

The Care Digest



"Improving the Quality of Your Life is Our Primary Concern."

Vol 3. Issue 2 2009

The Care Digest ... keeping you informed about what's going on in the prosthetic and orthotic industry right here in St. Louis and around the world!

P&O Care is one of several sponsors who are proud to support and who have made



significant contributions to the efforts of the Missouri Coalition for People With Limb Loss.

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Missouri Prosthetic Parity Bill Update Prosthetic Insurance Coverage Changes January 1st, 2010

Effective January 1st, 2010 private insurance companies will no longer be able to place financial caps on prosthetic coverage that are more restrictive than the rest of the policy, and they will not be able to restrict coverage to once-in-a-lifetime.

On July 13, 2009 Governor Jay Nixon signed the Missouri Prosthetic Parity Law. It went down to the wire in the General Assembly, where it passed Friday, May 15, with ten minutes to go till the 6:00pm deadline.

Months of Hard Work

The Bill made it through both the House and the Senate as an amendment to HB 577, an insurance bill, making Missouri just the seventeenth state to pass a parity law.

Before it became an amendment to HB 577, the Prosthetic Parity Bill marched on its own through House and Senate committees.

On March 3rd and 4th, P&O Care practitioners, employees, and patients visited the State Capitol in Jeff City for committee hearings. Along with other members of the MCPLL, they made their case for why insurance companies should cover prosthetics without unreasonable annual caps or once-in-a-lifetime limits.

Amputees were able to tell the senators and representatives how these caps have affected them, making it difficult to get a prosthesis in order to work, or leaving

them in fear of wearing out the prosthesis they have because they know they wouldn't be able to get another one.

Insurance Company Lobbyists Testified

Lobbyists for the insurance companies also testified, mostly stating that they are opposed to all health insurance mandates but not addressing the merits of prosthetic parity in particular.

Questioning one of these lobbyists, one senator (who says she usually opposes mandates) asked if the insurance company covered facial reconstruction after burns or breast reconstruction after cancer. If so, why wouldn't they also cover prosthetics for amputees?

A Bipartisan Vote

It seems that all the senators and representatives, both Republican and Democrat, got the point. They voted 7-0 in the Senate committee and 10-0 in the House to pass the Prosthetic Parity Bill on to the full chambers for a vote.



**Missouri Coalition
for People with
Limb Loss**

"An Arm or a Leg is NOT a Luxury!"

The Missouri Coalition for People with Limb Loss was formed in 2007 to address disparity in insurance coverage for prosthetics.

For more information visit

<http://www.molimbloss.blogspot.com>



The Importance of An Accredited Organization and Licensed Practitioners

By seeking and achieving accreditation from the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics (ABC), P&O Care has pledged its commitment to providing quality patient care services.

The certification represents the highest level of accreditation possible in the profession of orthotics and prosthetics. P&O Care scored a notable 100% in ABC's Patient Care Management and Facility Accreditation Program. In addition, the company has been recognized for its achievement in Organizational Management, Patient Care Management, Quality Assurance, and Facility and Safety Management.



P&O Care offices are conveniently located. Each office is equipped with an on-site lab facility that enables us to quickly fabricate or adjust your prosthetic or orthotic device.

Our eight mobile units are ready to serve you where we are needed.



St. Louis Care Center



Jefferson Care Center



St. Clair, IL Care Center

It's Easy to Stay Connected with P&O Care

Today, more and more people and companies are using the internet to connect with their friends, patrons, customers, and prospects. Social media sites like Facebook, Twitter and You-Tube let you connect with people who share your interests, field of expertise, or similar experiences.

These tools are a great friendly way for healthcare firms to connect with patients and other professionals who may refer them patients. Take advantage of this opportunity to connect with P&O Care through Facebook and Twitter, and through our pages, connect with others who share your interests.

facebook

You can find P&O Care's Facebook page simply by searching for "Prosthetic and Orthotic Care" on Facebook. A Facebook page works a lot like a regular website.

