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Intended Use:

I create these resources with the intended use of them being educational and advocational for individuals with limb loss and prosthetic devices and the occupational therapy profession as a whole. It is expected these products will be shared both in print form and electronically, as well as posted in public settings as appropriate.

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If you notice any typos or mistakes or have any questions please feel free to email me directly at otunlimbited@gmail.com.

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Hold on to Hope!

Tori Martin



~185,000

Individuals undergo an amputation a year

(Ziegler-Graham et al., 2008)



Occupational therapy is a profession dedicated to assisting individuals in increasing their success and satisfaction when performing all occupations of life.

Occupational therapists are professionals who assist individuals in creating a life where they actively participate in all activities that they find meaningful – these can be needs such as dressing, bathing, toileting, or wants such as gardening, golfing, or playing bingo.

(AOTA, 2016; Wressle & Sammelsson, 2004)



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1.6 MILLION

Individuals living with limb loss in the U.S.

expected to MORE than DOUBLE by 2050, predicted to rise to ~3.6 Million

(Ziegler-Graham et al., 2008)

ROLE & BENEFITS

PHYSICAL IMPACTS

- + Address physical changes affecting occupational participation at home, in the workplace, and within the community
- + Focus on strength, range of motion, and movement patterns

(Day et al., 2019; Melcer et al., 2016)

PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACTS

- + Address the neural changes that impact motor planning, execution, and learning
- + Provide and implement appropriate coping strategies

(Wheaton, 2017)

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- + Address and reduce return to hospital rates, device abandonment rates, and depression rates
- + Educate on device uses, help determine need and most appropriate device, create wear schedule, and address co-morbidities

(Resnik et al., 2012; Boone, 2019)



1 IN 10

Individuals with limb loss reported not receiving proper medical care when needed

Resulting in...

Decreased Independence

Impaired Quality of Life

Higher Caregiver Burden

(Amputee Coalition, n.d; Laurie & Mandacina, 2018)

THERAPEUTIC PHASES

ACUTE PHASE

Identify client-centered short- and long-term goals

PRE-PROSTHETIC TRAINING

Prepare clients for fitting and optimal use of prosthesis

BASIC PROSTHETIC TRAINING

Monitor ability to perform specific activities, provide modifications, and provide support for coping

ADVANCED PROSTHETIC TRAINING

Integration of prosthesis into more advanced activities

(Gulick, 2016)

American Occupational Therapy Association. (2016). Occupational therapy's distinct value: Rehabilitation practice. <https://www.aota.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/Secure/Practice/distinct-value-rehab.pdf>

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