## Diabetic foot care

## What is diabetic foot ulcer?

A diabetic foot ulcer is an open sore or wound that occurs in approximately 15 percent of patients with diabetes and is commonly located on the bottom of the foot.



Do a daily self-checkup of your feet for cuts, blisters, redness, swelling and open sores



Wash your feet in warm (not hot) water, using a mild soap and dry them carefully especially between your toes



Trim you toenails straight across and file any sharp edges



Use moisturising lotion on your feet (except between toes as it can cause infection) to keep the skin smooth



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Wear socks at bed time if your feet gets cold, wear fresh clean socks preferably white and wash them daily



Wear only proper fitting shoes, which are supportive with low heels. Buy shoes late afternoon, as foot tends to swell during the day



DON'T walk barefooted even when indoors



DON'T smoke, as smoking can reduce blood flow to your feet



Never perform "self surgery" for ingrown nails, corns or calluses



Keep a regular check on your blood sugar level. Talk to your doctor about it



Ask your doctor about available diabetic foot wears



Don't stand in one position for a long time or sit with your legs crossed

## Healthy feet healthy you

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