

# Diabetes and Podiatry

BY BARRY H. BLOCK, DPM, JD

For the twenty-fourth consecutive year, *Podiatry Management* is proud to present our annual special diabetes care issue containing a large assortment of technical and practice management articles on this important topic. Because of the pedal effects of diabetes, podiatrists have been thrust into a front-line position on the healthcare team dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of this condition. Most hospitals and wound care centers now proudly boast of the availability of podiatrists, a far cry from forty years ago, a time when podiatrists had to struggle just to obtain hospital privileges. Therefore, it is essential that we continue to be on the leading edge of diabetic foot care.



Our expertise in preventing, managing, and treating diabetes-related manifestations in the feet and ankles has helped us reach a meaningful level of respect in allopathic medicine. No other medical specialist combines the expertise in biomechanical off-loading, surgery, and wound care. Podiatrists work closely with interventional vascular surgeons and helped develop the widely accepted concept of “toe and flow.”

If you are not part of a diabetes healthcare team, it's never too late to join one. The incidence of diabetes grows each year and with it the need for podiatrists specializing in the treatment and prevention of diabetes-related foot and ankle conditions. With the advent of MACRA, our expertise in diabetes makes it even more important to become involved in this growing field of medicine.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dedicated to Practice Growth and Prosperity Since 1982

Volume 37, Number 9

Publisher	Scott C. Borowsky 610-645-6950
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Periodicals postage paid at Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 and additional entry.

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