Ours contain a feed from our popular blog, The Care Digest, information about our locations and office hours, and video of patients doing fun things. The best thing about a Facebook page you can't do with a regular website is the ability connect with other "fans" who also like the page or the company it represents. Fans can then leave comments on the page's "wall" for the company or other fans to read.

twitter



P&O Care's Twitter user name is "pandocare" or you can find us at <http://www.twitter.com/pandocare>. Twitter allows you to share information in 140 character segments with everyone who chooses to follow you. On twitter we will share breaking news about our practitioners, interesting short stories about patients or news about the exciting world of prosthetics and orthotics.

You Tube

Broadcast Yourself™
Worldwide | English

Home Videos Channels Community

<http://www.youtube.com/user/BMcLellanPandOCare>

P & O Care now has a channel on YouTube that has already had over over 63,000 views. The videos include amateur shots of a pediatric amputee ice skating, and walking at the St. Louis Galleria, along with a two-minute, professionally produced, news-style advertorial. You can access the P&O YouTube Channel by going to

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And don't forget you can always get the latest news at our Blog, the Care Digest at <http://www.caredigest.blogspot.com/>

Meet the New P&O Care Practitioners



Luke Brewer
Staff Orthotist

Luke Brewer, Staff Orthotist

Luke first became interested in the orthotic and prosthetic profession in high school after he suffered a serious spine injury in a motor vehicle accident. Luke earned a degree in medical biology from Missouri State University in 2007. He continued his education at Northwestern Medical School in Chicago completing the orthotics program in 2008 and prosthetics in 2009. He always tries to develop a deeper understanding of his patient's unique needs so he can recommend innovative solutions that will help them maintain a higher quality of life. Luke likes to spend time with his family and friends and enjoys golf, running, and being active in the outdoors.

Dustin Brooks, Staff Orthotist

Dustin received his Master's of Science in Prosthetics and Orthotics from Georgia Tech in 2009. He is currently working on his NCOPE orthotic residency, a one-year program after which he will take his board exams to become an ABC Certified Orthotist. In 2003-04, Dustin Brooks served a tour of duty in Iraq with the Army. After serving our country, he received his undergraduate degree in biology at the University of Missouri St. Louis, where he graduated magna cum laude in 2007. Previously Dustin worked for the Prosthetic and Orthotic Componentry Clearinghouse, an organization that supplies prosthetic foot and knee parts to countries in need like Cambodia and Sudan.



Dustin Brooks
Staff Orthotist

Emery Miko, Staff Orthotist



Emery Miko, C.O.
Staff Orthotist

Emery has been interested in orthotics all his life. At the age of 12 he started assisting his father who operated a one man practice in the aftermath of the polio epidemic. After serving in the Airforce for eight years, Emery received his certificate in orthotics in 1965. He taught a technician training program at Delgado Junior College and helped write the college's curriculum for their associate degree program. He ran a private practice from 1973 until 1987, when he joined the orthotic team at Shriners Hospital in St. Louis. He was the Director of the Shriners Orthotics and Prosthetics Department from 1989 to 2009. "I loved working with the children at Shriners," Emery says, "because children do not think they can't do this or that. I watched them grow into young adults, and felt like I had affected their lives for the better."

Daniel Record, Staff Prosthetist

Daniel Record is an expert in the M.A.S. socket design system, the C-Leg, Rheo Knee, and the Harmony Vacuum Management Socket system. He received his Diploma of Prosthetics from Century College in 2001 and became an ABC Certified Prosthetist in 2003. He graduated with academic distinction from Southeast Missouri State in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Interdisciplinary Studies and completed his Pre Med degree in 1996. Daniel is also a Registered Nurse and worked as charge nurse in both acute rehabilitation and medical/surgical settings for more than 6 years prior to entering the field of Prosthetics. Daniel served as Regional Director for Physiotherapy Associates in Paducah, Kentucky before coming to P&O Care. His hobbies include camping, target shooting, and auto restoration.



Daniel E. Record,
R.N., C.P., L.P.
Staff Prosthetist

What Makes P&O Care Different?

"It's our team of professionals - a group of dedicated individuals who possess the unique combination of certified technical education and training with extensive clinical expertise in the prosthetic and orthotic industry.

We have a driving, personal passion to help our patients with a broad range of disabilities and treatment needs and a desire to maximize the quality of their lives."

Jim Weber, Jon Wilson



Jim Weber
CEO

Jon Wilson, C.P.O., L.P.O.,
Clinical Director



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The Care Digest

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