

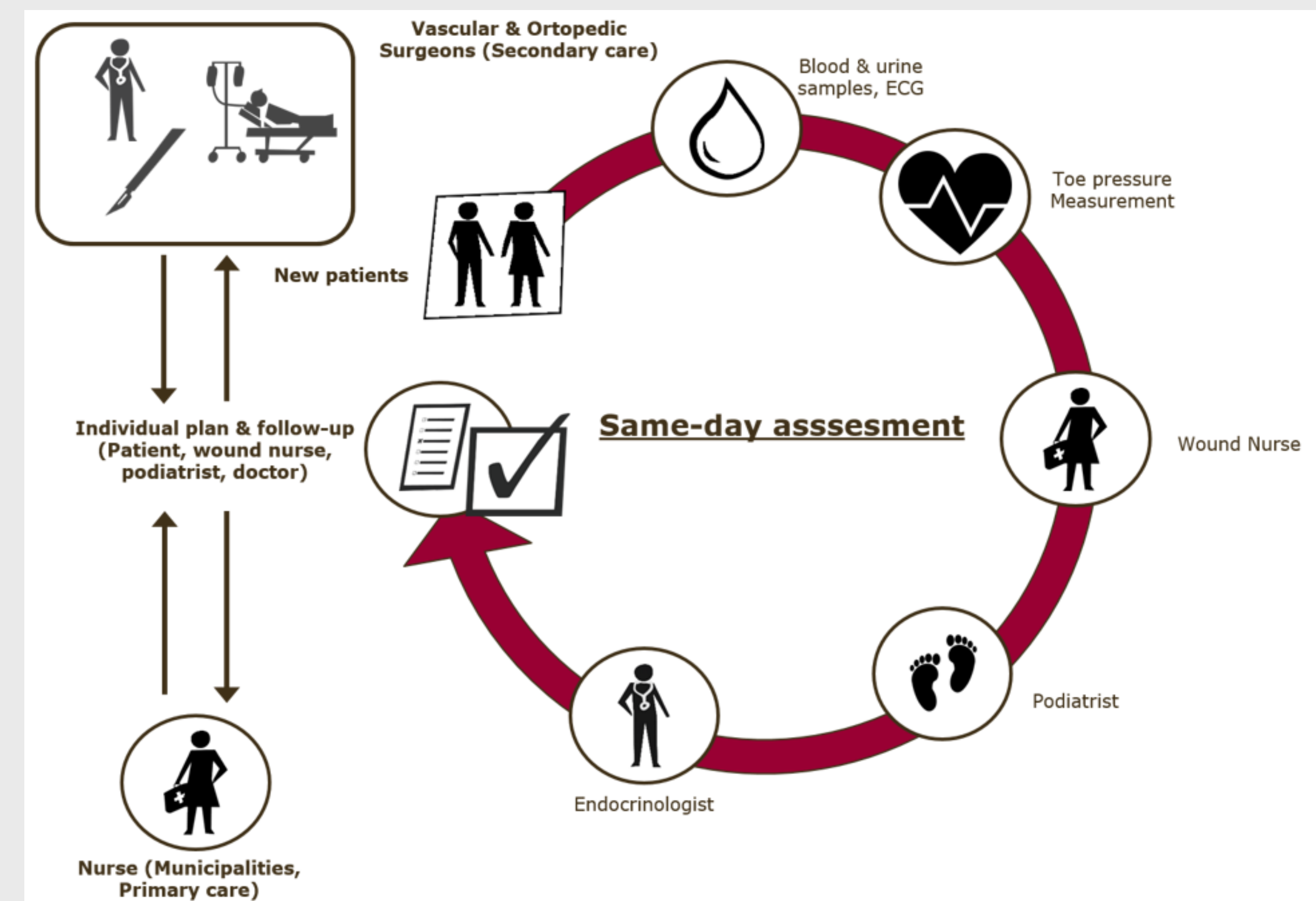
Patient Perceptions and Satisfaction with a Multidisciplinary Same-Day Diagnostic and Treatment Pathway for Diabetic Foot Ulcers

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Methods

- Qualitative interview study with seven patients evaluating their experience of the expanded treatment pathway and same-day diagnostic approach.
- A visual tool using pictograms with red, yellow, and green "smileys" was used to let patients rate activities and prioritize the interview discussion of "red" and "yellow" areas to identify improvement potential.



Results

Consultations:

"And when we come in now, they know what they need to look at based on the last time. Good follow-up." (ID2)

Practical aspects of treatment:

"Steno Foot Center has been really good at finding appointments when I already have to come up here for something else at the renal medicine department." (ID1)

"But finding your way around—it should be red. It's impossible if you don't know at least a little bit about it." (ID5)

The intervention is holistic and patient-centred:

"...I just have to say. They always ask whether I have received answers to what I need answers to. They are good at that. They are really good at that." (ID5)

Knowledge and self-management:

"It helps me understand a little bit better why and how. And also just that thing about, how was it again that they said I should do it? You can't always remember everything when you've been there—what they said and what it looked like." (ID3)

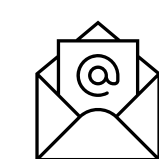
Conclusion

- Implementation of a multidisciplinary, patient-centered model has been well-received and has improved the patient experience.
- Clinical and relational outcomes are positive
- Further optimization of practical logistics and intersectoral communication is recommended to fully enhance the patient journey.

Perspective

The successful implementation of the Same-Day Diagnostic model has enabled its expansion beyond patients with diabetes. Steno Foot Center now receives patients without diabetes who are suspected of having ischemic foot ulcers, with assessment and treatment provided according to the same multidisciplinary model.

This expansion may further strengthen cross-specialty care and support a more integrated pathway for patients with ischemic foot disease – with and without diabetes.



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