Initial Podiatry Assessment Appointment

Following your recent application for podiatry treatment, you have been given an appointment for an initial assessment.

This leaflet is intended to give you an idea of what the assessment appointment involves and why we carry it out.

What happens at my initial assessment?

Your assessment will take approximately **40 minutes**.

You have been given a medical questionnaire to fill in about your past and present health**. Please complete in black ink and bring with you to your appointment. It is essential to fill in this form and bring it with you so that we can undertake a thorough assessment of your podiatric needs and eligibility for podiatry treatment.**

A few simple, painless tests will be carried out to check the circulation in your feet and to discover if you have normal sensation in your feet.

At the end of the assessment, the podiatrist will discuss with you whether or not you are eligible for treatment

If you are eligible, a treatment plan will be agreed between yourself and your podiatrist and this will be signed by yourself and your podiatrist. An appointment for your first treatment will be arranged for a later date.

It may be that the podiatrist will find you not eligible for treatment and you will be given advice regarding how you or a carer can manage your foot care/foot problems and you will be discharged.

Why do I need an assessment?

An assessment is necessary to enable the podiatrist to obtain a complete history of your general health and your foot problems.

The assessment process enables us to target our services towards people who are considered to be at high risk because they have a medical condition that affects their feet.

For example, those who have:
- Diabetes
- Rheumatoid (not Osteo) Arthritis
- Poor Circulation
- Loss of feeling in the feet

Or those who are taking certain medicines. For example:

- Immunosuppressants E.g. Methotrexate

- Chemo / radiotherapy

What happens if I do not agree with the outcome of my assessment?

You have the right to ask for a second, independent assessment to be carried out by another podiatrist. Please contact the podiatry office for information about this.

Please be aware that you will **not** be taken on for **'routine'** nail care if you do not have a pre-existing medical condition that could affect your feet. If you have been found not eligible for treatment, you may apply for re-assessment if your medical circumstances change.

May I bring a family member or a friend?

Yes, you are welcome to bring someone with you if you wish to do so; however some of the clinics are quite small so space is limited. Please note that patients under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

You may find it more convenient to wear socks rather than stockings or tights.

Checklist

Please bring with you:

- Your appointment letter
- Details of your medication
- Your medical questionnaire
- Any insoles issued in the past
- Reading glasses, if you use them, as you will need to sign various forms.

Any personal information about you is kept confidential at all times and is only shared with other health professionals when necessary to support your care and treatment. If we want to use your information for any other purpose, with the exception of when the law requires us to do so, we will discuss this with you and obtain your consent.

Please contact the podiatry department if you:-

--require further information;
--require this leaflet in a different format;
-- **cannot attend** your appointment;
-- are disabled; for detailed information on parking and how to access your local podiatry clinic.

Podiatry ☎ **01803 217712 (08.45 – 15.15 Monday - Friday)**

The Podiatry Office
Castle Circus Health Centre
Abbey Road. Torquay. TQ2 5YH

Contact details

✉ email@nhs.net

◼ TorbayAndSouthDevonFT
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For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.

PATIENT INFORMATION

Assessment: Initial Podiatry Appointment

Working with you, for you