

Foot Screening Assessment for Nursing Homes Information Sheet

The members of the Board of Registration in Podiatry have developed this assessment tool for nurses working in long term care facilities to use when screening residents for problems, or potential problems, with their feet. The Board members suggest that a licensed nurse screen all long term care facility residents for actual or potential foot problems upon admission to a facility, and that the nurse initiate a request to the primary care physician for evaluation by a podiatrist when indicated.

Indications for evaluation by a podiatrist may include, but are not limited to:

- A history of diabetes
- A history of peripheral vascular disease
- Evidence of diminished circulation (cool skin, diminished or absent pulses)
- Swelling, loss of sensation, or burning sensation in feet
- Areas of impaired skin integrity of the feet/ankles (ulcers, skin cracks, rashes, wounds, corns, blisters, etc.)
- Toenail problems (thickened, long)
- Evidence of toe abnormalities that may impair mobility or cause pressure on other toes