

TechLINK

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Registrations close March 14...

The **Clinical Management of Upper Limb Amputees Course** will run at CGMC from 4–8 April, 2005.

This 5-day intensive AFRM and AOPA accredited Course is designed to address the needs of rehabilitation registrars, prosthetists, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists working with amputee clients.

To secure your place at the Course:

Tel: (03) 9905 4145

Fax: (03) 9905 4069

Email:

maree.boehm@eng.monash.edu.au

Details on our website at
Calendar of Events

Rehabilitation services for Tsunami victims

Members of ISPO and AOPA met on the 27th of January at the NCPO, La Trobe University to discuss a possible response to the recent Tsunami by our organisations.

Kerry Fisher provided a lot of background information on Non Government Organisations (NGO's) and their operations in developing countries and disaster relief.

Kerry said that most of the resources at present were focused on engineering projects such as restoring fresh water, mapping previous hospital locations and conducting epidemiology surveys to gauge need for medical resources.

She also informed the meeting that she is going on a fact finding mission to Indonesia as part of a small team for Kerry's employer, the Vietnam Veterans of America Fund (VVAFF) regarding the need for rehabilitation services in the affected areas. We will await her report.

Kerry said that she would advise the VVAFF, if a project was initiated, to work with Australian P&Os rather than Americans, because their wages are lower, they are geographically closer to the disaster region, and there is a precedence of Australian involvement in Indonesia. Kerry suggested that it would be useful to collect the Curriculum Vitae (CVs) of people interested in working in a voluntary capacity in the Tsunami affected countries and in other places, and that the VVAFF would be interested in such a database.

The meeting decided to develop a short questionnaire which will be posted to members of ISPO and AOPA to ask if they are willing to volunteer for short or long periods of time in disaster affected areas.

REHAB Tech. Centre for Biomedical Engineering,
Dept Electrical & Computer Systems Engineering, Building 35, Room G19,
Monash University, Clayton Vic 3800, Australia.

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INTERNET - <http://www.monash.edu.au/rehabtech/>



MONASH University

With this information a database will be created specifying peoples' expertise, willingness to volunteer, availability etc.

Such a database could also be used on a long term basis for basic aid work, clinical or teaching in developing countries. This proposed activity could be administered by ISPO Outreach with representation from AOPA

Any specific action plan, in terms of volunteers, materials or financial assistance will be decided upon in subsequent meetings following receipt of Kerry Fisher's report.

Such action would have to be implemented through a recognised NGO like ICRC.

For further information please contact:
 Margaret Hodge M.Hodge@latrobe.edu.au or
 Peter Lendfers <peterl@bhs.org.au>

Job WATCH

For the latest positions and detailed information on vacancies as they occur, visit our website.
 Just follow the links from our home page: www.monash.edu.au/rehabtech

COMING EVENTS

Calendar of events – now on the web – www.monash.edu.au/rehabtech

4 March, 2005	Material Science & Handling Technician Course REHABTech Supporter Course — contact us at (03) 9905 3466.
4–8 April, 2005	Clinical Management of Upper Limb Amputees Victoria Annual Course for rehab health professionals with focus on team management of amputee clients. Register now on (03) 9905 4145 at REHABTech .
Dates to be announced	REHABTech Videoconference Lecture Series 2005 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stance Control Orthoses ▪ The Science Behind Gel Liners ▪ Charcot Foot—Orthotic management of diabetic neuropathic arthropathy ▪ Unique Upper Limb Prosthetic Cases

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