

Questionnaire for Assessing Rehabilitation After Lower Extremity Amputation

Overview: The effectiveness of rehabilitation with a limb prosthesis following a lower limb amputation can be assessed using a simple questionnaire.

(1) Did the person use their limb to walk during:	Points
• < 25% of waking hours	0
• 25-50% of waking hours	1
• > 50% and < 100% of waking hours	2
• all their waking hours	3

(2) Did patients use their limb to walk:	Points
• just when visiting the doctor or limb-fitting center	0
• at home but not to go outside	1
• outside the home on occasions	2
• inside and outside all of the time	3

(3) When going outside wearing their limb did patients:	Points
• use a wheelchair	0
• use 2 crutches 2 sticks or a walking frame	1
• use 1 stick	2
• use nothing	3

(4) When walking with their limb outside did the patients feel unstable when:	Yes	No
• walking on the flat	0	1
• walking on slopes	0	1
• walking on rough ground	0	1

If only a wheelchair is used outside score question 4 as 0.

rehabilitation score = (points for waking hour use) + (points for limb usage) + (points for need of assistance device) + (points for use outside)

Interpretation:

- minimum score: 0
- maximum score: 12
- The higher the score the better the rehabilitation.

References:

Houghton A Allen A et al. Rehabilitation after lower limb amputation: a comparative study of above-knee through-knee and Gritti-Stokes amputations. Br J Surg. 1989; 76: 622-624. (Table 1 page 623)