

## Reconstructive surgery aids prosthetist, patients: (article review)

<http://oandp.com/busnews/articles/20000501/1.asp>

By Judith Otto

*“The idea of undergoing an amputation is alarming to most people; the idea that amputation surgery often results in outcomes requiring additional—and sometimes multiple—revision surgeries goes beyond daunting to terrifying.....”*

This comprehensive article covers the many issues associated with reconstructive surgery after amputation. Getting it right the first time could be increased by having a prosthetist working closely with orthopaedic surgeons to spare later surgery. Patients can be supported immediately after surgery with hydrotherapy and the fitting of an Interim Post-Operative Prosthesis. The Ertl Procedure of amputation surgery and its later developments are promoted as an answer to residual limb function and strength.

### Amputee Awareness Day

There are a great number of things occurring Australia wide as part of making people aware of Amputees! Contact your nearest facility to find out what is happening or either of the contacts below.

The National Amputee Awareness Day is **June 13<sup>th</sup>**

Please contact Amputees United of Australia - Kerry Whittle 03 6427 9411

Amputee Awareness Day **NSW June 8<sup>th</sup>**  
contact Mrs B Owen 02 4328 1004 (NSW Amputee Association)

### GST and Prosthetic Service Providers to ALSs within Australia

The Artificial Limb Services Managers forum have discussed the issue of the the GST and its implication to the provision of services that are covered by Artificial Limb Services within Australia (ALSA).

At these discussions it was agreed that, as is the case with all aspects of the GST, tracking of the GST was of utmost importance. (For those using the QALS database V14, GST ability has been added).

It was also agreed that whilst most of the products and services involved with the provision of limb prostheses were GST free, the ALSAs in general would receive, honour and reimburse Tax invoices that clearly showed the itemised labour, components and incidentals and the associated GST where possible. This would thus alleviate the burden of the GST cash flow from the suppliers of prostheses (PSPs - prosthetic service providers).

### Farewell to Maree Boehm

All of us at **REHAB Tech** were very sad to say farewell to Maree who had been with us since 1998. We wish her all the best for the future!



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## Get Ready for ISPO ASM 2000

**2-4th November** - International Society for  
Prosthetics and Orthotics - Annual Scientific  
Meeting , Adelaide South Australia.

Contact: conference manager: Rob Bulfield  
ISPO Conference Secretariat  
PO BOX 6129 Halifax Street

Adelaide SA 5000 Tel 08 822 0252

FAX: 08 8227 0251

e-mail : [sapro@camtech.net.au](mailto:sapro@camtech.net.au)

## Update in Lower Limb Prosthetics - One day seminar

An organising committee of Michael Chou, Sally Warmington & Nick Freijah is organising a seminar prior to and associated with the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine's Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne this August.

<b>Title:</b>	Update in Lower Limb Prosthetics
<b>Topics</b>	Includes - Amputee Gait, Innovations in Materials & Components
<b>Date</b>	Tuesday 15 August, 9 am to 5 pm
<b>Venue</b>	Hilton Hotel, Melbourne
<b>Cost</b>	\$200 before 30 June, \$225 after 30 June.

As the enclosed program shows we have a range of interesting topics and speakers including local practitioners and Dr Alberto Esquenazi from the USA.

Contact DC Conferences for more details and registration form on 02 9439 6744 or [dcon@tmx.com.au](mailto:dcon@tmx.com.au).

(please note: this is not a **REHAB Tech** seminar, contact the organisers directly)

## COMING EVENTS

<b>8th June</b>	Amputee Awareness day (NSW)
<b>12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>REHAB Tech</b> Open Day
<b>13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Amputee Awareness day (National)
<b>15 August</b>	Update in Lower Limb Prosthetics tel:02 9439 6744
<b>11-13 October</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> Scientific Congress, Paralympic Games Sydney 2000 tel: 02 9262 2277
<b>2---4th November</b>	ISPO ASM tel 08 822 0252

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