Podiatry Service

What is podiatry?
Podiatry is a branch of medicine devoted to the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of conditions affecting the foot, ankle and lower limb. All podiatrists are registered with the Health and Care Professions Council and undertake appropriate qualifications.

About the service
At Trafford Podiatry Service, our aim is to help you maintain your mobility and independence by assessing, treating and giving you advice to help you keep your feet healthy and relieve painful symptoms.

Can I access the service for treatment?
Treatment will be provided to patients with a medical condition affecting their feet, or those with a foot disorder which is assessed by the podiatrist as requiring intervention, regardless of age. These can include:

- Treatment of open wounds, ulcers or infections of the foot
- Preventative treatment of complications associated with diabetes
- Management of corns and callus for patients with medical conditions affecting their feet or have a foot deformity
- Surgery to remove ingrowing toe nails under local anaesthetic
- Provision of orthotics for the management of biomechanical and musculoskeletal foot and lower limb problems in adults and children
- Foot care advice through health education and promotion

Treatment plans are tailored to individual needs, with the aim of resolving the problem or reaching a level of maintenance and comfort.

These plans will also include personalised education, with a strong emphasis on promoting self-care.

I have diabetes, do I need to be seen?
It is recommended that you have your feet checked annually for risk assessment. This will be carried out by your practise nurse at your GP surgery. If you are considered to be at risk, you can be referred to podiatry for further assessment and/or treatment.

What treatments are not provided?
As a medical service, we are unable to provide treatment for simple nail cutting, footwear related corns and calluses and non-painful foot conditions; unless this would lead to a critical foot problem if not seen by a podiatrist.
I want my toenails cutting, can I access the service?

Simple toenail cutting is considered as personal care. While we see and advise patients, we will not routinely see those unable to cut their own nails; unless you are assessed as being vulnerable or at risk.

How can I access Trafford Podiatry Service?

- Refer yourself – application forms are available from your local podiatry clinic or you can contact the Care Co-ordination Centre on 0300 323 0303.
- Through your GP who will contact us to make a referral on your behalf.
- Other health or social care professionals involved in your care can also refer you to the service.

Where can I access my local podiatry service?

The Podiatry Service provides treatment across the Trafford area in strategically placed sites to provide care where it is more needed.

Choice of clinic location include:

- Chapel Road Clinic, Sale (evening appointments also available)
- Delamere Centre, Stretford (a larger chair is available for those requiring one)
- Partington Health Centre, Partington
- Seymour Grove Health Centre, Old Trafford (evening appointments also available)
- Timperley Health Centre, Timperley
- Woodsend Clinic, Flixton
- Foot Ulcer Clinic, Trafford General Hospital, Urmston

Will I have to pay for treatment?

Like all NHS care, podiatry is available to those assessed as having a podiatric or medical need.

Can I see a podiatrist at home?

Home visits are not available on request. Only patients who are housebound may access this service. This means that if you are able to leave your home, either alone or with the assistance of a friend or family member, home visits will not be provided.

What to expect at your assessment

After we have received your referral form, this will be reviewed by a senior podiatrist to ensure that the service is appropriate for you. This will depend on your medical and/or podiatric need. If this is the case you will then be invited for an assessment.

Following this assessment, patients requiring podiatry will be offered a treatment plan. We will work closely with you to ensure the plan meets your needs. However, our aim where possible, will be to improve your mobility, reduce pain and increase independence with a view to discharge you from the service. We will work closely with you to provide the education and skills necessary to confidently undertake self care.

Some patients may require ongoing care. If this is the case for you, an individual treatment plan will be designed to ensure the care provided is focused on your needs. We encourage relatives and carers to attend appointments with you, so they can help with your treatment plan.