



# Can a Good Diabetes Foot Service Reduce Amputations?

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# Let's Get to the End First

**Can a Good Diabetes Foot Service  
Reduce Amputations?**

**Yes** .....(BUT)

Maurice J Lewi MD  
founds the  
New York  
College of  
Podiatric  
Medicine



Joslin sets up  
one of the  
worlds first  
hospital  
diabetic foot  
clinic at the  
New England  
Deaconess  
Hospital

The term  
'chiroprody' is  
changed to  
'podiatry'

F William Wagner in  
LA leads an MDT  
and develops the  
Wagner-Meggitt  
classification  
and Foot clinic at  
King's set up by  
Mike Edmonds

1987  
Lawrence  
Harkless  
chair of the  
first ADA  
Council on  
foot care

1032 distal bypasses presented at  
SVS 2002 with highly beneficial  
outcomes – prompts George  
Andros to say "I am absolutely  
drunk with delight...the most  
important diabetic vascular paper  
in 30-plus years"

1989 St  
Vincent  
declaration

# Timeline

1922

1911

1928

1957

1981

1<sup>st</sup> Malvern  
Foot  
conference

1986

2002

2018



Diabetes  
related  
foot  
disease  
almost  
universally  
fatal

In 1925, Joslin reports  
that a reduction in  
deaths from diabetic  
coma from 60% to 5%



1931



RD Lawrence  
starts the King's  
diabetes clinic

Vascular  
surgery for  
the  
preservation  
of the  
diabetic foot  
starts at  
NEDH

1965

Paul Brand sets  
up a clinic in  
Louisiana. The  
importance of  
neuropathy  
increases



Dedicated vascular  
unit set up at NEDH  
and interventional  
radiology begins  
enabling ultradistal  
revascularisation  
Over 1000 distal  
bypasses performed  
over the next 10  
years

1991  
First  
Noordwijkerhout  
meeting with first  
International  
Consensus on the  
Diabetic Foot from  
the IWGDF  
produced in 1999

# Epidemiology

- 7,000 lower limb amputations per year in England
- Foot disease costs £972M-1.13B (~£1 in every £150 spent in the NHS)
- Amputation is associated with poorer QoL and higher mortality
- Inpatient care costs £44M per year, with post-amputation care costing a further £21M

# What Does NICE Say?

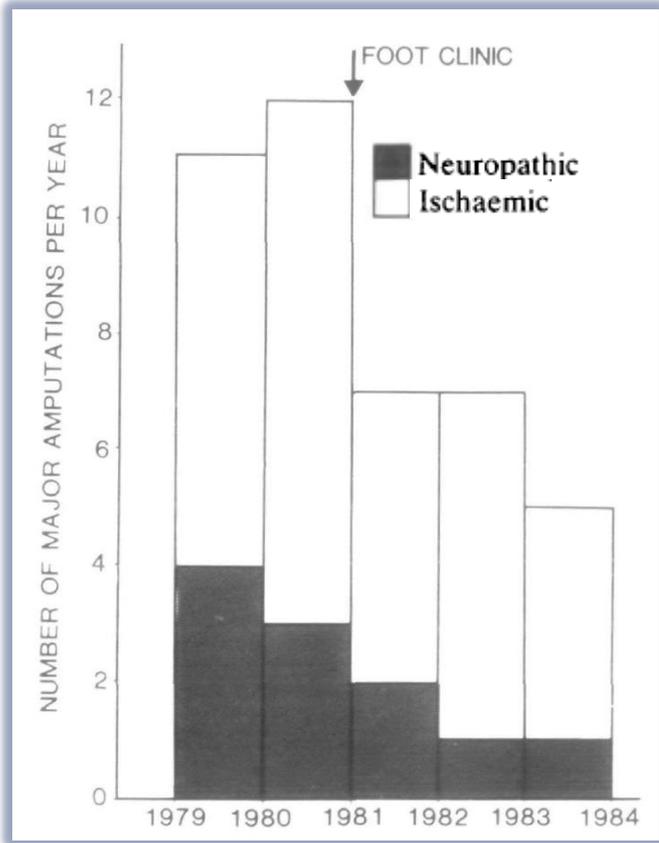
The presence of multidisciplinary care with a well-designed team reduces rates of amputation and the length of hospital stay.

# Let's Talk About Evidence

- Foot disease has remained the most common cause for a 'diabetes specific' acute hospital admission for >50 years

