

Date / Time: **Tuesday, Feb 5 / 09:00 - 10:15**

Session Name and Room: **Quality Of Life Issues - 1**

**Room 1.05**

Abstract Title: **Health Profiles Of Persons With Lower Limb Loss**

Abstract number: **222**

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### **Introduction**

Healthcare professionals are increasingly encouraged, expected, or required to document clients' outcomes using standardized instruments and protocols. The Patient Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS) is a suite of reliable, precise, and meaningful self-report instruments designed to assess patients' health. PROMIS-29 is a 29-item survey designed to evaluate patients in seven health domains: physical function, anxiety, depression, fatigue, sleep disturbance, social role-participation, and pain interference. PROMIS-29 T-scores are centered on US national norms. Health status of persons with limb loss in these domains is unknown.

### **Methods**

PROMIS-29 was included in a cross-sectional survey of prosthetic users. Respondents were recruited via O&P clinics, magazine advertisements, list-servs, consumer websites, and social networks. Selection criteria included 18+ years of age, ability to read English, unilateral lower limb amputation, traumatic or dysvascular etiology, and use of a prosthesis to ambulate. Surveys also included questions pertaining to respondents' general health, amputation, prostheses, living environment, activity levels, assistive devices, mobility, balance, concentration, and demographic characteristics.

### **Results**

The PROMIS-29 instrument was administered to 650 persons with limb loss (mean age=53, SD=14). Participants reported significantly lower physical function (M=43, SD=9,  $p<0.01$ ) and fatigue (M=48, SD=10,  $p<0.01$ ) and more pain interference (M=55, SD=9,  $p<0.01$ ) than national norms. Reported anxiety, satisfaction with social roles and activities, depression, and sleep disturbance were similar to US norms.

### **Discussion**

Persons with lower limb loss report significantly worse physical function, significantly more pain interference, and significantly less fatigue than the general US population. These findings suggest that reduced capacity for physical activity and pain associated with limb loss may inhibit regular performance of activities.

### **Conclusion**

Standardized instruments like PROMIS-29 can inform clinical practice through accurate measurement of patients' symptoms and quality of life indicators. Reference data presented here may serve to facilitate use of PROMIS-29 in clinical practice and limb loss research.