

Mental health supports for child amputees

Population	Children and youth amputees
Intervention/Exposure	Mental health supports for traumatic event loss of limbs
Comparator	Mental health supports for congenital loss of limbs
Outcomes	QoL; management of depression and anxiety symptoms

Interview Details:

Why did you choose this topic and why is it important to you?

- Lived experience as a parent of a pediatric cancer survivor and amputee. Feels that societal narratives perpetuate the idea that amputees are amazing, inspiring and can overcome obstacles and defy all odds.
- Their child struggled immensely with their mental health following the amputation.
- People are unaware of the long-term effects of amputation beyond the loss of limb (e.g., chronic pain).

What do you hope to learn from researching this topic?

- The difference in outcomes and mental health needs between congenital amputations and traumatic amputations due to illness or accident.
- How to improve ongoing care for traumatic amputations and families.

Who needs to know about the findings?

- Health professionals (e.g., those in medical teams and oncology units) for long term follow-up
- General public and education system

Is there anything that you feel a panel of patients, caregivers, healthcare providers, and policy-makers should keep in mind when reviewing this topic?

- You may be able to cure the disease, but we cannot lose sight of the person's mental needs.

Feasibility Assessment Results

Summary:

No reviews were identified during the scoping literature search.

Conclusion:

There is scope to conduct further research in this area.