

Difficulties with Prostheses

Of the 75 people who received prosthesis, 54 continued to use them (72%). Reported difficulties with prostheses among those who continued to use them included painful stump and broken components (Table 6). Of the 21 people who received a prosthesis but no longer used it, 67% reported that a broken prosthesis was the main reason for not using the prosthesis (Table 7).

Difficulty using prosthesis	Number (%)
Stump painful	18 (35%)
Broken	6 (12%)
Bad fitting	1 (2%)
Heavy	1 (2%)
Other wounds	1 (2%)
No difficulties	25 (48%)

Table 6: Difficulties using prosthesis in those that still use (n=52)

Reason for not using prosthesis (n= 21)	Number (%)
Broken	14 (67%)
Bad fitting	3 (14%)
More mobile without	1 (5%)
Stolen	1 (5%)
Destroyed in fire	1 (5%)
No answer	1 (5%)

Table 7: Reason for not using prosthesis (n=21) in those who had received one (n= 73)

Quality of Life

In analyzing the Reintegration to Normal Living Scores, we separated the 23 people who had upper-limb amputations from the 98 people with lower-limb amputations. Among the lower-limb amputation group, those who had received rehabilitation had significantly higher mean total RNL scores than those who did not (mean 16.4 for those with rehabilitation and 13.5 for those without; $P < 0.001$). Responses for each of the eleven domains were analyzed. Those with rehabilitation had higher scores in all of the eight domains of daily function (Figure 1). Comparisons were made between those with upper limb and those with lower limb amputations. Those with upper limb amputation had significantly better scores in home and community mobility, while those with lower limb amputation had significantly better scores in self-care activities and social activities. Male and female differences were few, with the only significantly better scores for men being in recreational activities.

In regards to feelings about their impairment, the common theme of frustration and sadness prevailed, but this coincided with the overwhelming sense that one still must go on, the war is over; they had survived. Ninety-one percent of those interviewed stated that they looked forward to the future.