

Dear Service User,

Due to Shropshire Community Health Trust response to the COVID19 pandemic the Podiatry department have currently put diabetes foot screening appointments on hold.

During this period of time we ask you to be more vigilant regarding checking your feet. Look at your feet every day – check for blisters, breaks in the skin, pain, or any signs of infection such as redness, heat or swelling.

Diabetes can cause foot problems. Some of these problems can occur because diabetes can affect the nerves and the blood vessels to your feet. This can result in you losing some of the feeling in your feet, or the circulation to your feet being reduced.

If you are concerned regarding any changes to your feet or if you feel you need podiatry treatment for corns, callus, ingrowing toenails please request a referral to the Podiatry services from your GP.

- When checking your feet daily If you notice a wound to your foot or you have an open wound and notice increased redness, heat, discharge or swelling please contact Podiatry on 01743 277681, during this time Podiatrists are available during working hours to give advice or if necessary organise an emergency Podiatry appointment, we would also advise you to contact your G.P. if signs of infection are present.

I have enclosed a leaflet with self care advice for common foot problems, for further information and support tools during this time please visit our homepage via www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/podiatry.

If you need your letters in another format e.g. braille, audio, or another language, please contact our Patient Advice Liaison Service (PALS) on 01743 277689 or shropcom.customerservices@nhs.net.