

LEADERSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM PROSTHETIC SERVICES

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Background

- > The prosthetic service in the United Kingdom is operated across a variety of operating models, presenting a diversity of challenges to leaders.
- > AHP Leadership in the NHS has become a point of focus in recent years
- > There is currently no empirical research available regarding leadership in the United Kingdom prosthetic services
- > Beginning to bridge this knowledge gap is crucial to develop the profile and skills of the smallest group of AHPs registered with the HCPC

Leadership Challenges

- > Prosthetics is a complex healthcare service with leadership challenges such as:
 - Working across organisational boundaries
 - Staff shortages and high attrition rates in the profession
 - High-cost specialised service with a low patient population

Methodology

Constructivist Grounded Theory

- > An exploratory methodology utilised in qualitative social research
- > Originally established by Glaser and Strauss (1967), Charmaz (2014) developed the methodology to be applied from a constructivist perspective

A systematic yet flexible approach

- > for collecting and analysing qualitative data, with emphasis on the co-construction of meaning between the researcher and participants

In-depth, semi-structured interviews

- > with prosthetists across the United Kingdom to uncover the social processes that shape leadership practices

How does the prosthetics service model foster leadership development and practices within the profession?

- What are the perceptions of leadership in the United Kingdom Prosthetic Services?
- Are there perceived differences in leadership between different models of service provision?

Progress

- > **Having successfully gained ethics approval** from the University of Salford, participant recruitment has commenced.
- > **Using constructivist grounded theory**, this research now follows a process of constant comparison that begins with theoretical sampling.
- > **Data collected from semi-structured interviews** is analysed immediately, enabling further sampling to reach theoretical saturation.

Outcome

This research offers an opportunity to reveal the challenges faced by clinicians focused on providing excellent amputee rehabilitation whilst leading a complex outpatient service.

Addressing a significant gap in current AHP literature this study seeks to inform practice and contribute to developing leaders in the profession, support workforce planning, highlight best practice and encourage development of clearer policies related to career pathways.

References

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Glaser, B. G., & Strauss, A. L. (1967). *The Discovery of Grounded Theory*. Aldine Publishing Company.

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Interested in taking part?

Interviews take around 45 minutes and can be arranged flexibly

For further information regarding this research,
scan the QR code and get in touch!

