

# Rehabilitation for Limb Loss and Limb Difference with a Pediatric Emphasis

Inger Brueckner, MS, PT

## Faculty

Inger Brueckner is the principle physical therapist treating limb loss at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center. Her experience spans many age groups, causes and levels of limb loss and amputee working in a multidisciplinary team dedicated to the advancement of function in this population. With a master's in PT, Inger has worked primarily as an outpatient therapists and hospital-based outpatient center. She co-authored an article on pre-prosthetic training and has presented at national and international conferences and presented a poster of a study at APTA CSM. She also worked in the vestibular rehabilitation since 1995, specifically pediatric vestibular rehabilitation. These disparate populations have several commonalities that help encourage a grounded, functional approach that address the patient as a whole person and is more flexible with approaches to better serve their needs. She developed and directed the Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children's acute concussion program: PACER. Both programs were devolved jointly in a team of specialists respecting and encouraging one another to find better solutions for these deserving populations and to share approaches.

**Disclosure** - Financial: Ms. Brueckner receives an honorarium from ERI for teaching. Non-financial: No non-financial relationships to disclose.

## About this Live Webinar

Learn to comprehensively manage the pediatric patient with limb loss and enhance your clinical decision-making skills to improve functional outcomes. Pre-prosthetic training, Immediate post-op needs, prosthetic training for both upper and lower limb as well as ADLs, running and sports, managing complications and future advances in care will be addressed. Learn and practice manual techniques that can be implemented immediately. Video demos, research, expert opinions, patient perspectives and additional resources will also be included. Finally, critical problem solving for multi-limb involvement to maximize independence and a review of the lifespan needs of this population is also included.

## Objectives

- Modify an individual rehab program using current evidence-based techniques taking into consideration the lifetime needs in the pediatric population.
- Apply two evidence-based assessments to evaluate a patient's functional impairment related to movement and posture.
- Determine an appropriate treatment intervention for balance and foot clearance with common gait deviations.
- Apply three interventions to facilitate mobility and ADL independence for upper limb loss, lower limb loss and with multi-limb loss.
- Recognize three common complications that can occur over the lifetime with limb difference/absence.
- Identify the role of OT, PT, prosthetists and other members of the multidisciplinary team across the spectrum of rehabilitation for the pediatric patient with limb loss/limb difference.

## Patient Population & Audience

This course is designed for: PTs, PTAs, OTs, OTAs, ATCs and Educators who are working with patients who have limb loss.

## Schedule – Day 1 8:40 am - 6:15 pm EST (US)

8:40 – 9:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
9:00-9:45	<b>Limb absence and limb difference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope of the problem, barriers to evidence-based treatment, multidisciplinary team approach, pre-operative evaluations/interventions</li> </ul>
9:45-11:00	<b>Patient Perspectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specific concerns for congenital, post-sepsis, cancer and trauma</li> </ul> <b>Surgical Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Of bone muscles, nerve and skin</li> </ul> <b>Psychological Impacts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caregiver education</li> </ul>
11:00-11:15	<b>Break</b>
11:15-12:00	<b>Intra-operative video, rotationalplasty, limb lengthening, revision surgery indications</b>
12:00-1:00	<b>Post-op Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timeline positioning, compression, initial exercises, mirror therapy, upper limb management</li> </ul>
1:00-1:30	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30-3:00	<b>ADLs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adaptive equipment, home modifications, functional problem-solving in multi-limb loss/difference</li> </ul>
3:00-3:45	<b>Pre-prosthetic Rehabilitation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Core, core and more core!</li> <li>Exercise considerations for post-sepsis and cancer, non-prosthetic candidates</li> </ul>
3:45-4:00	<b>Break</b>
4:00-4:45	<b>Balance Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Falls, floor transfers, vestibular involvement</li> </ul>
4:45-5:30	<b>Upper Limb Prosthetic Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Terminal devices, watching for compensatory patterns</li> <li>Case Analysis</li> <li>Group discussion, hands-on practice of manual gait cues and PNF techniques, trial walking</li> </ul>
5:30-6:00	<b>Return to School Issues and Concerns</b>
6:00-6:15	<b>Pulling it All Together</b>

## Schedule – Day 2 8:40 am - 4:30 pm EST (US)

8:40 – 9:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
9:00-10:00	Prosthetic fabrication of sockets, components, suspension systems, initial delivery and wear schedule, donning and doffing, sock ply management, growth considerations, skin preparation and care
10:00-11:00	<b>Gait Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assistive device selection, stair, ramp and uneven ground, bilateral involvement, outcome measure</li> </ul>
11:00-11:30	Review of gait and potential interventions (you are invited to bring your own cases, or will use selections provided by instructor)
11:30-11:45	<b>Break</b>
11:45-1:00	<b>Sports and Recreation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Running, adaptive sport for all levels, travel, resources of equipment</li> </ul>
1:00-1:30	<b>Lunch</b>
1:30-3:00	<b>Management of Common Complications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skin issues, neuromas, phantom pain, residual limb pain, low back pain, overuse concerns, aging with congenital absence</li> </ul>
3:00-3:15	<b>Break</b>
3:15-4:00	<b>Advancements and Future Trends</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Targeted muscle reinnervation, pattern recognition, Osseointegration and powered components</li> </ul>
4:00-4:30	<b>Resources</b>

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## Credits

This course meets the criteria for 14.5 contact hours (1.45 CEUs) Intermediate Level.



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## Webinar Dates and Times

March 6 and 7, 2026

8:40 am EST • 7:40 am CST • 6:40 am MST • 5:40 am PST (US)

Registration is for both sessions. Zoom log-in Instructions and Course Materials will be emailed/added to your ERI account 5-7 Days prior to the first date of the Webinar.



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### **WEBINAR: Rehabilitation for Limb Loss and Limb Difference with a Pediatric Emphasis**

**Inger Brueckner**

**March 6 and 7, 2026**

#### **Course Registration Form**

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