

## *Choosing a Prosthetist*

Everyone's needs are different; a prosthesis has to be custom fit to you so, just as you would shop for a new car or a large appliance, you need to shop for a prosthetic company and the prosthetist. Visit several companies before you commit, a little extra time at the start will spare you some difficulties in the future.

There are many things to consider when making your selection, recommendations from other amputees, doctors, and therapists are helpful, however you and your prosthetist will be working together for a very long time, so make sure it's someone you are comfortable with.

Below is a list of things to consider and questions to ask when you interview a potential prosthetist:

- Do they accept your insurance?
- What will be your co-pay or out of pocket expenses?
- Are there any options for payment plans?
- Have they been in business long?
- What are their prosthetic qualifications?
- Is there someone available to help you in an emergency?
- If you want a cosmetic finish, what options do they offer?
- Will the limb be easy to put on and take off quickly?
- Can you try different things before making a final choice?
- What hobbies do you want to pursue, do you want to run or play sports, and are you going back to work?
- Will the prosthetic they make for you allow you to do these things?
- Is the office accessible and clean?
- Is the office convenient to your home?
- Do they have more than one location?
- Do they have their own lab or do they send their work out & why?