



## **Above Knee Protheses**

There are many types of above knee protheses. The type that an amputee is fit with depends on the shape of the residual limb, the length of the residual limb, activity level, prognosis, and individual preference.

An AK amputee is unable to bear weight on the bottom of his residual limb. In order to keep the weight off the bottom of the limb, the amputee must support his body weight on the ischial tuberosity (seat bone), the soft tissue of the limb, and the gluteal tissues. Therefore, the AK amputee will always feel some pressure because he is essentially sitting on top of the socket. In order to hold the prosthesis onto the person's body, a method of suspension must be used.

The possibilities for suspension are:

- Suction Suspension
- Silicone Suction Suspension
- Silesian Belt/TES Belt
- Hip Joint and Pelvic Band