



Empowered to serve, Hanger Clinic patients remain on healthcare front lines in the fight against COVID-19

April 23, 2020

AUSTIN, Texas – April 23, 2020 – Hanger Clinic teams treat [one million patients annually](#), including many who work in healthcare as doctors, nurses, and other frontline care providers. For these patients, access to the best orthotic and prosthetic care is critical now more than ever, as custom-fit devices allow them to stay mobile and active in the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

One patient serving in the U.S. epicenter of the pandemic is 33-year-old emergency room nurse Alayna DeLeon, who answered a call earlier this month to travel from Fort Mohave, Arizona to New York City, where she's treating coronavirus patients at the Bronx's Lincoln Medical Center. Alayna uses a below-knee prosthetic leg fit by her clinician of 14 years, Area Clinic Manager Jason Leal, CPO, at Hanger Clinic in [Bullhead City](#), Arizona.

A group of healthcare workers and first responders across the country is united by the [ExoSym](#), a specialized hybrid leg brace each of them travels to [Gig Harbor](#), Washington to be fit with by National ExoSym Program Director Ryan Blanck, LCPO. Many of Ryan's patients thought they would never walk again due to conditions like partial-foot amputations and paralysis, but thanks to their dedication and ExoSym devices, they are independently mobile and [serving as medics, surgeons, 911 dispatchers and more](#).

Finally, five years after a heart condition caused the loss of both Nicole Grehn's legs above-the-knee, she is a registered nurse serving in the orthopedic trauma unit at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin, the same hospital where medical professionals saved her life. [Nicole is also a full-time prosthetics user](#), walking on two microprocessor-controlled prosthetic legs thanks to hard work, determination, and care from her Hanger Clinic team, including [Milwaukee-based clinic manager Tom Current, CPO](#).

We are deeply grateful to our patients and all others on the front lines of healthcare at this time, including the dedicated clinicians and Hanger Clinic team members who are ensuring these patients stay in the fight, and that all our patients have access to the essential care they need now.

About Hanger Clinic: Founded in 1861 by the first amputee of the Civil War, Hanger Clinic, a subsidiary of Hanger, Inc. (NYSE: HNGR), owns and operates [approximately 800](#) patient care clinics nationwide. The certified clinicians of Hanger Clinic provide patients with the latest in orthotic and prosthetic solutions, including microprocessor devices for those with limb loss and neuromuscular technologies for those with paralysis due to stroke, MS and other debilitating conditions. For more information on Hanger, [www.Hanger.com](#), and for more information on Hanger Clinic, visit [www.HangerClinic.com](#).

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Alayna DeLeon is an ER nurse serving at Lincoln Medical Center in the Bronx.



Nicole Grehn uses two microprocessor-controlled prosthetic legs to serve as a nurse in Milwaukee, WI.



Sarah Metcalf Richardson wears her ExoSym device while working as a radiology technician in Poplar Bluff, MO.