

# Information on Diabetic Feet and Amputations

---

## What are diabetic feet?

Diabetic feet is a condition that diabetics are prone to suffering from. It is where the feet become numb and prone to ulceration and self damage.

Unfortunately when the feet become numb it is easier to hurt them and not realise. In some cases the vascular system can be weakened by diabetes. When the vascular system is weakened the body is prone to arterial and venous ulcers.

When ulceration and weakened vascular system are at play, sometime limbs need to be amputated in order for the body to heal.

## What is an amputation?

An amputation is the removal of a limb on the body. This could be a toe, foot or leg.

## Preparing for the Procedure

Prior to your procedure the secretary will advise you of your admission date and time. You may be admitted the night before or the morning of the procedure.

You will be asked to fast from food from midnight the night before your procedure. You may drink fluids until one hour before the procedure.

Take all your usual medications on the day **except** diabetic or anticoagulation (Warfarin or

Plavix) medications. If you have not been advised when to stop taking Warfarin please contact the office. Continue to take aspirin as usual.

If needed, a blood test will be performed either prior to admission or within a short period after arrival at the hospital.

You will not need to remove your glasses, hearing aids and dentures. You will be awake throughout the procedure. Please empty your bladder before the procedure.

## The Procedure

An amputation

## Post Procedure

When the procedure is complete, you will be moved back to the ward. You will need to stay in bed for 4 – 6 hours depending on your Doctor's instructions.

The head of the bed can be raised to the approximately 30°. You may eat and drink on return to the ward.

Your blood pressure pulse, foot pulse and puncture site will be checked frequently.

Please report immediately any of the following:

- Fresh bleeding from puncture site
- Numbness swelling or pain at the puncture site
- Feeling unwell
- Altered sensation in the legs

You will need to use a bed pan or urinal if you want to pass urine while you are confined to bed.

You will be required to stay overnight, you could be in hospital for up to 5 days.

## Discharge Information

You must not drive a car on the day of your procedure, and for 24 hours post procedure. Therefore it will be necessary to arrange for someone to drive you home from hospital.

Avoid any strenuous activities for at least 24 hours following your procedure.

If bleeding occurs, apply firm pressure to the puncture site, rest quietly and contact your doctor.

Please make a follow up appointment with Dr Sieunarine in order for the puncture site to be checked, and to discuss findings and further managements.

If you are planning to fly less than two weeks after your procedure please make sure you have a follow-up to discuss your recovery.

## Important:

If you experience any of the following symptoms please call your doctor and/ or Dr Sieunarine

- Increased swelling around the wound
- Excessive bleeding

- 
- A change in sensation or feeling in your leg

### REST QUIETLY

For assistance please contact the Clinical Nurse of the Angiography suite or the after hours clinical nurse manager of the relevant hospital.



Dr Kishore Sieunarine

Hollywood Medical Centre  
Suite 63, 85 Monash Avenue  
NEDLANDS WA 6009

Phone: (08) 9386 9855  
Fax: (08) 9386 9866  
reception@westcoastvascular.com.au  
www.westcoastvascular.com.au

Dr Kishore Sieunarine



'State wide, evidence based  
comprehensive vascular  
solutions'

## Diabetic Feet— Amputations

*Information for patients under the  
care of Dr Kishore Sieunarine*

Hollywood Medical Centre  
Suite 63, 85 Monash Avenue  
NEDLANDS WA 6009

Phone: (08) 9386 9855  
Fax: (08) 9386 9866  
reception@westcoastvascular.com.au  
www.westcoastvascular.com.au