

## **THE OSSEOINTEGRATION EVALUATION CLINIC**

### ***People with lower-limb amputations***

The Montreal osseointegration evaluation clinic is unique. It is the first clinic of its kind, not only in Quebec but in all of Canada. This clinic is intended for persons with lower limb amputations who are interested in osseointegration surgery. 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. Studies have shown that this surgery has a number of positive effects: the person functions better, gains freedom of movement and has better quality of life.

#### **A colossal task**

The osseointegration evaluation clinic opened in December 2017. Reaching this point was a lengthy process. The team started looking into osseointegration in 2005, in light of the growing interest in this type of surgery. In fact, more and more Quebecers were going abroad to have this procedure. In April 2017, a team composed of an orthopedic surgeon, a physiatrist, a prosthetics specialist and a physiotherapist went to Australia to gather information about osseointegration. This inspiring and enriching trip set in motion the work that led to this clinic opening.

#### **Unique and innovative vision**

The osseointegration evaluation clinic stands out in many ways. Professionals at the clinic focus on the whole person. They consider the person's physical aspects, personality profile and elements that could affect his or her mental health. They do everything they can to maximize the positive effects of the surgery.

Clinic experts also target the person's real difficulties. They consider all possible treatments that could improve the person's state, because surgery is not always necessary. 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 Quebec.

#### **To get an appointment and if you have any questions**

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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More information

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