

# DIABETIC FOOT ULCERS

## AUTHORS' BIOGRAPHIES

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## KEY POINTS

- ▶ The number of people with diabetes is increasing.
- ▶ All individuals with diabetes should receive regular screening to identify their risk of foot problems.
- ▶ Inappropriate or ill-fitting footwear is a major causative factor in the development of diabetic foot ulcers, particularly in individuals with sensory neuropathy. Footwear assessment and appropriate health promotion regarding suitable footwear should be an integral component of every management plan that aims to prevent diabetic foot ulceration.
- ▶ Relieving pressure (offloading) is essential in the prevention of ulceration and/or as part of any management plan that aims to facilitate the healing of diabetic foot ulceration.
- ▶ Whenever a patient presents with diabetic foot ulceration it is imperative to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the patient and the ulcer. It is particularly important to establish the underlying aetiology.
- ▶ Diabetic foot ulcers can negatively impact on a person's abilities to perform everyday tasks.

