PODIATRISTS Role in PUBLIC HEALTH



Health Protection

Podiatrists specialise in early detection and management of limb and life-threatening chronic conditions.

Podiatrists are integral to the primary, secondary and social care systems of care delivery and are key healthcare professionals in the management of the risk and treatment of pressure ulcers and early detection of sepsis.

Podiatrists action early interventions for the at-risk population, and employ early antimicrobial stewardship.

Wider Determinants



Podiatry interventions address factors that impact on the wider determinants of health in many ways e.g addressing musculoskeletal pain, avoiding absences through complications from chronic conditions, frailty/falls avoidance and facilitating early referral into support services.

Podiatry services are often provided at the heart of the community and this can impact positively on access and removes barriers to care.



Population Healthcare

Podiatrists work across sectors enabling them to be key practitioners in the management of population health.

Podiatrists prevent ulceration, and detect complications such as Charcot foot in the at-risk foot.

Podiatrists support early identification and interventions for chronic diseases such as critical limb ischaemia, cardiovascular disease and musculoskeletal disorders.



Health Improvement

Podiatrists deliver and champion health improvement interventions, awareness and initiate campaigns to help those with conditions that are limb and life threatening. E.g. ACT NOW, CPR for Feet.

Podiatrists prevent frailty/falls by improving mobility and addressing gait anomalies.

Podiatrists are skilled in employing empowerment techniques that can help a service user self-manage.

Examples of work sectors

Community Health Services, Acute Multidisciplinary High Risk Foot Services, MCATS, Independent Practice, General Practice, Minor Injury Units, Prisons, Learning Disabilities Units, Mental Health Units, Homeless Shelters #SavingLimbsSavingLives



