

The Role of Mental Health in O&P Ruth M. Morris, LMSW

Why should O&P practitioners be concerned with the mental health of patients? A thorough understanding of issues facing amputees will assist prosthetists, technicians, and other professionals involved in rehabilitative care in providing comprehensive care, which will ultimately lead to successful prosthetic use. Practitioners will be given an understanding of the potential liability risks that may arise with patients in need of mental health attention, in addition to basic skills to identify when to refer patients to a mental health professional. An overview of the psychological impact of amputation and the various ways issues may manifest in the rehabilitative process will enlighten all care professionals involved to provide appropriate treatment and collaboration among disciplines.