

Aboriginal people with diabetes are 38 times more likely to have a major amputation.

Preventative foot care can minimize this by nearly 12 times

What proportion of Aboriginal people with diabetes have an annual preventative foot assessment?





AHCWA

Aboriginal Health Counci of Western Australia

Putting feet first: A Improving the provision of diabetic foot Care at a remote ACCHS

Siddhanth Sharma

Why look at preventative foot care

- 1) High incidence in treating population
 - Aboriginal people with type 2 diabetes are **thirty-eight x** more likely to have a major amputation than Non-Indigenous among those aged 25-49
- 2) Improve the proportion of annual diabetic checks
- 3) Poorly understood assessment

	Methods	Results	Competency 1	Competency 2	
What		How			

Preventative foot assessment

National Evidence-Based Guideline

Prevention, Identification and Management of Foot Complications in Diabetes



	Methods	Results	Competency 1	Competency 2	
What			How		
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Risk stratification

- Low risk- No risk factors
- Intermediate risk- One risk factor
- High risk- two risk factors OR previous foot ulceration

Annual foot assessment

Quarterly/ half yearly assessment PLUS Self-management education, podiatry review and footwear assessment

Aboriginal people should be considered high-risk



Foot assessments at the practice

Podiatrist

• Monthly visit (8 hours)



Leaky pipe diagram replicated from Indigenous Eye Health (Anjou, Boudville & Taylor, 2013)



Sample



50

Diagnosed before 2016





T2DM

Booked Pod. Assess.





Systemic barriers

Insufficient and highly mobile workforce Increased burden of disease Poorly publicised problem Podiatry referral workflow not tested

Better coordination

Nurses/Aboriginal Health Practitioners to conduct foot assessments Simple proforma Up-to-date recall system Competency 1: Develop and implement quality improvement programs for health services (6.2.7)

Important components of a Quality Improvement program 1) Planning 2) Stakeholder engagement

What metrics should we optimize to reduce amputations??



"Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts." -Albert Einstein



Competency 2

Competency 2: Advise on the public health management of chronic diseases (5.4.1)

Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services provide a great role model

- Favourable Nurse to GP ratio
- Point of care Hba1c and Urinary PCR
- Health promotion



Australian general practice needs national performance indicators

For example

Aboriginal Health

National Key Performance Indicators for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care

United Kingdom





Conclusion

- Deepened my understanding
 - Quality improvement programs
 - Australia's Primary Health Care System
- Aboriginal Health systems promote a culture of deep reflection and continuous quality improvement
 - Lots for mainstream General Practice to learn



Thank you for listening \bigcirc

"Better is possible. It does not take genius. It takes diligence. It takes moral clarity. It take ingenuity. And above all, it takes a willingness to try." – Atul Gawande

Acknowledgements

- Dr Marianne Wood
- Prof Donna Mak
- Aboriginal Health Council of WA and its member organisations
- School of medicine, University of Notre Dame Fremantle

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