



Northumbria Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Podiatry

Issued by the Community Business Unit



What is podiatry?

There is no difference between a chiropodist and a podiatrist. Podiatrist is the term of choice used for chiropodists across the United Kingdom.

Podiatrists deal with the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of the lower limb (feet). We can provide expert advice on footwear, we also aim to prevent foot pain and maintain patient's mobility, this may be done in conjunction with other members of the multi-disciplinary health care team. All of our podiatrists are highly trained professionals registered by the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC).

What to expect from the Podiatry service?

- If you are having problems with your feet you can apply for an appointment to have a podiatry assessment. This assessment will inform the pathway of care you require.
- The range of service pathways offered includes giving advice to help you to look after your own feet, specialist nail-care with podiatry assistants and foot care and education with podiatrists.
- Our specialist services include biomechanics, rheumatology, nail surgery and podiatric surgery.
- Podiatry assessment is available to all with a foot health need.
- Community referrals are responded to within 8 weeks of being received
- Home visits are available for housebound people who are not able to go to a clinical site.
- Following assessment a treatment plan will be drawn up with you. This will consider any on-going treatment you may require.
- If you do not meet service criteria for continued care we will provide advice to help you care for your own feet.

Please note: We are not able to provide an on-going service to people who can look after their own feet or have support to do this.

How to contact us

If you have a Northumberland GP:

Please contact your local GP or Health centre who will advise you how to make an appointment with the podiatrist locally.

Alternatively advice can be sought from our department secretary on 01665 511979

If you have a North Tyneside GP:

Please phone: 0191 2828080

Lines are open from 9am to 11.30am and 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Monday to Friday

Or call into:

Department of Podiatry

Victoria Therapy Centre

Hawkeys Lane

North Shields

NE29 0SF

Website:

<https://www.northumbria.nhs.uk/our-services/podiatry>

The podiatry service is not an emergency service.

For advice if you have concerns about your foot health outside of core podiatry service hours call 111 or your out of hours GP.

In an emergency dial 999.

Alternative Formats

If you would like a copy of this information in large print, another language, audio tape or other format please call the Contact Centre on **03 44 811 8118**

Other sources of information

NHS 111

NHS Choices

www.nhs.uk/pages/homepage.aspx

NICE (National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence)

www.nice.org.uk

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

Freephone: **0800 032 0202**

Text: 01670 511098

Email: northoftynepals@nhct.nhs.uk

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General Enquiries **03 44 811 8111**

www.northumbria.nhs.uk

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