

Interdisciplinary Collaboration between Podologists and Wound Care Specialist Nurses in the Management of Diabetic Foot

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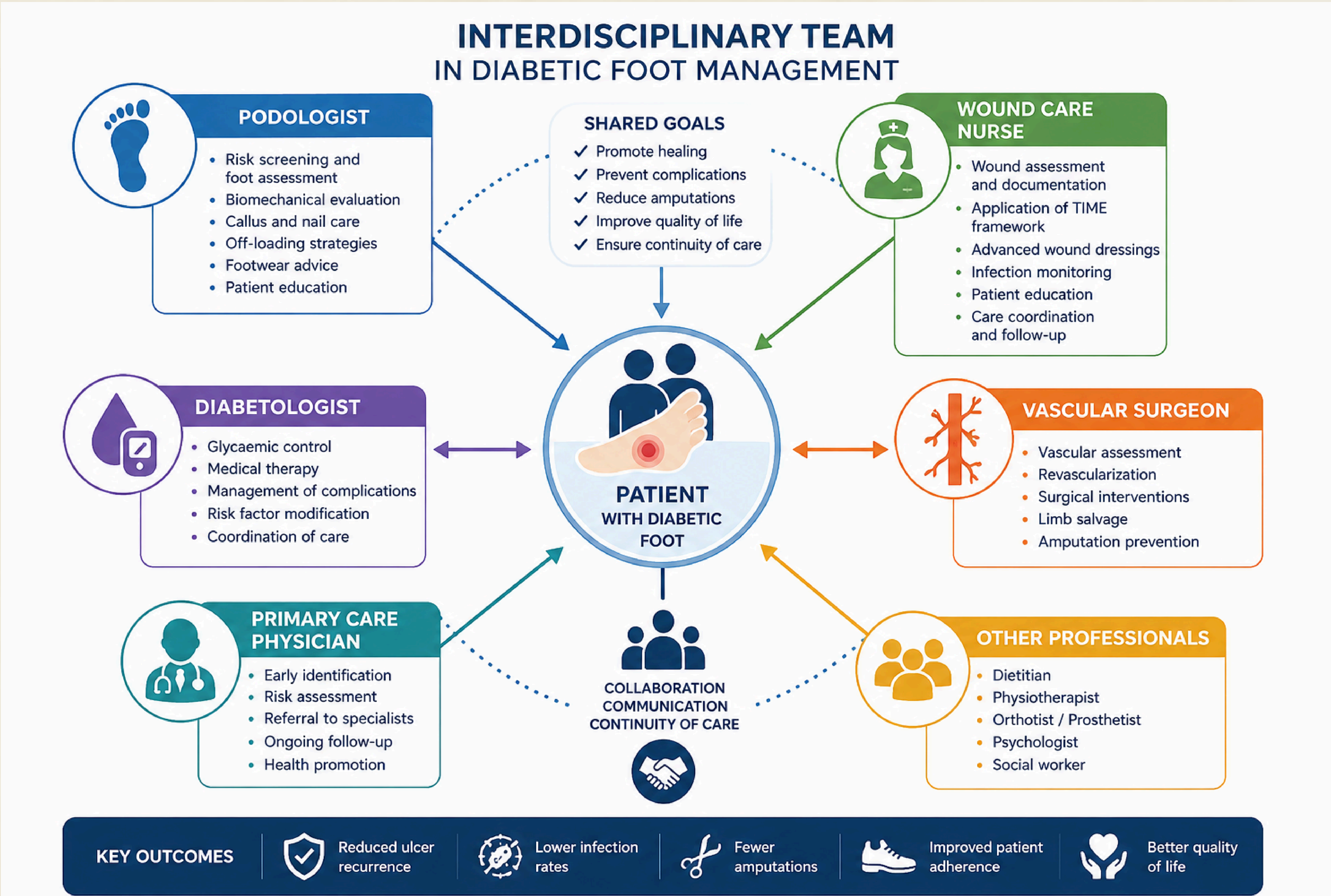
Diabetic foot syndrome is one of the most severe complications of diabetes mellitus and a leading cause of non-traumatic lower limb amputation worldwide. Its multifactorial pathophysiology requires timely and integrated management [1,2].

This study aimed to evaluate the impact of interdisciplinary collaboration between podologists and wound care specialist nurses on clinical outcomes in diabetic foot management. A structured narrative review was conducted, including studies and guidelines published between 2017 and 2025. The search strategy used terms such as “diabetic foot”, “diabetic foot ulcer”, “podologist”, “wound care nurse”, and “interdisciplinary care”. Seventeen relevant studies and guideline documents were analyzed.

Evidence indicates that integrated care models improve prevention, early detection, and treatment outcomes. Podologists contribute through biomechanical assessment, pressure redistribution, callus management, and off-loading strategies [3]. Wound care specialist nurses provide advanced wound assessment, infection monitoring, wound bed preparation, and evidence-based dressing management, including the TIME framework [4]. Their coordinated approach enhances early intervention, optimizes healing conditions, and ensures continuity of care.

Interdisciplinary management is associated with reduced ulcer recurrence, lower infection rates, fewer amputations, and improved patient adherence [1,5].

Collaboration between podologists and wound care specialist nurses is therefore essential to optimize outcomes and improve the sustainability of diabetic foot care pathways.



References

1. Armstrong DG, et al. N Engl J Med. 2017.
2. IWGDF Guidelines. 2023.
3. Bus SA, et al. Diabetes Metab Res Rev. 2020.
4. Sibbald RG, et al. Adv Skin Wound Care. 2021.
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