Jaipur Knee Upgrade Project

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Jaipur Knee Project: Need

- Above knee prosthesis designed for extreme affordability (< \$30).
- Built for BMVSS group in India; requires efficient, cheap manufacturing with materials that are locally available.
- BMVSS fits about 20,000 artificial limbs annually free of charge, with about 1/3 of these being above-knee amputations.

Background: Design Requirements

Prosthetic knee needs to:

- Be safe and robust
- Be stable during stance phase
- Promote natural gait
- Be cosmetically appealing
- Enable squatting
- Easy to fit and align

Current Knee Prostheses

	Single Axis	Friction Brake	Polycentric	Hydraulic	Micro- Controlled
Stability	Poor	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Cost	Low	Low	Mid	High	High
Gait Efficiency	Poor	Poor	Mid	Excellent	Excellent
Weight	Low	Low	Mid	High	High

Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Stanford Group Design

- Four link structure
- Polymer-based
- Polycentric
- Affordable (<\$30) and easy to manufacture
- Holds up well in tests of fatigue life, ultimate failure strength, and bearing surface wear.
- Reliable to use for at least 2 years.





Kamal on his arrival at the Jaipur foot clinic, 1.5 years after he was amputated above his knee.



Kamal on his third day with the prosthesis



Close to natural gait





How can we build upon this design?

Improving Shock Absorption

Photo of man walking with prosthetic leg and engineering drawing showing stress at joints of prosthetic knee have been removed due to copyright restrictions. Increasing shock absorption during heel strike would greatly improve the comfort of the user while walking.



Cosmetic Improvements

Photo of Jaipur Foot with prosthetic knee removed due to copyright restrictions.

•Need to minimize noise output of device due to contacting elements.

•Appearance is extremely important- can design an attractive, functional cosmesis.

Adding a Manual Lock Mechanism

•This improvement would be simple to implement and would improve stability for the user.

Engineering drawing of prosthetic knee with manual lock mechanism removed due to copyright restrictions.

Easing squatting

Photo of man kneeling with prosthetic knee and leg has been removed due to copyright restrictions.

•Squatting is critical for religious practices and other aspects of life in India.

•We can improve the ability of an amputee to rise after squatting by adding an extension assist mechanism.

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