

Otto Bock Introduces the New C-Leg®

An upgraded version of the C - Leg® microprocessor-controlled knee was introduced recently by prosthetic and orthotic manufacturer Otto Bock HealthCare. The new C-Leg features improved swing phase control, enhanced stumble recovery, a higher weight limit of 300 lbs., and increased splash protection.

Considered by many to be among the safest, most energy efficient and cost effective when compared to other prosthetic knees, the C-Leg® was introduced in 1997 as transforming above-knee prosthetic care around the globe. Since then, dozens of studies confirm the C-Leg's position as the Standard of Care for transfemoral amputees.

"The new C-Leg offers increased peace of mind for

users," said Mike Hall, CPO. "Better stumble recovery, improved swing phase control, increased moisture protection, and the new weight limit mean this technology is now available to more wearers."

"This prosthesis is ideal for anyone with high stability and reliability requirements in everyday life," Mike added. "It offers outstanding stability for walking on uneven ground, walking slowly or quickly, negotiating slopes, and walking down stairs step-over-step. It offers a great degree of mobility and freedom."

To find out if the C-Leg is right for you, contact Mike Hall at Rehab Tech.

"This prosthesis is ideal for anyone with high stability and reliability requirements in everyday life..."



Congratulations to Katie Maneen!

Katie Maneen, Rehab Tech patient whose story was featured in the last newsletter, had a successful outing at the 2011 U.S. Paralympics Track and Field Championships in June. She placed second and third in her events with a time of 32.92 seconds in the 200-meter dash and a time of 15.68 seconds in the 100-meter dash, although she did not qualify for the Paralympics team.

Katie is currently enrolled at the State University of New York at Oswego, studying human development. Best wishes to her as she continues her education.



It's Time to Check Your Deductible...and Your Device

Many of our patients have a calendar year deductible. What that means is that your deductible - the cost you pay for your medical services - starts January 1 and ends December 31. If you've already met your deductible, your insurance will pay for any covered medical services until the end of the year, minus any copayment you are required to cover. So if you are in need of new liners, socks, or other components, make an appointment to see us as soon as possible.

If you haven't been in for an evaluation and examination, this is a good time of year to do so. The fit of your prosthesis/orthosis can change over time due to weight loss or gain and other factors, which can result in needless discomfort or improper function of the device. Please call to schedule an appointment or let us know how you are doing. We look forward to hearing from you.

Also at this time of year, many insurance companies allow you to opt in or out of specific aspects of your insurance plan or change your policy and coverage. It is time to check your insurance coverage to make sure that you have adequate prosthetic and orthotic coverage. If you have any questions about your current insurance coverage for prosthetics and orthotics, or any changes that have recently occurred in your insurance plan, call our billing department.

If your insurance changes...

If you change your insurance provider before a prosthesis or orthosis is delivered, the insurance carrier that you started out with is not responsible for its costs and the current provider will not provide coverage without preauthorization.

Medicaid benefit changes

Effective April 2011, Medicaid has limited its benefits on footwear to:

- Children under 21 years of age who require orthopedic footwear to correct, accommodate or prevent a physical deformity or range of motion malfunction in diseased or injured part of the ankle or foot; to support a weak or deformed structure of the ankle or foot.
- When a shoe is attached to a lower limb orthosis.
- As a component of a comprehensive diabetic treatment plan to treat amputation or pre-ulcerative calluses, or peripheral neuropathy with evidence of callus formation of either foot, or a foot deformity or poor circulation.

If you have any questions about your insurance coverage, please don't hesitate to call us at Rehab Tech.



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Axis Dance Company: Changing the Definition of Dance

Dance and disability - these two words do not typically go hand in hand, according to conventional wisdom, but Axis Dance Company, from Oakland, Calif., is challenging that assumption. Established in 1987, Axis strives to expand dance to the disabled community and create collaboration between dancers with and without disabilities. Through education, performances, and dance courses,

it has teamed up with world-class choreographers to challenge the notion that its program is 'just therapy' and has disputed the traditional definition of 'dance' and 'dancer.' With emotion, wheelchairs, and contemporary dance all integrated into its routines, Axis aims to change perceptions and create a new vocabulary for the dance world. Instead of viewing a wheelchair

“Instead of viewing a wheelchair as a barrier, Axis Dance Company uses the dancers’ differences as an avenue to create choreography that wouldn’t be possible without physical integration.”

Axis has achieved high artistic quality and a unique experience for its dancers and audience members.

Since the Company’s first performance in 1988,

as a barrier, Axis Dance Company uses the dancers’ differences as an avenue to create choreography that wouldn’t be possible without physical integration. Audience members learn to forget about the person’s disability and redirect their focus to the dancer’s ability - his or her range, talent, and artistry.

Axis Dance Company has become widely recognized, which stems from its extensive touring in one to five cities per year. Seven Isadora Duncan Dance Awards, 60 repertory works, two evening-length pieces, and two works for young audiences are a few of the Company’s many accomplishments. Axis Dance Company also appeared on FOX’s “So You Think You Can Dance,” where two of its seven dancers performed a dramatic piece by choreographer Alex Ketley.

Along with its dancers’ creative abilities, Axis Dance Company seeks to educate people. Dance Access/ Kids! is a program for children and teenagers of all abilities. It introduces dance to students through student assemblies, classroom visits, dance classes, teacher trainings, and



more. Axis dancers demonstrate how people with differences work together, and children are able to explore dance. It is an opportunity to cultivate understanding and cooperation between those with and without a disability at an early age.

Education doesn’t stop at adolescence. Axis also has a program called Dance Access for Adults. Through master classes and intensives, a studio program, where well-known dance teachers and choreographers lead courses, lecture demonstrations, and performances, dancers and non-dancers learn about physical integration.

For more information on Axis Dance Company, visit its website at <http://www.axisdance.org/>.



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prosthetics and orthotics fields. He is an ABC-Certified Prosthetist and a Certified Prosthetic-Orthotic Technician. He earned his associate's degree in specialized technology at the Median School of Allied Health, Pittsburgh.

Terry Hall, CFo, CPOA, co-owner and Certified Fitter of Orthotics recently earned ABC-certification as a Certified Prosthetic-Orthotic Assistant (CPOA). ABC certified practitioners meet specific educational and experience requirements established by the organization, including three years of clinical experience in both disciplines with a minimum of one year in each area. Terry is a graduate of the State University of New York - Cobleskill where she earned an associate's degree in science/laboratory technology.

Congratulations, Jeremy and Terry!

Rehab Tech practitioners are constantly working to expand their knowledge and expertise. Jeremy and Terry Hall recently earned additional certifications that reflect this commitment to quality care.

Jeremy Hall, CP, CTPO, BOCPO, has received certification in prosthetics and orthotics from the Board of Certification/Accreditation, International (BOC). To receive BOCPO designation, practitioners must meet eligibility requirements in education, patient care, and experience, complete an exam series successfully, and attest to upholding the ethics and standards of the organization. Jeremy has more than 20 years of experience in the

Thanksgiving Greetings

This time of year we give thanks for all that is good in our lives -- especially the opportunity to get to know you and help you meet your goals for rehabilitation. Wishing you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving.

