Complications – Foot care

The sugar story has 5 parts:

- Looking after feet
- Everyday foot check
- Foot damage
- Protecting your feet
- Exercise & being active
- Smoking
- Regular foot check up
- Not enough oxygen
- Blood pipes
- Nerves

Competencies

Are usually knowledge needed to understand what is happening or tasks which need to be done.

Assessment

In order to keep assessment as simple and straightforward as possible the "Show or tell" method is used.

In the assessment table each competency has a question.

To make an assessment you can ask the client the question then:

- listen to the client tell you the answer in their own words
- listen and watch the client tell you the answer using a resource
- watch the client demonstrate a task

You can then assess the competency:

- Yes, the client understands or is able to do what is required
- Don't know, if the client understands or is able to do what is required
- No, the client doesn't understands or isn't able to do what is required

If the client scores Yes you can move on to a new set of competences. If the score is **Don't know** you should educate again with the same set of

competencies.

If the score is **No** you will have to find competencies that the client can manage.



Side 1 of an assessment sheet (Use this with a client)

Client notes – Part 1

Name:		Date:
Foot care – Looki	ng after your feet	Rate & Notes
Wash your feet everyday, use warm water, test the water with your elbow & use soap.	Asked:	
Put methylated spirit between your toes. This keeps toes dry and stops mould or fungus growing.	Asked:	
Use a clean towel. Dry between your toes & check towel for blood or pus.	Asked:	
Rub skin cream into your foot 2 times a day. Don't put cream between your toes	Asked:	
Put a new pair of clean socks on each day. If they get wet or sweaty, wash and dry your feet before putting on a new pair of socks.	Asked:	



Side 2 of an assessment sheet (Use this as a reference)

Assessment rating

After doing the education assessment rate the client's overall understanding and ability to what is required.

- Y Yes, the client understands or is able to do what is required
- **?** Don't know, if the client understands or is able to do what is required
- No, the client doesn't understands or isn't able to do what is required

Foot care – Looking after your feet – Part 1		
Wash your feet everyday, use warm water, test the water with your elbow & use soap.	Ask: Why do you need to test the water with your elbow?	You can use looking after your feet story cards or posters or you can get them to wash their feet.
Put methylated spirit between your toes. This keeps toes dry and stops mould or fungus growing. Concept Level	Ask: What does the methylated spirit do?	You can use looking after your feet story cards or posters or you can get them to apply the methylated spirit.
Use a clean towel. Dry between your toes & check towel for blood or pus. Concept Level	Ask: Why are you looking for blood & pus?	You can use looking after your feet story cards or posters & get them to explain what they would do if they found blood or pus on the towel.
Rub skin cream into your foot 2 times a day. Don't put cream between your toes Concept Level	Ask: What does the cream do? Ask: Why don't you put cream between your toes?	You can use sugar story yarn sheet, sugar story cards without words.
Put a new pair of clean socks on each day. If they get wet or sweaty, wash and dry your feet before putting on a new pair of socks. Concept Level	Ask: Why do you need to put on a pair of new socks if they get wet or sweaty?	You can ask what would happen if the cells didn't work because there wasn't enough fuel.



Competencies

Foot c	Foot care – Looking after your feet – Part 1		
Level	Wash your feet everyday, use warm water, test the water with your elbow & use soap.		
Level	Put methylated spirit between your toes. This keeps toes dry and stops mould or fungus growing.		
Level	Use a clean towel. Dry between your toes & check towel for blood or pus.		
Level	Rub skin cream into your foot 2 times a day. Don't put cream between your toes		
Level	Put a new pair of clean socks on each day. If they get wet or sweaty, wash and dry your feet before putting on a new pair of socks.		



Level 1 – What ALL clients should understand or be able to do.

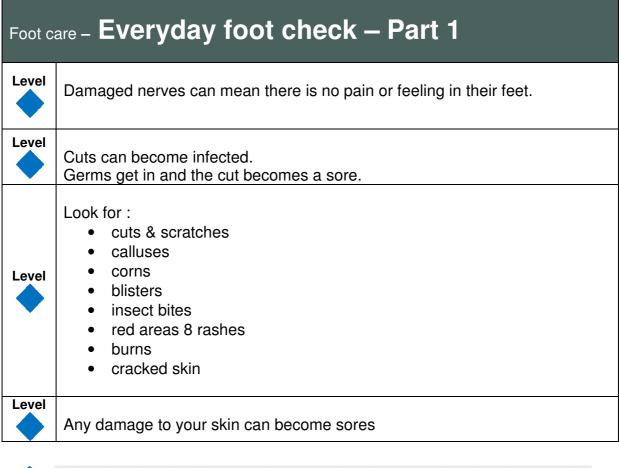
Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot c	Foot care – Looking after your feet – Part 2		
Level	Getting someone to help them check their feet & how to use a mirror so they can see underneath their feet.		
Level	How to remove hard skin safely.		
Level	How to keep their toenails smooth.		
Level	To always getting their toenails cut at the high risk foot clinic or by a podiatrist.		
Level	Never cutting their own nails unless they have talked to the podiatrist or nurse first		
	Level 1 – What ALL clients should understand or be able to do.		

Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.







Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot c	Foot care – Everyday foot check – Part 2	
Level	Look: • On top of each foot • On the side of each foot • Between the toes on each foot • Underneath each foot	
Level	 Where they can get swelling: On top On the side Underneath 	
Level	Swelling may mean you have damaged your bones.	



Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot c	Foot care – Foot damage – Part 1		
Level	 Standing or walking puts pressure their feet. Walking or standing can cause: Callus – hard skin Bruise – under your callus A small sore 		
Level	Sores can be a big problem for people with diabetes.		
Level	 With diabetes sore don't get better. The causes are usually: nerve damage not controlling your blood sugar. problems with their blood pipes especially the very small pipes 		



Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot care – Foot damage – Part 2	
Level	The infection from the sore can infect your bones.
Level	Infected bones may need to be cut off. (amputated)
Level	 Amputation does not need to happen if you: look after your feet get help if a sore doesn't heal after 2 days, never let a sore get really bad. control your blood sugar. stop smoking.



Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot care – Protecting your feet – Part 1		
Level	Socks protect your feet from insect bites and sores.	
Level	 Socks must be: cotton or wool or a mixture of both loose at the top but not loose 	
Level	 Women's shoes should have: a smooth inside a firm heal a wide low a rubber sole Velcro fastening 	
Level	Some people will need an insert to help stop pressure on their feet.	



Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot care – Protecting your feet – Part 2	
	When wearing sandals the toes must be well back. Enclosed shoes need space for the toes.
Level	Discuss your options when choosing sandals
Level	Discuss why some shoes are not suitable.



Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot Care – Exercise – Part 1		
Level	Moving is good for:	
	feetblood pipes	
	 heart 	
Level	Moving is good for:	
	• feet	
	blood sugar levelsnerves	
Level	You need to wear shoes and socks when exercising to protect your feet.	
	Level 1 – What ALL clients should understand or be able to do.	
\star	Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.	
	Level 3 – What clients could use to help them manage their condition.	



Foot Care - Smoking & your feet - Part 1

Level	Smoking damages your feet.
Level	Blood pipes narrow when you are smoking.
Level	Smoking helps fat block your blood pipes
Level	Stop smoking and save your toes and feet.



Level 1 – What ALL clients should understand or be able to do.

Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot care – Regular foot check up – Part 1	
Level	What needs to be checked?
Level	Are you prepared for the check up? Do you have everything you need?
Level	What isn't right & what you need to show the podiatrist or nurse.
Level	What may need to be done in the check up.
Level	What you need to do & what have you learnt
	Level 1 – What ALL clients should understand or be able to do.

Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot care – Blood pipes – Part 1		
Level	Big blood pipes are in your legs and ankles.	
Level	Blood pipes can become narrow or blocked with fat.	
Level	A nurse or podiatrist can feel a pulse in your foot.	
Level	Tiny blood pipes are just under your skin	
Level	Healthy feet are warm.	
Level	Cold feet can mean there is a problem with the blood pipes.	
	Level 1 – What ALL clients should understand or be able to do.	
*	Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.	



Foot care – Not enough oxygen– Part 1		
Level	How oxygen is carried around their body in blood cells	
Level	Legs being painful and cramping when the blood pipes don't allow enough oxygen to the muscles.	
Level	The blood pipes can be narrowed or blocked by fat.	
Level	The blood pipe test.	
Level	Point to where you are likely to feel pain.	



Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.



Foot care – Nerves – Part 1		
Level	Nerves take messages to the brain.	
Level	There are lots of small nerves in the feet.	
Level	High sugar levels can damage the covering on nerves.	
Level	Damaged nerve means they can't feel pain and what is happening to their feet.	



Level 2 – What it would be good if clients understood or were be able to do.

Foot care – Nerves – Part 2		
Level	Nerves are like electric wires. If the insulation is damaged they don't work properly.	
Level	 Damaged nerve sensations can be their feet are : on fire being cut by knives or razor blades covered by ants are crawling over them 	
Level	A small thin wire (filament) is used to test the nerves in the feet.	



Resources

Below are resources which can be used to educate the client about "Sugar"

Talk posters, cards, handouts & wall posters

Talk sheets





Handouts



Test cards

Talk cards



The above resource format was the first version developed.



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