

The Podiatrist Role in Diabetic Care

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OBJECTIVES

What is podiatry?

What is a diabetic foot exam?

Benefits of podiatry care

Podiatric Medicine

- 9 Medical Schools Nationwide
- Applicants complete:
 - a 4-year undergraduate degree
 - Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

Podiatric Medical School Curriculum

Year 1

Gross Anatomy, Neuroanatomy, Cell biology, Biochemistry, Embryology, Microbiology, Physical diagnosis, Biomechanics

Year 2

Pathology, Pharmacology, Biomechanics, Radiology, Podiatric Medicine, Pathophysiology, Intro to Surgery

Year 3

Internal Medicine, Neurology, Dermatology, Podopediatrics, Podiatric Medicine & Surgery, Behavioral health, Women's health, Radiology,

Year 4

Clinical rotations

Graduate Medical Education

- All graduates must complete a 3-year residency
- Residencies teach basic biomechanics, office podiatry, and surgery
- Passage of a 3-step licensure examination
- Passage of board exam is required for board certification
- A Medical license is required to practice podiatric medicine in every state

The Role of Podiatry in Diabetic Care

Prevention!

Diabetic Foot Exam

Recommendation of frequency of foot exams is based on results of the exam

History

General inspection

Dermatological (skin) exam

Neurological (sensation) exam

Vascular (blood flow) exam

Musculoskeletal (deformity) exam

History

General questions

sensation, circulation, vision, renal problems

Last visit to medical doctor

History of previous amputation or ulcers

Smoking/tobacco use

Inspection

Overall look at feet without socks and shoes

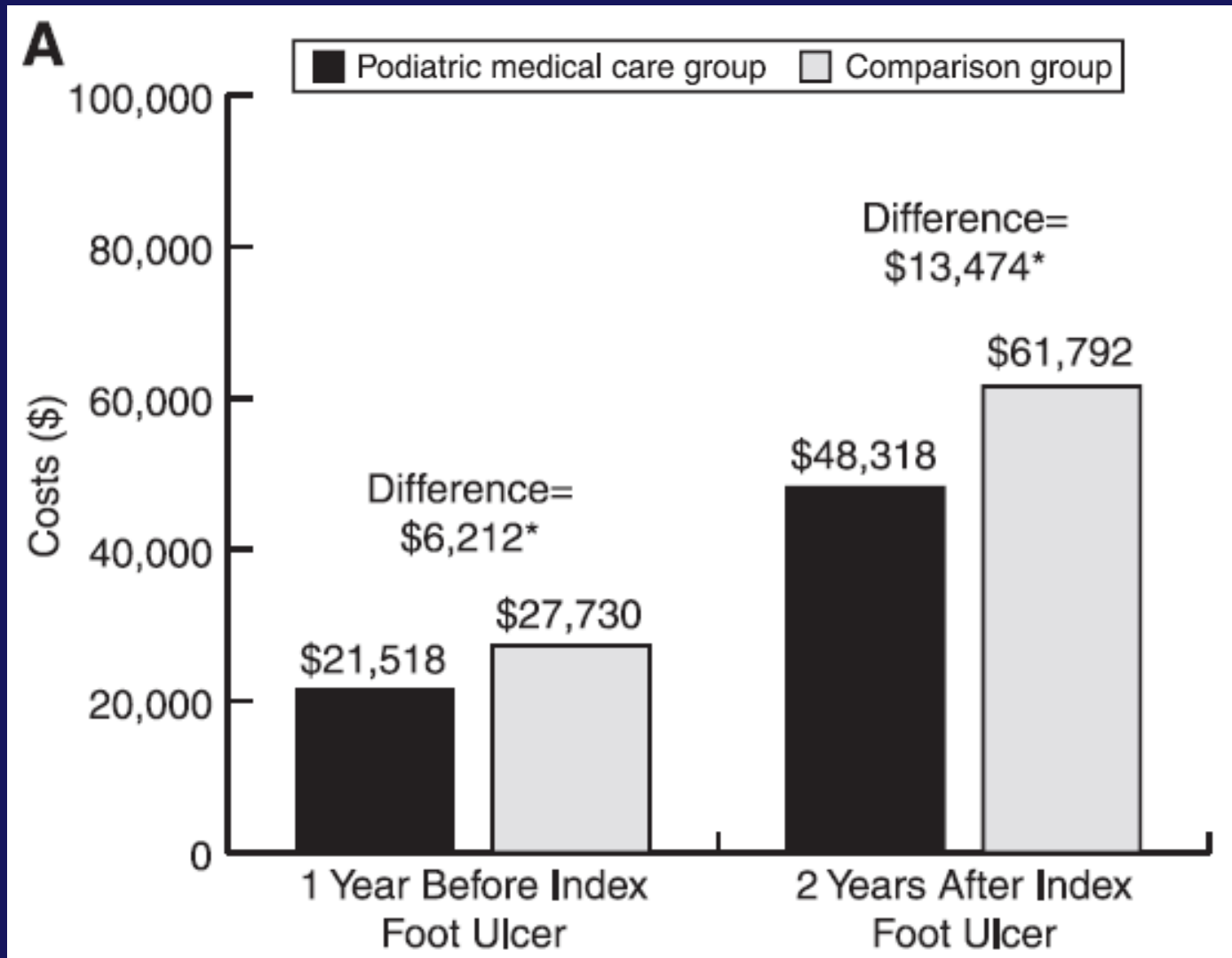
Look at shoes for:

- Toe wear at tip of shoe

- Foreign objects

- Breakdown on inner sole

Cost-Effectiveness of Podiatry in Patients with Foot Ulcers



Amputation Rates in Patients with Foot Ulcers

Among non-Medicare patients:

Podiatrists decrease amputations by 20%

Podiatrists decrease hospitalization by 26%

Among Medicare patients:

Podiatrists decrease amputations by 23%

Podiatrists decrease hospitalization by 9%

Conclusions

What can we do for you?

Lecture

Offer input on foot health for policies

Foot screenings

MPMA.org