

**NHS PODIATRY IN COVENTRY**

**Where is the service based?**

The CWPT Community Podiatry Service is based in the City of Coventry Health Centre on Stoney Stanton Road.

The service also operates locality clinics from the following sites:

* Longford Health Centre – Longford Road
* Wood End HC – Deedmore Road
* Willenhall HC – Remembrance Road
* Tile Hill PCC – Jardine Crescent
* Holbrooks Health Team – Wheelwright Lane.

Currently the service operates Monday to Friday, 8:45am to 4:45pm (No evenings or weekends)

**Who can access the service?**

Any patient, including children, registered with a Coventry G.P. fitting the acceptance criteria (but none of the exclusions) listed below.

**What are the acceptance criteria?**

To enable the Podiatry team to provide the necessary level of care to the most at risk group of patients it has been agreed that effective from Monday 8th February 2016 acceptance for assessment into the Community Podiatry Service will be based on the criteria set out in the matrix below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PODIATRY SERVICE PATIENT ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA** | **HIGH MEDICAL/SOCIAL RISK – AFFECTING FOOT**   * Neurological conditions * Ischaemic Limb conditions * Scleroderma * Rheumatoid or related inflammatory arthritis unless and until appropriate specialist screening has taken place * Diabetes Mellitus with Poor Tissue Viability * Neurological Disorders * Steroids * Warfarin without a stable INR * Chemotherapy/immunosuppressives | **INCREASED MEDICAL/SOCIAL RISK – AFFECTING FOOT**   * Severe OA * Severe physical disability * COPD * Severe mental disability (self- neglect, poor nutrition, anorexia, alcoholism) * Pts with current or H/o intravenous drug use) | **LOW MEDICAL/SOCIAL RISK – AFFECTING FOOT**   * Visual impairment * Physical disability * Mental disability * Learning disability | **NO MEDICAL/SOCIAL RISK**  No medical/health conditions |
| **HIGH PODIATRIC NEED** |  | | | |
| Ulcerations | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| Infections of nails | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** |
| Acute biomechanical problems | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** | **YES\*** |
| **INCREASED PODIATRIC NEED** |  | | | |
| Symptomatic corns | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| Symptomatic moderate / heavy callus | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| Severe Foot Deformities | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| Painful nail pathologies – IGTN | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** | **YES** |
| **LOW PODIATRIC NEED** |  | | | |
| Minimal diffuse callus | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** | **NO** |
| Skin care advice e.g. athletes foot, pressure points | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** | **NO** |
| Basic foot care i.e. skin care, footwear advice and cutting of non-pathological nails. | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **NO PODIATRIC NEED** |  | | | |
| Podiatric Surgery | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| Routine Annual checks | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| Verrucae Pedis | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| Finger Nails | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |

**(\*see exclusion criteria below)**

**The services we provide?**

The following treatments are available to patients fitting the acceptance criteria on assessment of their podiatric needs:

* Wound Management for foot ulcerations in Diabetes and other long-term medical conditions
* Callus and Corn removal and toe nail cutting for patients with lower limb and foot vascular and neurological deficiency
* Foot care education sessions and one to one advice to facilitate safe self-care and monitoring for patients with ‘At Risk’ feet
* Nail surgery procedures (total or partial) under local anaesthetic with or without phenolisation
* Functional or palliative foot orthoses (insoles) if related to underlying pre-existing or dermatological pathologies.
* Acupuncture where appropriate as part of an agreed treatment plan.
* Steroid injection where appropriate as part of an agreed treatment plan
* Some musculoskeletal problems of the lower limb requiring podiatric biomechanical assessment and treatment to improve function and alleviate symptoms; i.e. Plantarfaciitis (heel pain), Morton’s neuroma, non-surgical Hallux Valgus (bunions) & 1st MTP OA (see exclusions).

**What are the Exclusion criteria?**

All patients who do not meet the acceptance criteria as laid out in the matrix above, plus:

* Patients already referred to Physiotherapy for the same condition;
* Patients who are not prepared to make necessary changes to their footwear;
* Patients who require sedation or general anaesthetic to enable treatment to be given;
* Provision and modification of footwear (see notes below);
* Patients requiring ultrasound or surgery;
* Verrucae (see notes below);
* Assessment and treatment of finger nails;
* Any Biomechanical issues not fitting the acceptance criteria above.

**Does the service offer Domiciliary visits:**

These are only offered for patients who are confirmed as being housebound. Patients who are able to leave their home by transport are not eligible for treatment in a domiciliary setting.

From the beginning of 2016 it will no longer be possible for patients to book a domiciliary visit as their first contact with the service without the request being assessed by senior staff within the service.

**How do you access the service?**

All referrals into the Community Podiatry Service should be made on e-Referrals into the following DoS:

* Podiatry Service Main Triage - CWPT-RYG

Also by faxed referral pro-forma to ‘Patient Access & Booking Office’: 024-7676961560

**Note regarding exclusions (verrucae and footwear)**

1. Verrucae -attached here is an advice leaflet produced by the Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists, which we suggest can be given to patients.  The main issue leading to failure of home treatment is insufficient removal of hyperkeratotic skin from the area, thus preventing the caustic from penetrating properly.  The leaflet is available via this link  <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Warts/Pages/Treatment.aspx>

The other alternative for treatment of verrucae is to go to a private practitioner for treatment.  The service would only advocate podiatrists registered with the Health & Care Professions Council. To check, go to [www.hpcheck.org](http://www.hpcheck.org)

1. Footwear provision and modification - This is proving to be an issue (across Arden) as far as patients who require bespoke footwear and or modifications to that footwear, e.g. rocker bottom soles, build-ups or adaptations to fastenings, uppers etc.  Patients can buy very wide and voluminous footwear from various suppliers, e.g. Cosyfeet and DB shoes. Patients have to pay for these themselves. Although excellent, they do not replace the occasional need for bespoke footwear.

The Community Podiatry Service will provide footwear advice for patients, so they can purchase the correct footwear for their foot pathology.  We also provide foot orthoses (i.e. devices that fit inside the shoe as an insole) to patients where this is applicable to their foot problem. These orthoses may correct a functional problem in gait or may provide palliative effects on plantar foot pathologies to reduce pain, pathology development in neuropathic foot and frequency of treatment, for example.

**Contact Information**

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Central Booking Service

Paybody Building (City of Coventry Health Centre Site)

Tel: 0300 200 0011

**Booking details**

Booking Telephone Number: 0300 200 00 11

Hours of Operation: 08:00 to 17:00hrs Monday to Friday