Referral guidance for multi-professional diabetes foot ulcer clinic

Any presenting diabetes foot ulcer with impalpable pulses should be referred immediately to Vascular Services, Raigmore Hospital (this referral pathway will be different for patients in Argyle & Bute)

Telephone referrals from any health care professional are accepted and must be followed up by written communication as soon as possible e.g. letter, completed SCI-DC letter/comments section.

**OPTIMAL WOUND CARE INVOLVES**

- Wound management
- Pressure relief
- Antibiotics
- Footwear

*All newly identified diabetes foot ulcers, and recurring ulcers, should be notified immediately to the appropriate CHP Diabetes Podiatrist (see contact detail below)*

*IF THERE IS ANY DOUBT CONCERNING APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR OR PRESSURE RELIEF REFER IMMEDIATELY TO ORTHOTICS DEPARTMENT (01463 704178)*

**ASSESSMENT**

- Palpation of pulses
- Presence of infection – swab results
- Presence of neuropathy
- Significant foot deformity

**REVIEW LIFESTYLE FACTORS**

- Smoking
- Glycaemic control
- Nutrition and weight management
- Social circumstances
- Appropriate offloading techniques at all times
- Control of secondary prevention

**REFERRAL CRITERIA**

Immediately to Vascular Services if no pedal pulses are palpable

- Non healing diabetes foot ulcer (≥4/52) or earlier if:
- Presenting ulcer with previous history of ulceration
- Presenting ulcer with previous vascular intervention
- Presenting ulcer with previous amputation

**APPOINTMENTS VIA**

- Catherine MacLennan, Diabetes Centre, Raigmore Hospital Tel. No. 01463 255930
- Sandra Jones, Podiatry Diabetes Co-ordinator, Medical Centre, Martha Tce., Wick, Tel. No.01955 604758
- Fiona Main, Diabetes Specialist Podiatrist, or Jane Gorman, Diabetes Centre, Raigmore Hospital, Inverness Tel. No.01463 255937
- Pam Secret, Diabetes Specialist Podiatrist – MHCHP Tel. No.07786190839
- Mr Wolf’s Unit, Dept. of General Surgery, Raigmore Hospital, Tel. No. 01463 705432