**Podiatrists**

**Description of role/core responsibilities**

• Indicative Agenda for Change band 7

Podiatrists are healthcare professionals that have been trained to diagnose and treat foot and lower limb conditions. Podiatrists provide assessment, evaluation and foot care for a wide range of patients, which range from low-risk to long-term acute conditions. Many patients fall into high risk categories such as those with diabetes, rheumatism, cerebral palsy, peripheral arterial disease and peripheral nerve damage.

**Key role requirements**

a. Provide treatments for patients of all ages whilst autonomously managing a changing caseload as part of the PCN’s MDT team.

b. Assess and diagnose lower limb conditions and foot pathologies, commence management plans, deliver foot health education to patients and colleagues.

c. Liaise with PCN colleagues, community and secondary care staff, and named clinicians to arrange further investigations and onward referrals.

d. Use and provide guidance on a range of equipment including surgical instruments, dressings, treatment tables, and orthotics.

e. Provide treatment for high-risk patient groups such as the elderly and those with increased risk of amputation.

f. Use therapeutic and surgical techniques to treat foot and lower leg issues (e.g. carrying out nail and soft tissue surgery using local anaesthetic).

g. Prescribe, produce, and fit orthotics and other aids and appliances.

h. Undertake continued professional development to understand the mechanics of the body in order to preserve, restore and develop movement for patients.

i. Undertake a range of administrative tasks such as ensuring stock levels are maintained and securely stored, and equipment is kept in good working order.

**Entry requirements and training**

• BSc in Podiatry under an approved training programme

• Registered member of Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/update-to-the-gp-contract-agreement-2021-2324-v2.pdf>