

International diabetic foot management during COVID 19 pandemic

Rihab Ouni

Arthritis and Injury Care Centre, Canada

New research being presented all over the world reveals healthcare professional efforts to maintain a diabetic foot care programme during the COVID-19 pandemic. All preventative medical activities, including foot clinics were suspended by governments in many countries. A big challenge have faced clinicians across the world in the management of complex diabetic foot problems.

In University Medical Centre, Slovenia, during the lockdown period, the total number of clinics visits dropped by 58%, also foot ulcer visits and emergency visits dropped by 42% and 34%, respectively [1]. In university of Tor Vergata , Italy , the healthcare professionals of Diabetic Foot Unit, adopted a new triage system driven both by ulcer's severity and concomitant co-diseases to offer an appropriate ulcer's management and reduce the risk of virus exposure, as described below.[3]

Also a lot of popular Towns like Paris, London, Los Angeles choose a new modes of patient consultation like telephone consultations and telemedicine using a video consultation. This clinical experience during the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the need to maintain the art of clinical medicine in terms of careful examination and wound management. [2,4].

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 experience when handling diabetic foot problems will likely transform our approach to the management of diabetic foot disease especially in the areas of digital health and smart technology. Most important in the management of diabetic foot disease is to provide the appropriate

treatment to patients if possible while they are safely at home, but if not possible, to do so, where indicated, in outpatient facilities and hospital services for the most severely affected.

[1] Vilma Urbančič-Rovan. Diabetic Foot Care Before and During the COVID-19 Epidemic: What Really Matters? Feb. 2021,

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[2] Andrew J. M. Boulton. Diabetic Foot Disease during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Jan. 2021, pp. 57, 97.,

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[3] Marco Meloni *, and , Valentina Izzo, Laura Giurato, Roberto Gandini, Luigi Uccioli. Management of Diabetic Persons with Foot Ulceration during COVID-19 Health Care Emergency: Effectiveness of a New Triage Pathway. June 2020, p. 7,

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