



Key Talking Points: Orthotics & Prosthetics (O&P)

Ready-to-use language for interviews, presentations, and outreach

Why O&P Care Matters for Patients and Families

Core Message:

O&P care transforms lives by restoring mobility, independence, and dignity for millions of Americans of all ages.

Expanded Points:

- *“Orthotic and prosthetic care isn’t optional—it’s essential health care that restores dignity, independence, and quality of life.”*
 - *“O&P helps children walk, adults return to work, and seniors stay independent longer. It turns medical challenges into opportunities for mobility and participation.”*
 - *“Every O&P device is as unique as the person who wears it. Whether it’s a child born with limb difference, a stroke survivor, or a veteran with an amputation. O&P care is the bridge back to living fully.”*
 - *“Families see the ripple effect. When a child walks independently, when a parent can return to work, when a grandparent can remain in their home. O&P lifts entire households, not just patients.”*
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Economic Benefits of Timely O&P Intervention

Core Message:

Investing in O&P care saves money, reduces hospitalizations, and keeps people in the workforce.

Expanded Points:

- *“O&P care pays for itself by preventing complications, hospitalizations, and long-term disability.”*
- *“Early prosthetic care means fewer falls, less depression, and a faster return to work, thus lowering costs to Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurers.”*
- *“Orthotic interventions such as bracing for diabetes can prevent life-threatening complications like amputations, which are far more costly than preventive care.”*
- *“Every dollar spent on timely O&P care translates into lower health costs, higher productivity, and healthier communities.”*
- *“According to research, Medicare beneficiaries who receive O&P care have lower or comparable overall health costs than those who don’t because they avoid expensive complications.”*



The Role of Qualified Professionals in Patient Outcomes

Core Message:

It's not just about the device; it's about the expertise behind it. O&P professionals are trained health care providers who ensure patients get the right device, the right fit, and the right follow-up.

Expanded Points:

- *“Orthotists and prosthetists are highly trained, credentialed professionals who blend medical science, biomechanics, and engineering with patient-centered care.”*
- *“A device alone doesn't guarantee success. Proper assessment, custom fitting, adjustments, and follow-up are what make the difference in whether a patient thrives.”*
- *“Without qualified professionals, patients risk ill-fitting devices, higher rates of complications, and reduced independence.”*
- *“The Academy equips O&P professionals with cutting-edge, evidence-based education, ensuring patients benefit from the latest science and best practices.”*
- *“Patients deserve care from trained clinicians. It's not one-size-fits-all devices ordered online or without professional oversight.”*

Closing, Big-Picture Language

- *“Orthotic and prosthetic care changes lives. It restores the ability to walk, work, play, and live fully and it does so in a way that strengthens families, reduces health care costs, and supports communities.”*
- *“When policymakers and health systems invest in O&P, they're not just paying for devices. They're investing in independence, dignity, and long-term health.”*
- *“Behind every O&P device is a story of resilience, recovery, and possibility.”*