Below-Knee Limb Loss Study

What is it?

The goal of this study is to explore how changes in the nervous system after lower-limb amputation affect heart disease risk, sleep, and pain.

We are recruiting adults with below-knee amputation with and without phantom limb pain. Phantom limb pain is pain perceived as coming from the amputated portion of the limb.

If eligible, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire packet at home, and an in-person evaluation that includes assessment of your nervous system activity, your sensitivity to pressure and heat, and ultrasound imaging of the blood vessels of your neck and legs. Ultrasound imaging uses sound waves to see how your blood flows and has no known risks to humans. We will ask you to wear activity monitors around your wrist and prosthetic ankle for 7 days after the onsite evaluation and then mail these back in a postage-paid envelope. We will also ask you to recomplete some of the questionnaires 7-10 days later from your home.

You may be eligible if...

- You have a **below-knee amputation**...
  - Are 20-85 years-old.
  - Have no history of heart attack, stroke, or heart failure.
  - Do not have any amputation of the opposite leg (other than toe amputations) or arms (other than finger amputations).

Time Commitment: ~3 hours

- Questionnaire Packet (can be completed at home via your computer or we can send a packet in the mail): 45 minutes-1 hour
- Onsite Examination: <2 hours
- Recomplete Questionnaires: <20 minutes

Potential Compensation:

- Up to $110 in gift cards
**Potential Onsite Data Collection Locations:**

1. Delaware Limb Loss Studies Lab, 540 S. College Avenue, Newark, DE 19713
2. Amputee Coalition National Conference
3. Adventist HealthCare Rehabilitation, Silver Springs, MD
4. Independence Prosthetics-Orthotics, Inc., Newark, Dover, Rehoboth Beach, DE; Philadelphia and Brookhaven, PA
5. Allied OP, Mt Laurel, Sewell, Toms River, NJ; Philadelphia, Elkins Park, Bethlehem, PA.
6. Real-Life Prosthetics, Abingdon, MD
7. Dankmeyer Prosthetics-Orthotics, Linthicum, MD
8. Wilmington VA

**Please call (302) 831-7142 during business hours (Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm) to be screened for participation or use the QR code below to go directly to the study site.**