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Above-knee prosthesis users invited to participate in research study comparing sockets

Functional performance evaluation of the Northwestern University Flexible Sub-Ischial Vacuum (NU-FlexSIV) Socket for persons with transfemoral amputation

Northwestern University is conducting a study to compare a new prosthetic socket design we developed with the current standard-of-care socket design to determine if it provides better comfort and function.

The research will take place at the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center (NUPOC) which is located at 680 N Lake Shore Drive in Chicago as well as at the clinical facilities of our collaborator Scheck & Siress Prosthetics, Orthotics and Pedorthics.

During the study, participants will receive two sockets that they will wear full-time for 6 weeks each, with functional performance data collected during the first week of wear, at 3 weeks, and again at 6 weeks. The socket you get first will be chosen by chance, like flipping a coin.

The study lasts approximately 14 weeks and involves 14 study visits.

Please contact Stefania Fatone (312) 503-5717 or s-fatone@northwestern.edu in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation if you are interested in learning more about the study or potentially participating.

Participants must meet the following criteria:

- be older than 21 years
- have a single above-knee amputation
- have used a prosthesis for two or more years
- have no previous experience wearing the NU-FlexSIV Socket
- have a residual limb of greater than 5 inches
- have a residual limb that is stable in volume and free from any wounds
- have no skin or residual limb issues that make fitting a socket problematic
- be physically fit enough to participate in the performance tests
- be able to complete all visits for the duration of the protocol
- have no other problems that affect function
- be able to speak and read English

Participants will receive
compensation for taking part
in this study.

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Principal Investigator: Stefania Fatone, PhD, BPO(Hons)
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