

## 10 Meter Walk Test for Adults with Lower-Limb Amputations

**Description:** The 10 Meter Walk Test (10MWT) is a performance-based measure that may be used to assess gait speed in patients with one or more lower-limb amputations who may or may not be using a prosthesis.<sup>1</sup>

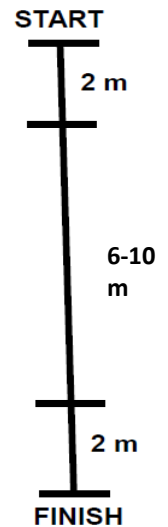
**Equipment<sup>2</sup>:** A clear pathway at least 10 meters long with lines on the floor indicating the start, finish, and 2-meter marks from either end; a stopwatch; assistive device (if needed)

### Patient Instructions:

**Self-Selected Speed:** "When I say go, walk at your normal comfortable pace to the finish line."

**Fast Speed:** "When I say go, walk as fast and as safely as possible to the finish line."

**Clinician Instructions:** Start timing when the patient's first crosses the 2-meter mark and stop timing when the patient's completely passes the 8-meter mark, which allows for 2 meters of acceleration at the start and 2 meters of deceleration at the end of the course. Record for 3 trials and then take the average for each walking condition, i.e., self-selected and fast speeds. Calculation for each walking condition:  $6\text{m}/\text{time (s)} = \text{m/s}$



**Test-Retest Reliability<sup>19</sup>:** ICC (95%CI): .96 (.93-.98)  
(for timed 10 m of 14 m course)

**Interrater Reliability<sup>19</sup>:** ICC (95%CI): .99 (.98-.99)

**Concurrent Validity<sup>16</sup>**

**MDC<sub>90</sub><sup>19</sup>:** 0.9 s (0.4-1.4) (for time to complete 10 m of 14 m)

**SEM<sup>19</sup>:** 0.4 s (for time to complete 10 m of 14 m)

**MCID:** Unknown in adults with lower-limb loss

**Floor/Ceiling Effects:** Unknown in adults with lower-limb loss

**Predictive Ability<sup>6</sup>:**  $\leq 44$  m/s = Prosthetic nonusers with a transtibial amputation (or more proximal amputation) or bilateral amputations  
1 year post-discharge from rehabilitation

### Factors Negatively Impacting Gait Speed: Non-Modifiable:

Advanced Age<sup>11</sup>, Shorter Residual Limb<sup>5</sup>, Etiology<sup>13-15</sup>

[e.g., dysvascular:  $.75 \pm .15$  to  $.80 \pm .19$  to  $.85 \pm .02$  m/s vs.

traumatic:  $.99 \pm .02$  m/s]; Modifiable:  $\downarrow$  Cardiorespiratory Fitness<sup>7,8</sup>,

$\downarrow$  Amputated-Side Hip Extensor Strength<sup>9,10</sup>,  $\downarrow$  Hip Flexion & Extension ROM<sup>11</sup>, Prosthetic Componentry, EMG equipment<sup>3,1</sup>

Mean $\pm$ SD for Able-Bodied Adults (m/s) <sup>4</sup>			
Age (y)	Sex	Self-selected speed	Fast speed
20-29 (n=37)	Male	1.39 $\pm$ 0.15	2.53 $\pm$ 0.29
	Female	1.41 $\pm$ 0.18	2.47 $\pm$ 0.25
30-39 (n=36)	Male	1.46 $\pm$ 0.09	2.46 $\pm$ 0.32
	Female	1.42 $\pm$ 0.13	2.34 $\pm$ 0.34
40-49 (n=43)	Male	1.46 $\pm$ 0.16	2.46 $\pm$ 0.36
	Female	1.39 $\pm$ 0.16	2.12 $\pm$ 0.28
50-59 (n=43)	Male	1.39 $\pm$ 0.23	2.07 $\pm$ 0.45
	Female	1.40 $\pm$ 0.15	2.01 $\pm$ 0.26
60-69 (n=36)	Male	1.36 $\pm$ 0.21	1.93 $\pm$ 0.36
	Female	1.30 $\pm$ 0.21	1.77 $\pm$ 0.25
70-79 (n=42)	Male	1.33 $\pm$ 0.20	2.08 $\pm$ 0.36
	Female	1.27 $\pm$ 0.21	1.74 $\pm$ 0.28

Amputations. *Phys Ther.* 2005;85:626-635. <sup>17</sup>Sions, J.M., et al. Differences in Physical Performance Measures Among Patients with Unilateral Lower-Limb Amputations Classified as Functional Level K3 versus K4. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil.* 2018;99:1333-1341. <sup>18</sup>Batten, H.R., et al. Gait Speed as an Indicator of Prosthetic Walking Potential Following Lower Limb Amputation. *Prosthetics Orthot Int.* 2019;43:196-203. <sup>19</sup>Sawers, A., et al. Interrater and Test-retest Reliability of Performance-based Clinical Tests Administered to Established Users of Lower Limb Prostheses. *Phys Ther.* 2020;100:1206-1216.

