What can I expect from the service?

We aim to provide you with the best service possible. This includes:

- Offering you an initial assessment appointment at one of our 4 main clinics
- Providing you with a choice of clinic for subsequent treatment
- Aiming to see 99% of community podiatry patients within 20 minutes of their appointment time
- Referring you to a specialist clinician when appropriate (e.g. diabetes foot specialist)

What is expected from me?

To help provide you with a good service we ask that you:

- Be punctual for your appointment
- Be courteous and respectful, refraining from any verbal or physical abuse which may lead to future care being withheld
- Tell us about any changes to your medication or general health for our podiatry records
- Follow the foot care and footwear advice given by your clinician

Our contact details

Podiatry Services
Central Health Clinic
1 Mulberry Street
Sheffield
S1 2PJ
Tel: 0114 307 8200

Website: www.sth.nhs.uk/services/a-z-of-community-services?id=13

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What is podiatry and what do podiatrists do?

Podiatry

Podiatry is the modern term which has replaced the word chiropody. People trained in the profession are now known as podiatrists not chiropodists.

Podiatrists

Podiatrists are foot health specialists and deal with the assessment, diagnosis, treatment and management of the lower limb. They deal with both simple and more complex foot problems using a wide range of techniques with the aim of preserving or improving foot health.

Podiatrists can often provide immediate pain relief and can contribute to sustaining or improving mobility for people.

All podiatrists should be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council.

What services do we provide?

The Podiatry Service provides a range of services including:

- Nail surgery
- Rheumatology clinics
- Core podiatry (e.g. treatment of corns, fungal infection, callus, etc)
- Specialist hospital and community diabetic / high risk foot care
- Foot health promotion / education
- Forensic podiatry

How do I obtain treatment from the service?

To access the service an application form needs to be completed and sent off to our Head Office; this form can be downloaded from our website: www.sth.nhs.uk/services/a-z-of-community-services

We accept both self-referrals and referrals from health care practitioners.

All new applicants to the service are assessed by a senior podiatrist and a risk status determined from the information received on the referral form. This enables us to prioritise treatment for those patients who are at high risk of developing potentially serious foot complications.

Is there a charge for the service?

No, treatment and advice is provided free of charge.

How long does it take to get an appointment?

This depends on your risk status. High risk patients are usually offered an assessment appointment within 2-4 weeks of referral.

For low risk patients we aim to offer an appointment within 3 months of receipt of the referral.

If you do not have a specific podiatric problem you will be offered a one off appointment where you will be shown how to perform your own safe foot care by a senior podiatrist. Carers or relatives can attend this appointment too if they want to.