considerations



20

## Prosthetic Coding

Identifying the specific components and coding of each part of the prosthesis is imperative to establish and validate the cost.



Trans Radial Myo Electric Activities of Daily Living Prosthesis				
L Code	Qty	Component Short Description	Price Per	Fair Market Value
L6935	1	BE, Ex Power, Socket, 2 Batteries, 1 Charger	\$10,927	\$10,927.35
L6680	2	Test Socket	\$341	\$682.13
L6687	1	Frame Type Socket, BE or WD	\$772	\$771.57
L6629	1	Quick Disconnect Collar	\$205	\$205.47
L7400	1	BE/WD, ultralight material	\$386	\$385.71
L7403	1	BE/WD, acrylic material	\$463	\$463.44
L7600	2	Prosthetic donning sleeve	\$151	\$302.40
L6611	1	External Powered,	\$518	\$518.14
L6621	1	UE Flex/Ext Wrist	\$2,878	\$2,878.48
L6880	1	Myo Hand, Independent Artic Digits,	\$30,075	\$30,074.64
L6881	2	Automatic Grasp Feature for Myo Hand	\$5,145	\$10,289.76
L6882	2	Microprocessor Control Feature	\$3,903	\$7,805.30
L7009	1	Electric hook, adult	\$4,708	\$4,707.79
L6890	1	Glove For TD, Fitting And Adjustment	\$254	\$254.29
L7259	1	Electronic wrist rotator, any type	\$4,827	\$4,827.36
Total				\$75,093.84



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21

## Pricing History vs Life Care Projection

- Prior invoice history may not represent accurate pricing profile for long term care for Life Care Plan.



Private Insurance	\$48,811
Medicare Floor	\$53,229
Medicare Average	\$56,598
Medicare Ceiling	\$60,196
Fair Market Value	\$75,093



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22

## L7499 Upper extremity prosthesis, not otherwise specified

- Pricing independently set by the provider.
- Can be hyperinflated to offset insurance discounts.
- U&C is seldom Usual nor Customary.
- Question if there are more than 2 to 4 L7499 codes for any prosthesis.



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23

## Independent Review

- Obtain 3<sup>rd</sup> party clinical insight that is free from a financial interest in the outcome of the claim.
- Local treating clinicians
  - Local clinical expertise and insight.
  - May or may not have life care projection experience.
  - May lack experience or knowledge related to financial aspects of long-term care.
  - Personal experience may not reflect national standards or trends.



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24

# Prosthetic Life Cost Projection Key Points

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25

## Accurate Fair Market Value Pricing

- All Prosthetic Pricing based upon Medicare Coding & Reimbursement
- Providers create Usual & Customary Price list (U&C) or MSRP
- U&C/MSRP calculated off Medicare Coding and Pricing
- Average U&C/MSRP is 1.26% above Medicare *average* reimbursement.

Location	Medicare Reimbursement	L6880 Electric Hand Independent Articulating Digits
AK, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, ID, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OR, PA, RI, VA, VT, WA, WV	\$23,407.84	
IA, KS, MO, NE	\$23,864.91	
IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	\$23,982.71	
AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	\$24,110.40	
AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	\$24,112.70	
CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY	\$24,294.17	
PR, VI	\$25,748.63	

- Medicare Floor = \$23,407.84
- Medicare Ceiling = \$25,748.63
- Medicare Average = \$24,748.63
- MSRP/U&C (\$18,056.93 X 1.26) = \$30,074.64

**Fair Market Value \$30,074.64**

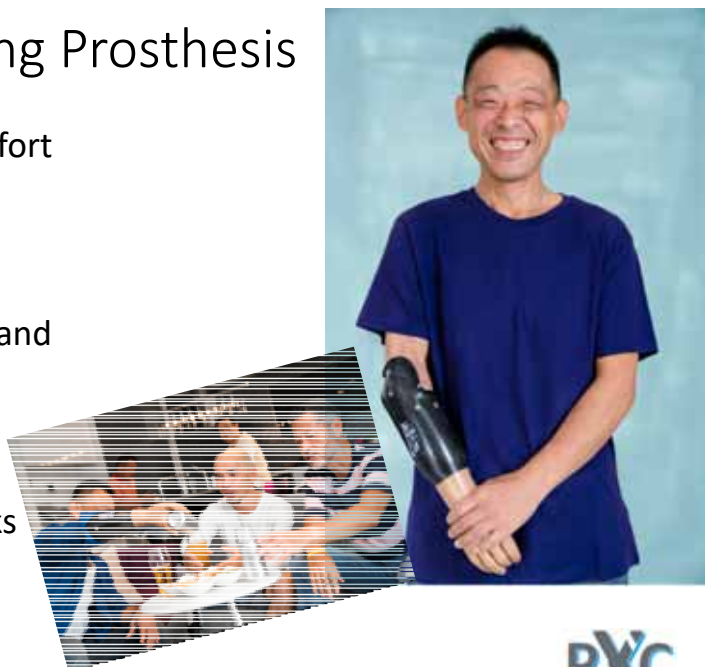
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26



