



Let Patient Stories Speak

With permission and privacy in mind, share real outcomes. Reporters love human impact.

Why Patient Stories Matter

- Stories transform abstract numbers into *faces and voices*.
 - They show legislators and media *the real-world impact of O&P care*.
 - They highlight the *independence, dignity, and opportunity* restored through professional O&P services.
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Guidelines for Sharing Stories:

- **Obtain Permission:** Always secure written consent before sharing any identifiable details
 - **Protect Privacy:** Use first names only, or anonymize with general descriptors (e.g., “a 12-year-old patient from Washington”).
 - **Keep It Relatable:** Focus on outcomes—mobility, independence, return to work—not just the device.
 - **Connect to the Bigger Picture:** Tie each story back to health care savings, patient dignity, and the role of trained professionals.
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Patient Story Template:

- **[Name / Identifier]:** [Short intro — who they are]
 - **Challenge:** [Condition, injury, or medical need]
 - **O&P Intervention:** [Device or treatment provided]
 - **Outcome:** [Result — independence gained, work resumed, quality of life restored]
 - **Quote (Optional):** [Short, emotional line in their own words]
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Sample Stories (Anonymized for Media Use)

1. Child with Scoliosis

- “Emma, a 12-year-old middle school student, struggled with severe scoliosis that made daily activities painful. With a custom orthosis, she regained her mobility and confidence. Today, she’s back to playing soccer and participating fully in school.”



- **Talking Point:** Early orthotic intervention keeps children active, healthy, and engaged in learning.

2. Veteran with Limb Loss

- *“James, a veteran who lost his leg in combat, was initially unable to work or drive. With a modern prosthesis and the expertise of a trained prosthetist, he returned to his job, regained independence, and even started coaching his son’s baseball team.”*
 - **Talking Point:** O&P care restores not just mobility, but participation in family and community life.

3. Senior with Diabetes

- *“Maria, a 67-year-old grandmother with diabetes, faced a serious risk of amputation due to foot ulcers. Through timely orthotic intervention, she avoided surgery, reduced her medical costs, and continues to live independently at home.”*
 - **Talking Point:** Orthotic care prevents costly complications and supports aging with dignity.

Sample Closing:

“Behind every orthosis or prosthesis is a story of resilience. These are not just medical devices; they are tools of independence, dignity, and economic participation.”