

Access to Prosthetics

Overall, 76 people (63%) had received treatment at a rehabilitation centre in Mozambique. (Table 3) Men were more likely than women to receive rehabilitation (66% of men versus 52% of women). Sixty-two percent of persons (75 people) surveyed had received prostheses, which includes two men who had constructed their own prostheses, but had never received treatment at a rehabilitation centre.

Very few individuals with upper extremity amputations received rehabilitation (17%) although 52% of the people with upper extremity amputations stated that they were interested in rehabilitation.

Amputation Level	Rehabilitation n=76			No Rehabilitation n=45			TOTALS
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Lower Limbs	61	11	72	21	5	26	98 (81%)
Upper Limbs	2	2	4	12	7	19	23 (19%)
Total	63 (66%)	13 (52%)	76 (63%)	33 (34%)	12 (48%)	45 (37%)	121 (100%)

Table 3: Rehabilitation and No Rehabilitation in persons with lower limb and upper limb amputations "Rehabilitation" is defined as having received treatment at one of the country's orthopedic centres.

Type of Rehabilitation aid received	Rehabilitated group (n=76) Number (%)		Non-rehabilitated group (n=45) Number (%)		Total who received aids (%)
	Received Aid	Still Using Aid	Received Aid	Still Using Aid	
Prosthesis	73 (95%)	52 (71%)	2 (5%)	2 (100%)	75 (62%)
Crutches	72 (94%)	65 (90%)	17 (36%)	17 (100%)	89 (74%)
Wheelchair	7 (9%)	3 (43%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	8 (7%)

Table 4: Rehabilitation aids received and continue to be used in both rehabilitated and non-rehabilitated groups

We found that lack of information and lack of transportation were major obstacles in accessing prosthetic/rehabilitation services (Table 5). Many reported that they thought the prostheses would cost money or that they could not afford the transportation. Many were unsure how to gain access to the services, and lacked information on what services were available. Overall, amongst the 121 people surveyed, there were 48 reports that lack of information and/or transportation prohibited access to the centres, whether for a first prosthesis or for repairs/replacement prosthesis.

Reason for no rehabilitation n = 45	Number (%)
No information	14 (32%)
Not interested	12 (27%)
No transportation	11 (25%)
Too expensive	6 (14%)
Orthopedic center full	3 (7%)
No help	1 (2%)
Painful stump	1 (2%)
No time	1 (2%)
On waiting list	2 (2%)
Told could not make prosthesis for type of amputation	2 (2%)

Table 5: Reasons for not receiving Rehabilitation (n=45)