

OPC Member of the Month August 2016



Name: Sandra Ramdial

Profession: Certified Prosthetist CP(c)

Work: Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

Role within OPC

I'm excited to be one of the spokespeople for OPC and collaborating with a number of professionals across Canada to promote our profession. I am also a member of the OPC Nominations Committee and have had wonderful experiences prior to amalgamation as Past President of CAPO and assisting with initiatives with CBCPO. So if I haven't already approached you to get involved please contact me as its dedicated professionals like yourself that will take our profession to the next level!

The Importance of My Work

As a prosthetist and operations manager for clinical technology at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital, I am fortunate to be able to affect change in a positive way. I share the same passion as most of you and that is helping others achieve their goals – whether it's my personal clients or the staff I work with. I've had the privilege of working with professionals nationally and internationally - both for two great children's institutions and a leading manufacturer of prosthetic and orthotic components.

Favourite Part about the Job

I'd say the best part of my job is the satisfaction of working with some remarkable clients and their families, and together achieving great outcomes. I also enjoy collaborating with our research team along with other professionals to find innovative solutions whether it is designing a new component, interface, technique in order to provide the optimum treatment, or just helping other professionals be the best they can be!

Patient Success Stories



Tessa's Story

February 21, 2014, a date that will forever remain life changing, the day we became parents to a very unique and darling little girl. So much emotion surrounded this life event. Many medical complications and being a parent for the first time, our premature little Tessa was born without a left hand. While attempting to figure out how to parent this unique and strong little being, we were also attempting to figure out whether or not to go with a prosthetic. When my husband and I discussed our options, we had heard the praises sung of Holland Bloorview Children's Rehabilitation Centre, and that is where we went. That is where another part of this journey unfolded. From that first appointment, we met and encountered many people who would be a part of this chapter of this precious little girl's life. Tessa was fit for her very first prosthetic at age 10 months, and since having that prosthetic, it has opened up many opportunities for this little girl that perhaps she may not have had otherwise. Thank you Holland Bloorview for everything that you continue to do, your efforts will enrich Tessa's life forever.

Note from clinic team:

Tessa has been coming to Holland Bloorview since she was an infant. She was one of the few petite infants we've seen in the clinic where none of the commercially available prosthetic infant hands were small enough for her. In addition, Tessa's parents felt it was important for her first prosthesis to look like a "real hand." Tessa was treated with a commercially available hand that worked well initially then, as she became a toddler and required more gripping ability to hold toys, we partnered with Holland Bloorview's research team to develop a lifelike and functional passive hand for infants/toddlers. It was a great partnership with researchers, clinicians and the client and family. The prototype hand was successful and parents were able to give feedback to the teams on areas for future improvements.

Nazifa's Story

Note written by Nazifa's mom: Nazifa is a quiet, intelligent and sweet girl. She likes to paint and sing. She plays piano and makes up her own tunes. She is also very helpful with other kids. Every night she makes up a new story and likes to tell her story to her parents and little brother. She helps her mother to make cupcakes, milk shakes and cookies. She loves to wear her myo prosthesis because she can do anything she wants to do. She speaks of her dream to be a scientist. Her parents are very proud of her because of her strong courage and educational activities. Nazifa received a yearly reward from Kumon Institute and also participated in a summer concert.



Note from clinic team:

Nazifa was first seen at Holland Bloorview when she was 5 years old. Nazifa's parents were eager to get a myoelectric prosthesis for her. Since she never wore a prosthesis in the past, we started her off with a passive prosthesis then, once she established a consistent wearing schedule, the team and family decided she was ready for her first myoelectric prosthesis. It took just a few training sessions and now Nazifa uses it like a pro! She loves wearing her myo and has a passive prosthesis for specific activities such as playing the piano. Now that Nazifa is starting grade 2, she's also getting other adaptors to help her in gymnastics and recreational activities. Nazifa's great outcome is the result of great family encouragement and involvement in the prosthetic prescription process, tailoring prosthetic prescriptions as the child's needs evolve over time and practicing skills learned in therapy in their home and school environments.

Why Orthotics and Prosthetics?

I was always interested in healthcare – specifically Occupational and Physiotherapy, but when I visited Princess Margaret with my Mother for her index finger prosthesis to help her with typing and saw the wonderful work they did there for patients with cancer, I was hooked. I've enjoyed working in Orthotics, Seating and Prosthetics and continue loving this profession and the work we do!



OPC Member of the Month August 2016 – Sandra Ramdial

Proudest Moment at OPC

My proudest moment was receiving the prestigious FCBC distinction - the overwhelming support along with the standing ovation from everyone in attendance at that OPC Conference was definitely a highlight in my career!

OPC & the Next 5 Years

With the amalgamated organization – we are in the best position to move our P & O Profession forward. Together we will build awareness of what we do, raise the standards of care resulting in the most appropriate evidence based best outcome for those we serve!.

Favourite Movie

If you ask my family, they know I do not watch a lot of movies. I would have to say Lion King as it was out just around the time of the birth of my first child and it represents the circle of life – the good times, the bad, how to overcome adversities and that we can make a difference in whatever we do!

For more information, please contact:

Orthotics Prosthetics Canada

info@opcanada.ca

www.opcanada.ca

613-595-1919