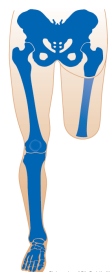
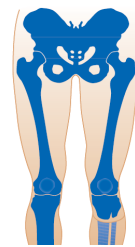


Types of Amputation

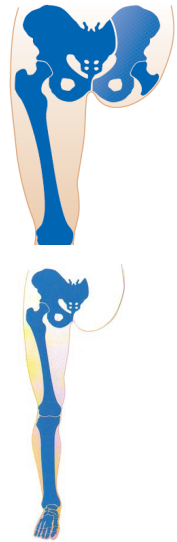
Lower Limb Amputations

Lower limb amputations vary from the partial removal of a toe to the loss of the entire leg and part of the pelvis. The following list provides a summary of the typical forms of lower limb amputation:

- Partial foot amputation – this commonly involves the removal of one or more toes. This amputation will affect walking and balance.
- Ankle disarticulation – an amputation of the foot at the ankle, leaving a person still able to move around without the need for a prosthesis
- Below knee amputations (transtibial) – an amputation of the leg below the knee that retains the use of the knee joint.
- Through the knee amputations – the removal of the lower leg and knee joint. The remaining stump is still able to bear weight as the whole femur is retained
- Above knee amputation (transfemoral) - an amputation of the leg above the knee joint



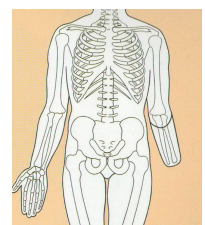
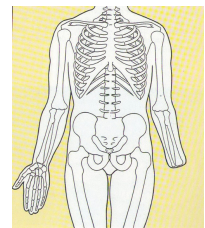
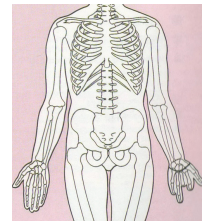
- Hip disarticulation – the removal of the entire limb up to and including the femur. A variation leaves the upper femur and hip joint for better shape/profile when sitting
- Hemipelvectomy (transpelvic) – the removal of the entire limb and the partial removal of the pelvis



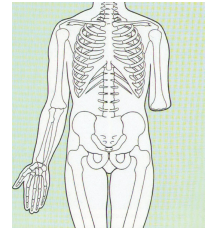
Upper Limb Amputations

Upper limb amputations vary from the partial removal of a finger to the loss of the entire arm and part of the shoulder. The following list provides a summary of the typical forms of upper limb amputation:

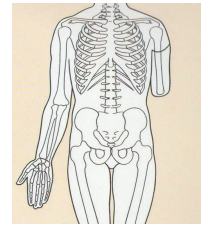
- Partial hand amputation - amputations can include fingertips and parts of the fingers. The thumb is the most common single digit loss. The loss of a thumb inhibits the ability to grasp, manipulate or pick up objects grasping ability. When other fingers are amputated, the hand can still grasp but with less precision.
- Metacarpal Amputation – this involves the removal of the entire hand with the wrist still intact
- Wrist disarticulation – this form of amputation involves the removal of the hand and the wrist joint
- Below elbow amputation (transradial) – the partial removal of the forearm below the elbow joint



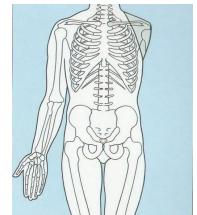
- Elbow disarticulation – the amputation of the forearm at the elbow.



- Above elbow amputation (transhumeral) - the removal of the arm above the elbow



- Shoulder disarticulation and forequarter amputation is the removal of the entire arm including the shoulder blade and collar bone.



Images courtesy of Otto Bock Healthcare