Education and Clinical Tools

Federal Advanced Amputation Skills Training (FAAST) Symposium

The first FAAST Symposium was held July 8–10, 2014 at the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) National Conference Center in Arlington, Virginia. The theme was "Care for the Individual with Multiple-limb Amputation." The FAAST Symposium was supported by EACE, Veterans Affairs Amputation System of Care (ASoC), VHA Employee Education System, VHA Office of Prosthetics and Rehabilitation, and DoD, and was planned by a joint VA and DoD committee. More than 90 clinicians and researchers from both VA and DoD attended the symposium, which fostered interaction and knowledge sharing between clinical experts and researchers from multiple institutions. Attendees were provided with hands-on clinical skills for the immediate enhancement of Service Member and Veteran care. Clinicians in attendance also received education on evolving state-of-the-art clinical topics such as hand transplant, targeted muscle reinnervation, and osseointegration. The success of this joint collaboration effort was confirmed by the balanced number of presenters and attendees from both agencies, as well as a 95% response rate of overall satisfaction with the training. Approximately 90% of respondents stated they had gained new knowledge and would be able to apply that knowledge in the clinical setting.