The Problem: Users of upper limb prosthetic technology (ULPT) often discontinue using their devices.

Little consensus about the cause(s) of ULPT abandonment despite current efforts.

Suggest a deficiency in identifying the underlying determinants of ULPT use and abandonment.

Evaluation and research primarily focus on:

- **Anthropometrics:** making prosthetic devices a replica of the human model
- **Kinesthetics:** the ability of the user to control the prosthetic device

Examples:
- Assessment of Capacity for Myoelectric Control
- Prosthetic Upper Extremity Function Index

Design and development:

- More time, energy, and resources to advance prosthetic technology

So what’s missing?

Hypothesis

Broadening the current “human factors” model beyond (while including) anthropometric and/or kinesthetic aspects will clarify the relationship between ULPT design and evaluation processes and user needs.

Methods

- **Identify:**
  - existing measures that predict technology adoption, healthcare outcomes, healthcare behaviors, etc.
  - psychosocial factors that relate to ULPT use/abandonment.
- **Embed** these psychosocial factors in to current ULPT design and evaluation processes.

Potential Outcomes

- Better predictability of ULPT use and abandonment.
- Guide future ULPT R&D and regulatory processes.