## Activity of Daily Living Prosthesis

- Provide fit, function and comfort for everyday activities
- Align with functional level of patient related to daily tasks and environmental barriers.
- Typically designed for vocational and everyday tasks



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27

## Special Activity Prosthesis

- ✓ Evidence Practice Guidelines state  
*“There is no single prosthetic device that can replace all of the complex functions lost secondary to the amputation of any part of the hand or arm. Therefore, the prescription of multiple terminal devices and alternate prosthetic devices is recommended in cases where a patient is an active user of a prosthesis or participates in activities that require specialty prosthesis for active participation.”*

*VA/DoD Evidence-Based Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Upper Extremity Amputation Rehabilitation, Version 1.0 – 2014*



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28

## Replacement Socket

- Required due to normal and expected changes in the residual limb
- Provided at the half cycle of the Reasonable Useful Life of the prosthesis.
- Components are retained and attached to the new socket.



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29

## Supplies & Maintenance BK ADL Prosthesis

- Not necessary on the year a new prosthesis or socket replacement is provided
- Costs are specific:
  - **not** a % of the cost of the device

Supplies & Maintenance		
L Code	Component Short Description	Fair Market Value
L7510	Replace Minor Parts	\$378
L7520	Repair Labor, Per 15 Minutes	\$363
L6890	Glove For TD,	\$509
L7600	Prosthetic donning sleeve	\$302
L7367	Lithium ion battery, replacement	\$490
L7368	Battery charger, replacement	\$635
Total		\$2,676.95

Trans Radial Myo Electric ADL Prosthesis		
L Code	Component Short Description	Fair Market Value
L6935	BE, Ex Power, Socket, 2 Batteries, 1 Charger	\$10,927.35
L6680	Test Socket	\$682.13
L6687	Frame Type Socket, BE or WD	\$771.57
L6629	Quick Disconnect Collar	\$205.47
L7400	BE/WD, ultralight material	\$385.71
L7403	BE/WD, acrylic material	\$463.44
L7600	Prosthetic donning sleeve	\$302.40
L6611	External Powered,	\$518.14
L6621	UE Flex/Ext Wrist	\$2,878.48
L6880	Myo Hand, Independent Artic Digits,	\$30,074.64
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L7259	Electronic wrist rotator, any type	\$4,827.36
Total		\$75,093.84



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30

## Reasonable Useful Life

- Prosthetic are defined as Durable Medical Equipment
- “Medicare guidelines<sup>1</sup> governing the replacement of prosthetics specify that the reasonable, useful lifetime is determined by the Carrier, ***but in no case, can it be less than five (5) years.***”
- *Exception for select Partial Hand and Silicone Restoration, may be reduced to 2-3 years dependent upon style and type*



<sup>1</sup>Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42. Public Health, Chapter IV, Section § 414.210 (e), (5), (f)



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31

## Prosthetic Projection 5 Year Cycle

Year	ADL Prosthesis			Activity Prosthesis		
	Prosthesis	Replacement Socket	Supplies and Maintenance	Prosthesis	Replacement Socket	Supplies and Maintenance
2000	X			X		
2001			X			X
2002		X			X	
2003			X			X
2004			X			X
2005	X			X		



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32

## Prosthetic Life Care Projection Helpful Hints

- ✓ Expenses for first 5 years DO NOT set the standard for a Life Care Plan.
- ✓ Apply Fair Market Value Pricing
- ✓ Activities of Daily Living and Functional demands prosthetic selection.
- ✓ Provide for Replacement Socket at the half life of the prosthesis.
- ✓ Device pricing determined by L-Codes
- ✓ Assess the option of an Activity Prosthesis
- ✓ Supplies and Maintenance are a specific #.
- ✓ 5 Year Replacement Cycle



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33

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34

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35

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36