

AMPUTATION SYSTEM OF CARE

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Amputation System of Care (ASoC) is an integrated, national healthcare delivery system that provides patient-centered, lifelong care for the Veteran and Service member with an amputation. VHA provides care for over 50,000 individuals with major limb loss, including those with amputations secondary to combat. The ASoC enables the highest level of function to include social, vocational, and recreational re-integration.

ASoC COMPONENTS

Regional Amputation Centers provide the highest level of specialized expertise in clinical care and prosthetic technology, as well as rehabilitation for the most complex patients.

Polytrauma Amputation Network Sites provide a full range of clinical and ancillary services to Veterans within their local Veterans Integrated Service Network catchment area.

Amputation Clinic Teams are located at sites with more limited inpatient and prosthetic capabilities. These sites provide regular follow-up care and address ongoing needs.

Amputation Points of Contact are smaller facilities that will ensure that at least one person is identified to act as the point of contact for Veteran consultation, assessment, and referral to a facility capable of providing the required level of services.

POPULATION SERVED

- Those served include eligible Veterans and Service members with extremity amputations from any cause.
- The ASoC also serves individuals who have a high likelihood of requiring an extremity amputation due to disease or injury.
- Individuals who have sustained extremity trauma requiring limb salvage procedures with subsequent complex orthotic and rehabilitation needs also qualify for care.

ACCESS TO CARE

- Care is based on individual needs, goals, and preferences
- Factors to consider include the level of services required to maximize function, health of the residual and contralateral limb, the geographic proximity to the patient's home, and the patient's personal preference.
- Telehealth Amputation Clinics maximize access to specialty amputation care for rural areas.

ASoC GOALS

- Enhance the environment of care that focuses upon patients' individual needs and ensure consistency in the delivery of services.
- Provide specialized expertise in amputation care incorporating the latest practices in medical rehabilitation, therapy services, and prosthetic technology.
- Provide telemedicine, educational programs, therapeutic interventions, and prosthetic devices.