

## **OSSEOINTEGRATION EVALUATION CLINIC for people with lower-limb amputations**

The osseointegration evaluation clinic is unique in Montréal. It is a first not only in Québec but in all of Canada. The clinic is intended for persons with lower-limb amputations who would like osseointegration surgery. Clinic experts evaluate the person to determine if they are good candidates for this type of intervention.

### **Osseointegration**

Osseointegration is used in Europe and elsewhere around the world. It consists in implanting a metal rod into the centre of the bone of the stump, and then connecting an external prosthesis to the rod. A connector allows for proper attachment of the rod to the prosthesis, improving stability. Data show that this surgery has a number of positive effects. The person functions better, gains freedom of movement and has better quality of life.

### **Target clientele**

People between 18 and 70 years old with lower-limb amputation and with one or more of the following issues:

- Recurrent problems with the socket of their prosthesis (pain, for instance)
- Problems wearing a prosthesis
- Skin infections
- Excessive sweating
- Significant stump size fluctuations

Eligible candidates must undergo medical screening (physical and psychological testing) and must adhere to the prescribed treatment plan and follow-up.

This procedure is not intended for amputations due to diabetes or circulation problem (vascular disease).

### **How does the clinic work?**

The evaluation clinic determines if an amputee is a good candidate for osseointegration.

The clinic is held on a monthly basis at [Institut de réadaptation Gingras-Lindsay-de-Montréal, Pavillon Lindsay \(Hudson\)](#). It stands out in several ways. Professionals at the clinic focus on the whole person. They consider the person's physical aspects, profile, personality and elements that could affect his or her mental health.

Individuals get an answer at the end of the day, on the same day as their appointment. If the team recommends osseointegration, surgery options are discussed.

Since clinic experts target the person's real difficulties, they evaluate everything that could improve the person's state. If osseointegration isn't possible, the team then suggests alternatives to improve quality of life. For instance, physical training, psychological support or changes to the prosthesis could also be the solution.

The clinic's success rests on having four experts on site: prosthetics specialist, psychologist, physiatrist and physiotherapist. An orthopedic surgeon from the MUHC is also part of the clinical team. The patient can count on getting a quality professional opinion supported by evidence-based data, right here in Québec.

**To get an appointment or for more information**

To get an appointment at the osseointegration evaluation clinic, a referral from a physiatrist or orthopedic surgeon is needed.

If you have any questions, please contact us:

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