

TechLINK

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Web Sites for Rehab Health Professionals

In the new issue of *O & P Business World* (<http://www.oandp.com/publicat/busworld/fea4.htm>) 'Plastics thermoforming: Getting the best results' discusses the benefits of using thermoplastic materials in fabricating orthoses and prostheses. The processes of lab-based thermoforming or lamination can be chosen depending on reimbursement and appropriateness for the particular patient. The article details technical guidelines, diagnosis and rectifying production problems, common questions and answers about the thermoforming process.

Visit the US Department of Veterans' Affairs Rehabilitation Research and Development Service website (<http://www.vard.org>) for rehabilitation topics:

- Research & Development Reports
- Gait Analysis.
- Over 100 links to medical websites.

An unusual slant on prosthetics is available at <http://www2.ucsc.edu/people/kurzman/index.html> under the name of Anthropology and Prosthetics, set up by Steven Kurzman who is a graduate student in cultural anthropology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. "This site is intended to be a source of information about prosthetics from a cultural studies angle for a broad, popular audience. It attempts to be educational without being too academic."



To receive regular updates on useful websites become a participant in **REHABTech's** Listserver group

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Apart from having a surfeit of information on gait analysis

<http://www.guardian.curtin.edu.au/cga/>, the Clinical Gait Analysis Page, is an interactive site that allows you an opportunity to evaluate gait deformity (case presentation) and download short quicktime movies; these movies are accompanied by downloadable gait analysis data.

This American amputee resource site – <http://www.amputee-coalition.org/> – is run by amputees for amputees. It provides information about the Amputee Coalition of America and has access to the National Limb Loss Information Centre, the ACA National Peer Network, and a growing collection of sites concerned with Limb Loss Research and Statistics.

Following requests for website information on rigid dressings, John Cumbo, moderator of **REHABTech**'s Listserv, recommends —

http://www.prs-research.org/MLEA_web/contents.ch6.html.

Below are a list of the headings covered:

- General Principles
- The First 2 Weeks
- The Day of Surgery
- The First Postoperative Day
- The Second Postoperative Day
- Postoperative Days 3 to 14
- The Second 2 Weeks (Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- The First Year
- Static Alignment of Immediate Post Surgical Prosthesis
- Dynamic Alignment of Immediate Post Surgical Prosthesis
- Postoperative Complications.

And now for something completely different...

This award winning wacky fun site is dedicated to hoaxers who like to produce circles: <http://www.circlemakers.org/>. It includes a beginner's guide with a list of all the tools you will require to create your masterpiece. It also has some visually stunning images that helped it win the *Guardian Newspapers*' site of the year award. So get out your tape measure and dowsing rod and start creating.

**Staff at REHABTech
wish readers a very
happy Christmas and
New Year.**



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