Health PEI

Provincial Preventative Diabetes Foot Care Program

FAQ for Clients

What does the Preventative Diabetes Foot Care Program include?

- Foot and nail assessments by a foot care nurse
- Nail care, callus care and corn care
- Education and promotion of self-care or caregiver provided care
- Education to prevent common foot issues
- Professional advice on when medical attention outside the ability of the program is needed

This is not a wound care clinic. Foot care nurses cannot provide any care below the surface of the skin.

How can the Preventative Foot Care Program help me?

The program provides education, assessments, and preventative nail and foot care. This could reduce your risk of foot problems. Foot problems can lead to injury, mental distress and amputation. The program can improve your independence, your self-care, and help you enjoy daily life.

Who is eligible?

The program is for people living with diabetes who are at moderate or higher risk of foot problems. To be considered for the program you must be:

- Diagnosed with diabetes.
- At moderate or higher risk for diabetes foot complications. This is determined by a health care provider.
- Able to travel to a clinic.
- Able to get into the foot care chair independently.
- Have insufficient insurance coverage for foot care. This means your insurance covers less than 80% of your foot care needs.

Will I need a referral?

Yes. If you are eligible, contact your health care provider and book an appointment. They will need to complete a Provincial Diabetic Foot Screen. This shows your risk level for foot problems.

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If you do not have a primary care provider, please contact your <u>local primary care office</u> to book an appointment for the Provincial Diabetic Foot Screen.

If you are screened at a moderate or higher risk for diabetes foot complications, then the health care professional can submit a referral for you.

You will be contacted by the program. Your first appointment is an assessment with the foot care nurse. Your assessment determines how long and how frequently you can access the program.

Where will I receive my foot care?

Foot care nurses work out of these health centres across the province. They do not travel to people's homes.

Montague Health Centre 407 MacIntyre Avenue Montague, PE **Tignish Health Centre** 254 Phillip St, Tignish, PE

Polyclinic 199 Grafton Street Charlottetown, PE Alberton Health Centre 397 Church St, Alberton, PE O'Leary Health Centre 14 MacKinnon Drive O'Leary, PE

Harbourside Health Centre 243 Heather Moyse Drive Summerside, PE Tyne Valley Health Centre 6905 PE-12 Tyne Valley, PE

How long does an appointment take?

Normally the appointments take from 45-60 minutes. Some appointments are longer to focus on assessments and education. This could involve teaching you or a loved one how to care for your feet at home.

How can I contact the Preventative Diabetes Foot Care program?

If you are a new client of the program or for general questions about the program, eligibility, and referrals, please call (902) 288-1170, email footcare@ihis.org or visit HealthPEI.ca/DiabetesFootCare.

If you are an existing client who needs to reschedule or cancel an appointment, please call (902) 288-1170. A return phone call will be set up with the appropriate person to manage your request.