

At Risk Diabetic Foot Pathway

The 'at risk diabetic foot pathway' was created by the Wound management team (Southend hospital) and the community based Podiatry department (SEPT) in response to the numbers of patients who were undergoing amputation – potentially unnecessarily- because they were not being seen by the right service at the right time.

The pathway allows rapid access to the specialist teams (either in the hospital or community settings). It eliminates the need for community patients, new to the podiatry service, to sit on a waiting list and allows direct referral to the WMT and immediate access to further investigation and treatment for those patients who require admission or access to vascular intervention in order for their wound to heal.

There are 2 dedicated telephone lines;

podiatry department 07976983556

wmt 07824897293

Both lines are manned by clinicians during normal working hours Monday to Friday.

The pathway gives guidance as to the most appropriate place to refer that patient, but should there be a query regarding this, the clinicians manning the phones will be happy to discuss this with the referrer.