

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF YOUR EVALUATION PROSTHESIS

Dear Prosthetic Patient,

You have been fitted with a prosthesis (artificial limb) that is considered 'temporary' only, to be used as a tool to evaluate the fit of the socket and alignment of the device. The reason you are wearing a 'temporary' prosthesis is to allow us to evaluate and modify, if necessary, the device to make the fit and function the best it can be.

Because the prosthesis has not been completely finished, it is important that you adhere to the following safety precautions and guidelines. Should you ever have any questions or concerns about your device, call 1-888-MDLABS-1, and you will be set up with an appointment to see our one of our Prosthetists or Technicians. If you are experiencing significant pain, or the device appears to be broken or missing parts, immediately stop using the device and call us at once.

Common Questions

Q: How long will I be in the Evaluation Prosthesis?

A: It depends on your condition, and if you're a recent amputee. Usually new amputees take longer to adjust to a device and for their residual limb (stump) to 'mature' (change shape). Amputees that have worn a prosthesis for some time usually need an evaluation prosthesis for only a week or 2; newer amputees can take 2-6 weeks.

Q: Can I go to Physical Therapy with my Evaluation Prosthesis?

A: Yes, by all means. Your therapist is an important part of the training and evaluation process. They may indicate areas that can be altered, and help assist you in proper use of your device.

Q: Can I do everything I want to in my evaluation prosthesis?

A: No. Since the device is for evaluation and 'temporary' in nature, we request that you refrain from harsh activities that could cause failure of the device, such as jumping or running.

Q: What if the Evaluation Prosthesis does not fit well.

A: You will be given a scheduled follow up after you receive the device. It is important you keep your appointment. This will allow the Prosthetist to make adjustments and modifications that will help make your device fit, function, and feel better. This may include making a new socket for the device.

Q: What if I get a sore on my leg or the device breaks?

A: Stop using the device at once! Contact us for further follow up. If you have a previous device, you can wear that if possible, or use a wheelchair or crutches for mobility.

Q: What happens when I'm done using the evaluation Prosthesis?

A: We will take the prosthesis from you (so prepare to have adequate support and transportation), and complete fabrication, in about 1-2 weeks.

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PRECAUTIONS FOR TEMPORARY PROSTHETIC USE

Fully utilizing your new device may take a significant amount of time, effort, training and hard work. You may need a little or a lot of training. You may experience difficulty getting the device on and off (donning and doffing) if you're a new and inexperienced amputee. Don't be discouraged. Ask for assistance while you are learning and building up your strength and abilities. Sometimes your overall medical condition may slow your progress and ability to use your new prosthesis.

Your Prosthetist is available to help you, if you need it, but you will need assistance at home and adequate training to properly use your device. Following are some general guidelines. Please follow them. When in doubt, call our office and your Prosthetist will contact you as soon as possible to answer any questions or address any concerns.

- * Always follow the directions of your Prosthetist, Doctor, or Physical Therapist
- * Use your Stump Shrinker, or elastic wraps when not wearing the prosthesis.
- * Keep your leg extended (knee straight) if you are sitting for long periods to avoid tightness.
- * Never use your device without a shoe.
- * Always use a mobility aid (crutches, canes) to assist you while getting used to a new device.
- * If you have never had a prosthesis before, you should always have someone with for safety.

- * If you have never had a prosthesis before, you should attend Physical Therapy for proper training and safety.
- * If the device breaks, STOP using it and call us immediately
- * If you experience significant pain, or develop a blister, STOP Using it immediately and contact us. Take appropriate medical care of any blister
- * Return at the appointed date and time for your follow up.
- * Never use the device more than 2 weeks without seeing your prosthetist
- * Keep your residual limb (stump) clean
- * Keep the inside of the socket clean,
- * Wash any socks or liners per manufacturers instructions.
- * When using your device outside, take appropriate precautions for safety.
- * Always use handrails or assistance when going up or down stairs.
- * If you have a knee joint on your device, make sure the locking mechanism, (if it has one) is working properly every day.
- * If your device breaks, if you experience severe pain, if any Parts are missing or not working properly, STOP using the device and call 1 888 MD LABS 1

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