



Hanger announced as part of research team to receive Department of Defense grant for largest clinical trial of its kind

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Joins institutional collaborators to study fall-related health outcomes and conduct largest microprocessor-controlled knee clinical trial to date

AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 3, 2020 – Hanger, Inc. (NYSE: HNGR) today announced it is among a group awarded a nearly \$2,000,000 research grant from the Department of Defense (DoD) to study fall-related health outcomes in lower limb prosthesis users, including the largest clinical trial of microprocessor-controlled knees (MPKs) to-date. The funds, supporting Hanger Clinic's Department of Clinical and Scientific Affairs, along with the University of Washington (UW), the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and the Minneapolis Veterans Administration Health Care System (MVAHCS), are part of the DoD's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs' Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes Research Program.

"This project supports the Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes Research Program's mission by advancing orthotic and prosthetic research to optimize evidence-based care and clinical outcomes for military-related neuromusculoskeletal injury," stated Tracy Behrsing, PhD, Health Science Program Manager, Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes Research Program, Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs, a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command.

The project, scheduled to begin Sept. 30, 2020, will be led by Brian Hafner, PhD (UW). Hanger Clinic's Director of Clinical Research, Shane Wurdeman, PhD, CP, joins Andrew Sawers, PhD, CPO (UIC) and Sara Koehler-McNicholas, PhD (MVAHCS) as site leads for this ambitious project. The first two aims will develop and validate new outcome measures to better assess the impact of falls on individuals who use a lower limb prosthesis. The instruments designed and tested in the first two aims of the project will be applied in aim three, a pragmatic, randomized, clinical trial to be conducted at Hanger Clinic.

"The randomized, controlled clinical trial is the gold standard for measuring effectiveness of medical devices including prosthetic technology," stated Wurdeman. "There is a growing body of evidence strongly suggesting patient benefits of MPKs for limited, community ambulators, or K2-level ambulators. The ability to study this technology in a controlled trial of this scale will significantly further our understanding of the potential benefits for these individuals."

The clinical trial, expected to be the largest of its kind to-date, will enroll 100 K2-level above-knee amputees from Hanger Clinic. Half will be randomized into an MPK, while the other half will be randomized to a non-MPK which is the current standard for this K-level. Evidence from smaller scale studies suggests that this population could benefit from MPK technology; however, the level of evidence has not yet been sufficient to support coverage policies that would allow individuals with a K2-level access to this type of technology.

"This vital research will further enhance patient outcomes, and help ensure those living with limb loss and limb difference have coverage for the medically-necessary and clinically-appropriate technology that will help them live independent and fulfilling lives," stated James Campbell, PhD, Hanger Chief Clinical Officer. "This is yet another example of Hanger Clinic's leadership in orthotics and prosthetics clinical outcomes and research, and we're delighted to collaborate with this prestigious group of organizations."

Hanger Clinic's Department of Clinical and Scientific Affairs has a vast collection of research studies already published, or in various stages of publication, in collaboration with leading researchers, clinicians, and academic institutions. Additional information on previously published research can be found here: <https://hangerclinic.com/for-professionals/research-innovation/>.

About Hanger, Inc. – Hanger, Inc. (NYSE: HNGR) delivers orthotic and prosthetic (O&P) patient care, and distributes O&P products and rehabilitative solutions to the broader market. Hanger's Patient Care segment is the largest owner and operator of O&P patient care clinics with [approximately 800](#) locations nationwide. Through its Products & Services segment, Hanger distributes branded and private label O&P devices, products and components, and provides rehabilitative solutions. With nearly 160 years of clinical excellence and innovation, Hanger's vision is to lead the orthotic and prosthetic markets by providing superior patient care, outcomes, services and value. For more information on Hanger, visit www.hanger.com.

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