
**Prosthetics and orthotics —
Vocabulary —**

**Part 2:
Terms relating to external limb
protheses**

Prothèses et orthèses — Vocabulaire —

Partie 2: Termes relatifs aux prothèses de membre externes

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 168, *Prosthetics and orthotics*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 8549-2:2020), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the exclusion of wearers of the prostheses;
- inclusion of upper and lower limb prosthetic systems;
- editorial update.

A list of all parts in the ISO 8549 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

The terms and definitions provided in this document reflect the changes in the terminology commonly used in the field of prosthetics since the publication of the first edition of this document, i.e. ISO 8549-2:1989.

This vocabulary is intended to help practitioners describe the devices they supply in a standardized manner. It is also relevant to epidemiologists and national health officials.

See also WHO International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps, published by the World Health Organization, Geneva, 1980.

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Prosthetics and orthotics — Vocabulary —

Part 2:

Terms relating to external limb prostheses

1 Scope

This document defines terms used to describe external limb prostheses.

The terms related to the amputation level used in this document are described in ISO 8549-4.

The types of component used in the construction of prostheses are classified and described in ISO 13405-1, ISO 13405-2 and ISO 13405-3.

For the purposes of this document, the abbreviated term 'prosthetics' and its derivatives only apply to external limb prosthetics.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

upper limb prosthetic system

collection of compatible components that can be integrated to produce a range of different upper limb prostheses

3.2

upper limb prosthesis

device that replaces the whole or part of the upper limb after amputation (including non-surgical trauma or auto amputation), or, due to congenital limb deficiency

3.2.1

partial hand prosthesis

device that replaces part of the upper limb distal to the wrist joint

Note 1 to entry: Included are finger prosthesis.

3.2.2

wrist disarticulation prosthesis

device that replaces part of the upper limb at the wrist joint

3.2.3

transradial prosthesis

device that replaces part of the upper limb between the wrist and elbow joints

3.2.4

elbow disarticulation prosthesis

device that replaces part of the upper limb at the elbow joint

3.2.5

transhumeral prosthesis

device that replaces part of the upper limb between the shoulder and elbow joints

3.2.6

shoulder disarticulation prosthesis

device that replaces the upper limb at the shoulder joint

3.2.7

scapulothoracic disarticulation prosthesis

device that replaces part of the upper limb at the scapulothoracic and sterno-clavicular joints

3.3

lower limb prosthetic system

collection of compatible components that can be integrated to produce a range of different lower limb prostheses

3.4

lower limb prosthesis

devices that replaces the whole or part of the lower limb after amputation (including non-surgical trauma or auto amputation) or, due to congenital limb deficiency

3.4.1

partial foot prosthesis

device that replaces part of the lower limb distal to the ankle joint

Note 1 to entry: This includes toe prostheses.

3.4.2

ankle disarticulation prosthesis

device that replaces part of the lower limb at the ankle joint

3.4.3

transtibial prosthesis

device that replaces part of the lower limb between the knee joint and the ankle joint

3.4.4

knee disarticulation prosthesis

device that replaces part of the lower limb at the knee joint

3.4.5

transfemoral prosthesis

device that replaces part of the lower limb between the hip joint and the knee joint

3.4.6

hip disarticulation prosthesis

device that replaces the lower limb at the hip joint

3.4.7

transpelvic prosthesis

device that replaces the lower limb together with part or all of the hemipelvis

Bibliography

- [1] ISO 8549-4, *Prosthetics and orthotics — Vocabulary — Part 4: Terms relating to limb amputation*
- [2] ISO 13405-1, *Prosthetics and orthotics — Classification and description of prosthetic components — Part 1: Classification of prosthetic components*
- [3] ISO 13405-2, *Prosthetics and orthotics — Classification and description of prosthetic components — Part 2: Description of lower limb prosthetic components*
- [4] ISO 13405-3, *Prosthetics and orthotics — Classification and description of prosthetic components — Part 3: Description of upper limb prosthetic components*
- [5] International Classification of impairments, disabilities and handicaps, World Health Organization, Geneva, 1980.

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