

# Joint Initiative between Infectious Diseases and Podiatry in Outpatient Settings May Improve Diabetic Foot Infection Patients' Compliance and Outcomes

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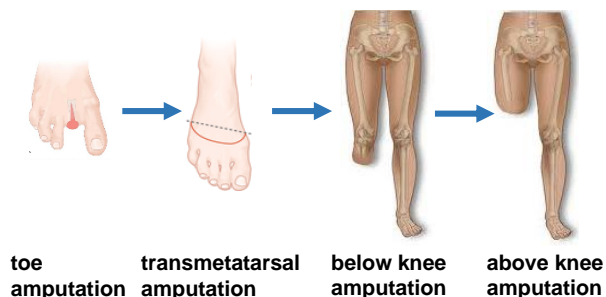
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## Introduction

### <Background>

- Diabetic foot infections (DFI) are associated with multiple co-morbidities.
- Quite a few patients with DFI lose follow up, resulting in recurrent infections or re-amputations.



- Coordination of multidisciplinary approach is often difficult in outpatient settings.

### <Purpose of the Study>

To investigate if joint, Infectious Diseases- Podiatry Clinic (JIDPC) can improve patient compliance and outcomes.

## Methods

- A retrospective analysis of the patients admitted to Wheeling Hospital with DFI from March, 2013 to December, 2017 and required post discharge follow up by Infectious Diseases (ID) and Podiatry
- Logistic regression models adjusting for age and sex were used to compare the outcomes

Pre-intervention phase (March, 2013-)

Patients were followed by an ID physician and a Podiatrist separately after discharge

Intervention was initiated in January, 2017

Post- intervention Phase (- December, 2017)

Patients were followed at JIDPC (an ID physician and a Podiatrist see their patients together in wound care center once a week) after discharge

## Results

### Clinical Characteristics Between Pre and Post Intervention Groups

Characteristic	Pre-intervention Group (n=85)		Post-intervention Group (n=34)		P Value
	no.	(%)	no.	(%)	
Male sex	66	77.7	26	76.5	0.890
Age ≥65	30	35.3	17	50.0	0.138
Osteomyelitis	66	77.7	28	82.4	0.569
Surgery	40	47.1	29	85.3	<.001
Peripheral Vascular Disease	28	33.0	11	32.4	0.859
Kidney Dysfunction	34	40.0	12	35.3	0.634
Poorly Controlled Diabetes Mellitus	37	43.5	14	41.2	0.815

### Outcome Comparison Between Pre and Post Intervention Groups

Outcome	Pre-intervention	Post-intervention	P Value
Lost Follow Up	27 (31.8)	4 (11.8)	0.025 <sup>1)</sup>
Re-admission	27 (31.8)	12 (35.3)	0.711
Death	4 (4.7)	2 (5.9)	1.000
Recurrent Infection in 6 months	31 (36.5)	5 (16.7)	0.044 <sup>2)</sup>

1) OR=3.67[1.16-11.59] without adjustment, OR=2.17[0.64-7.41] with adjustment for surgery

2) OR=3.14[1.07-9.24] without adjustment, p-value: 0.05 OR=3.08[0.98-9.62] with adjustment for surgery

## Conclusion

Implementation of JIDPC would be effective to decrease the incidence of recurrent infections. Adding diabetes and Vascular Surgery management might be beneficial.

## References

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