
**Prosthetics and orthotics — Limb
deficiencies —**

Part 4:

Description of causal conditions leading to
amputation

Prothèses et orthèses — Malformations des membres —

Partie 4: Description des causes qui conduisent à l'amputation



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.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

International Standard ISO 8548-4 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 168, *Prosthetics and orthotics*.

ISO 8548 consists of the following parts under the general title *Prosthetics and orthotics — Limb deficiencies*:

- *Part 1: Method of describing limb deficiencies present at birth*
- *Part 2: Method of describing lower limb amputation stumps*
- *Part 3: Method of describing upper limb amputation stumps*
- *Part 4: Description of causal conditions leading to amputation*
- *Part 6: Description of condition of patient requiring a prosthesis*

Future parts will deal with other descriptions of limb deficiencies.

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International Organization for Standardization
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Genève 20 • Switzerland
Internet iso@iso.ch

Printed in Switzerland

Introduction

The outcome of the rehabilitation of a patient who has had an amputation depends not only on the surgery performed and the prosthesis which may be fitted, but also on the cause and underlying condition for which the amputation was performed, and on other disabilities and attributes of the patient. Members of clinic teams in different countries develop their own nomenclature to meet their own needs. Hence there is a need for an international system to be developed in order to compare one publication with another and one patient with another. The different care groups who would appreciate and use a standardized system of describing the reason for amputation and the general state of the patient include surgeons, other doctors (especially those concerned with rehabilitation), physical and occupational therapists and prosthetists. Such a system would also be of value to epidemiologists and government health officials.

The system proposed has to meet the needs of the different members of the clinic team and to enable the description of the cause of amputation and the underlying condition to be recorded in a way that can be easily incorporated in reports. This part of ISO 8548 deliberately aims at defining the minimum information to be described. It should be feasible for this information to be included in forms designed by the individual institution and be capable of ready adaptation for computer analysis.