Reference: Prosthesis Users with Unilateral Amputation (m/s)		Mean $\pm$ SD
Traumatic Transtibial Amputation (n=24; 28 $\pm$ 5 y) <sup>2</sup>		
Self-selected speed		1.25 $\pm$ 0.12
Transfemoral Amputation* (n=16; 15-63 y) <sup>3</sup>		
Self-selected speed		1.04 $\pm$ 0.21
Fast speed		1.26 $\pm$ 0.29
Knee Disarticulation* (n=5; 20-70 y) <sup>3</sup>		
Self-selected speed		1.19 $\pm$ 0.25
Fast speed		1.46 $\pm$ 0.35
*Amputation etiology not specified.		

Reference: Longer-Term Unilateral Prosthesis Users (m/s) <sup>17</sup>		Mean $\pm$ SD (95% CI)
K-level		
K3 (n=35; age: 60 $\pm$ 12 y)		
Self-selected speed		0.88 $\pm$ 0.04 (0.80-0.96)
Fast speed		1.12 $\pm$ 0.05 (1.02-1.22)
K4 (n=20; age: 46 $\pm$ 12 y)		
Self-selected speed		1.21 $\pm$ 0.05 (1.11-1.32)
Fast speed		1.56 $\pm$ 0.07 (1.41-1.70)
Note: Using center 6 m timed from 10 m course.		

Reference Values: IPOP Users at Rehabilitation Discharge (m/s)		Median (IRQ)
Unilateral LLL (n=110; age 63 $\pm$ 13 y) <sup>18</sup>		
K1 (n=6)		0.17 (0.15-0.19)
K2 (n=43)		0.38 (0.25-0.54)
K3 (n=54)		0.63 (0.50-0.71)
K4 (n=7)		1.06 (0.95-1.18)
Note: Self-selected speed using 10 m timed.		

<sup>1</sup>Wong, C.K., et al. Exercise Programs to Improve Gait Performance in People with Lower Limb Amputation: A Systematic Review. *Prosthet Orthot Int.* 2016;40:8-17. <sup>2</sup>Russell Esposito, E., et al. Gait Biomechanics Following Lower Extremity Trauma: Amputation vs. Reconstruction. *Gait Posture.* 2017;54:167-173. <sup>3</sup>Boonstra, A.M., et al. Walking Speed of Normal Subjects and Amputees: Aspects of Validity of Gait Analysis. *Prosthet Orthot Int.* 1993;17:78-92. <sup>4</sup>Bohannon, R.W. Comfortable and Maximum Walking Speed of Adults Aged 20-79 Years: Reference Values and Determinants. *Age Ageing.* 1997;26:15-9. <sup>5</sup>Bell, J.C., et al. Transfemoral Amputations: The Effect of Residual Limb Length and Orientation on Gait Analysis Outcome Measures. *J Bone Joint Surg Am.* 2013;95:408-414. <sup>6</sup>Roffman, C.E., et al. Locomotor Performance During Rehabilitation of People with Lower Limb Amputation and Prosthetic Nonuse 12 months After Discharge. *Phys Ther.* 2016;96:985-994. <sup>7</sup>Gjovaaag, T., et al. Assessment of Aerobic Capacity and Walking Economy of Unilateral Transfemoral Amputees. *Prosthet Orthot Int.* 2014;38:140-147. <sup>8</sup>Wezenberg, D., et al. Relation between Aerobic Capacity and Walking Ability in Older Adults with a Lower-Limb Amputation. *Arch Phys Med Rehabil.* 2013;94:1714-1720. <sup>9</sup>Renstrom, R., et al. Thigh Muscle Strength in Below-Knee Amputees. *Scand J Rehabil Med Suppl.* 1983;9:162-173. <sup>10</sup>Powers, C.M., et al. The Influence of Lower-Extremity Muscle Force on Gait Characteristics in Individuals with Below-Knee Amputations Secondary to Vascular Disease. *Phys Ther.* 1996;76:369-377. <sup>11</sup>Boonstra, A.M., Schrama, J., et al. The Gait of Unilateral Transfemoral Amputees. *Scand J Rehabil Med.* 1994;26:217-223. <sup>12</sup>Gates, D.H., et al. Kinematic Comparisons of Walking on Uneven Ground Using Powered and Unpowered Prostheses. *Clin Biomech (Bristol, Avon).* 2013; 28:467-472. <sup>13</sup>Hubbard W.A., McElroy, G.K. Benchmark Data for Elderly, Vascular Trans-tibial Amputees after Rehabilitation. *Prosthet Orthot Int.* 1994;18:142-149. <sup>14</sup>Skinner, H.B., Effkeny, D.J. Gait Analysis in Amputees. *Am J Phys Med.* 1985;64:82-89. <sup>15</sup>Hermansson, Y., et al. Gait in Male Trans-tibial Amputees: A Comparative Study with Healthy Subjects in Relation to Walking Speed. *Prosthet Orthot Int.* 1994;18:68-77. <sup>16</sup>Deathe A.B., Miller, W.C. The L Test of Functional Mobility: Measurement Properties of the Modified Version of the Timed "Up and Go" Test Designed for People with Lower-Limb