


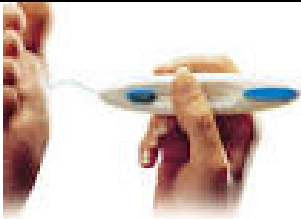



Bay of Plenty District Health Board

Specialist Service – Podiatry – High Risk foot Complications.

<p><u>Vascular Assessment</u></p>  	<p>Determining blood flow in the lower legs by using the latest diagnostic device in determining Ankle Brachial Pressure Index (ABPI).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ABPI assessment serves as the basis for determining a patient's PAD (Peripheral Arterial Risk or disease profile) and need for referral to the vascular team. • Handheld Doppler ⇒ A handheld Doppler device is used to assess pulses and a manual ABPI can be performed • Doppler ABILITY device ⇒ The ABILITY diagnostic device performs an automated ABPI simultaneously on both legs. ⇒ This enables us to evaluate and determine if vascular intervention is required. Reports are sent back to Gp. 	
<p><u>Foot Assessment</u></p>	<p>Stratify risk of foot complications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating blood flow • Evaluating sensation <p>Look at overall mobility and footwear needs.</p>	
<p><u>Wound Assessment</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wound bed is assessed based on the Wound Bed Preparation Guideline and includes a holistic 	

	<p>assessment of the patient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referrals for wound swabs, x rays and district nursing are organised. • Ongoing review of the wounds progress, regular debridement of devitalised tissue and periwound callus. • Appropriate wound dressings and footwear modifications. • Referrals to other services. 	<p>DARCO Peg Assist Insole Extra Small</p>  
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Patients are graded on referral information

Grade 1 – if contacted by phone or email patients can be seen within 48 hours, otherwise within a week.

Grade 2 – patients that are not urgent, seen within 1 – 4 weeks.

Grade 3 – patients that may require general foot assessment will be referred to Community Podiatry Program if applicable. Patients requiring non urgent vascular assessment (ie ABPI) will be seen within 3 months.

Referral Criteria

Ministry of Health criteria for podiatry referral for people with diabetes related foot complications¹⁷

At risk foot (criteria for referral to community-based podiatry services)	High risk foot (criteria for referral to secondary care-based podiatry services)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A positive history of diabetic foot ulceration (and no current ulceration) • Neuropathic foot with absence of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past history of gangrene or amputation • Peripheral vascular disease including:

<p>protective sensation (patient cannot detect the 10 g monofilament at four or more testing sites)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biothesiometer threshold >25 V • Change to circulation and/or sensation with other risk factors present (see below) <p>Neuropathy, musculoskeletal deformity and pre-ulcerative lesion</p> <p>Risk factors:</p> <p>Long standing diabetes</p> <p>Elevated HbA_{1c} Nephropathy</p> <p>Visual impairment Poor glycaemic control</p> <p>Hypertension Smoking</p> <p>Dyslipidaemia Obesity</p> <p>Impaired mobility Social isolation</p> <p>Perception of risk Male > 40 years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent pedal pulses and a history of claudication • Ankle brachial index at 0.5–0.8 (indicating impaired arterial flow) • Night pain • Pre-ulcerated or ulcerated ischaemic lesion <p>URGENT referral to secondary care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neuropathic or neuro-ischaemic ulcers that have not demonstrated significant measurable improvement (30–40%) within four weeks of treatment • Ulcers presenting at > Grade 2 or indolent Grade 1 (graded by podiatrist) • Cellulitis • Systemic signs of infection • Infection not responding to oral antibiotic therapy • Radiological or clinical evidence of bone involvement including active Charcot’s neuroarthropathy
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Hospital Specialist Podiatrist

Fax: 07 5713109 Direct Ph: 07 5798296 (Scheduler)

Podiatry service: Tauranga 5 days a week. Whakatane 3 days a week.

Contact Details

Postal: Referral Receipt Centre, BOPDHB, Private Bag 12024, and Tauranga 3142

Fax: 07 578 1247

Phone: 0800 333 477