

Advanced Prostheses Offer Clinical Benefits and Cost Savings

RAND study demonstrates value of microprocessor-controlled knees for transfemoral amputees

Microprocessor-controlled knees (MPKs) are associated with substantial improvement in physical function and reductions in incidences of falls and osteoarthritis compared to non-MPKs (NMPKs), according to a recent study by the RAND Corp. The report, titled "Economic Value of Advanced Transfemoral Prosthetics," documents the results when RAND developed a simulation model to assess the different clinical outcomes and costs of MPKs versus NMPKs.

FEWER FALLS AND DEATHS PER EVERY 10,000 PEOPLE



Number of fewer major injurious falls for MPK users.



Number of fewer minor injurious falls for MPK users.



Number of fewer deaths for MPK users.

IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE



37 Percent

Estimated improvement in quality of life for MPK users using the SF-36 scale.

LOWER DIRECT HEALTH-CARE COSTS



Average annual health-care cost per MPK user.

REDUCED INDIRECT COSTS

\$417

Amount of reduction in lost wages for MPK users.

\$634

Amount of reduction in caregiving expenses for MPK users.



21 Percent

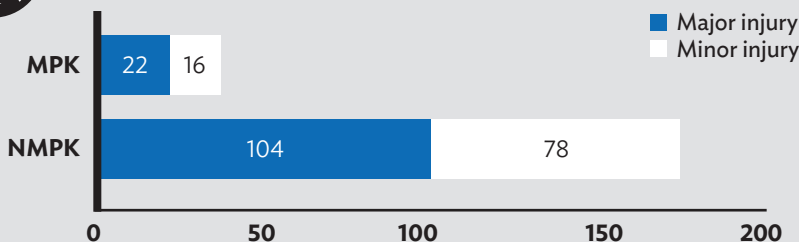
Estimated improvement in quality of life for MPK users using the EQ-5D scale.



Average annual health-care cost for NMPK user.



Injurious Falls Per 10,000 Person Years



"The RAND Corp. study shows that there is a much higher risk of injury or death when Medicare and private payors refuse to permit access to the only slightly more expensive new generation of artificial knee and lower limb."

—AOPA President Michael Oros, CPO, FAAOP