

## The College of Podiatry recommendations for the All Party Parliamentary Group on Diabetes report

Podiatrists work across the patient's lifecycle from childhood to older age; and across primary care, community health services, residential care, domiciliary and acute care. A key element of Podiatric Medicine is to address the health of the whole person rather than focussing solely on the foot and the lower limb.

The College of Podiatry is concerned that Podiatry services are moving from a prevention and treatment model to one that is much more acute focussed. We believe it is vital that:

1. We ensure that people with diabetes avoid foot ulceration there is an urgent need for all primary care staff who undertake diabetic foot screening to:
  - Undergo standardised mandatory Diabetic Foot screening training
  - Be equipped with the skills and knowledge to keep people informed & ulcer free
  - Give standardised messaging around diabetic foot care
2. That NHS England influence STPs & CCGs to ensure a fully functioning integrated Foot Protection Service and Multi-Disciplinary Foot Service are in place across every health economy. This will prevent foot ulceration & re-ulceration reduce hospital admissions, save money and importantly decrease the risk of amputation of those at moderate and high risk. Integral to the whole system is the podiatrist who leads the foot protection service and acts a navigator for the patient from primary care to tertiary care playing a role at each stage.

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