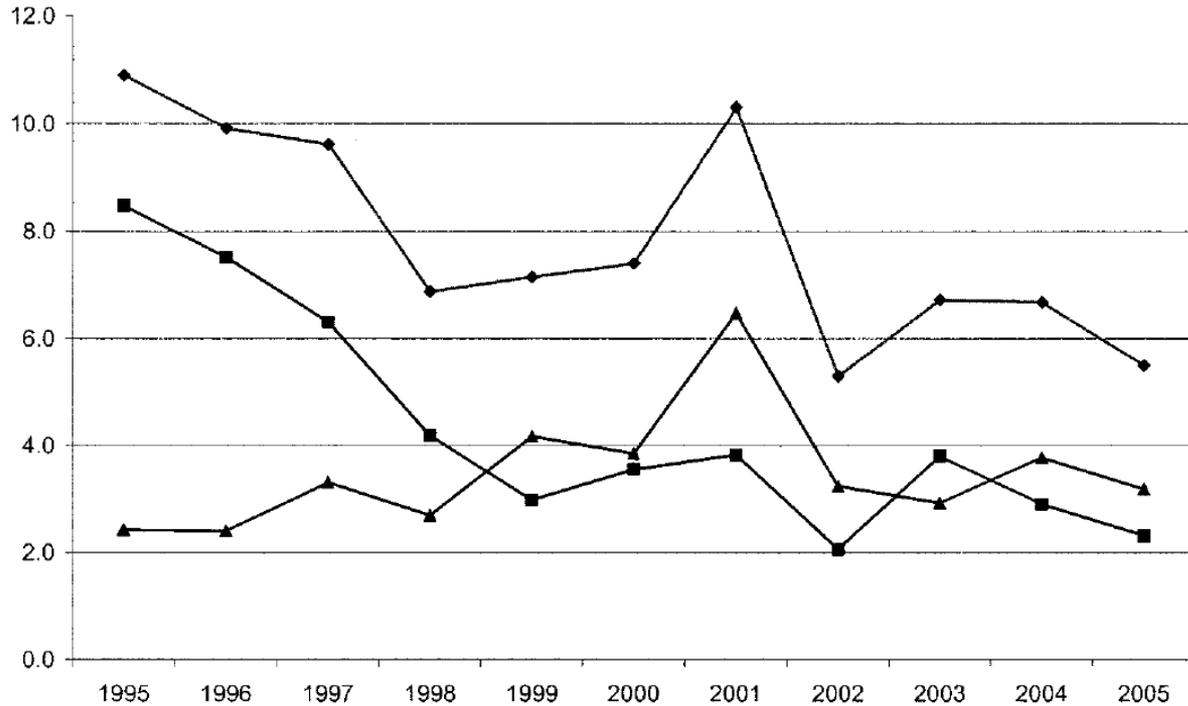
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2015
Foot disease	44.3%	47.1%	45.2%	47.2%	49.5%
Hypoglycaemia	20.4%	16.1%	16.4%	17.7%	14.7%
Hyperglycaemia	17.3%	18.0%	18.3%	15.8%	15.8%
HHS	5.3%	5.5%	6.3%	4.7%	4.6%
DKA	12.7%	13.2%	13.7%	14.7%	15.3%

# King's Data from 1979-1984



- For the first time, the clinic brought together a podiatrist, nurse, shoe-fitter, physician and surgeon
- Separate clinics for neuropathic ulcers and ischaemic ulcers
- Holistic approach
  - ❖ Intensive chiropody
  - ❖ Sepsis control
  - ❖ Provision of foot wear
  - ❖ Treatment of oedema
  - ❖ Pain relief
  - ❖ Education
  - ❖ Vascular investigation
  - ❖ Smoking cessation

# Or Ipswich 1995 - 2005



**Figure 1**—Changes in amputation rates expressed per 100,000 of the general population for total (◆), major (■), and minor (▲) amputations.

- Twice weekly ward rounds by a DSN or podiatrist
- Benefits likely to be due to 'Improvements in vascular, radiological and microbiological services, and in multidisciplinary working'

# There Are Several Other Examples

Reduction of Lower Extremity Amputations in Patients with Non-Insulin-Dependent Diabetes Mellitus

**Reducing Amputation Rates in Patients With Diabetes: A Multidisciplinary Approach**

**Decreasing Incidence of Amputation in Patients with Diabetes**

**Reduced Incidence of Lower-Limb Amputations in Patients with Diabetes**

Decreasing amputation rates in patients with diabetes—a population-based study

**Amputation Prevention Surgery and Prosthesis**

**Reduced Incidence of Lower-Extremity Amputations in Patients with Diabetes**

Decreasing incidence of amputation in patients with diabetes

**Amputation**

Reducing major lower extremity amputations after the introduction of a multidisciplinary team in patient with diabetes foot ulcer

**Reduction in Lower-Extremity Amputations in the Netherlands: 10-Year Experience**

**Amputation**  
Reduced  
Amputation  
Multidisciplinary  
José Antonio  
Sara Jimenez  
Carmen  
Fernando  
and Julia

Chuan Wang<sup>1</sup>, Lifang Mai<sup>1</sup>, Chuan Yang<sup>1</sup>, Dan Liu<sup>1</sup>, Kan Sun<sup>1</sup>, Weidong Song<sup>2</sup>, Baoming Luo<sup>3</sup>, Yan Li<sup>1</sup>, Mingtong Xu<sup>1</sup>, Shaoling Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Fangping Li<sup>1</sup>, Meng Ren<sup>1</sup> and Li Yan<sup>1\*</sup>

WILLIAM H.  
JAN A. RAU  
DIRK RUW

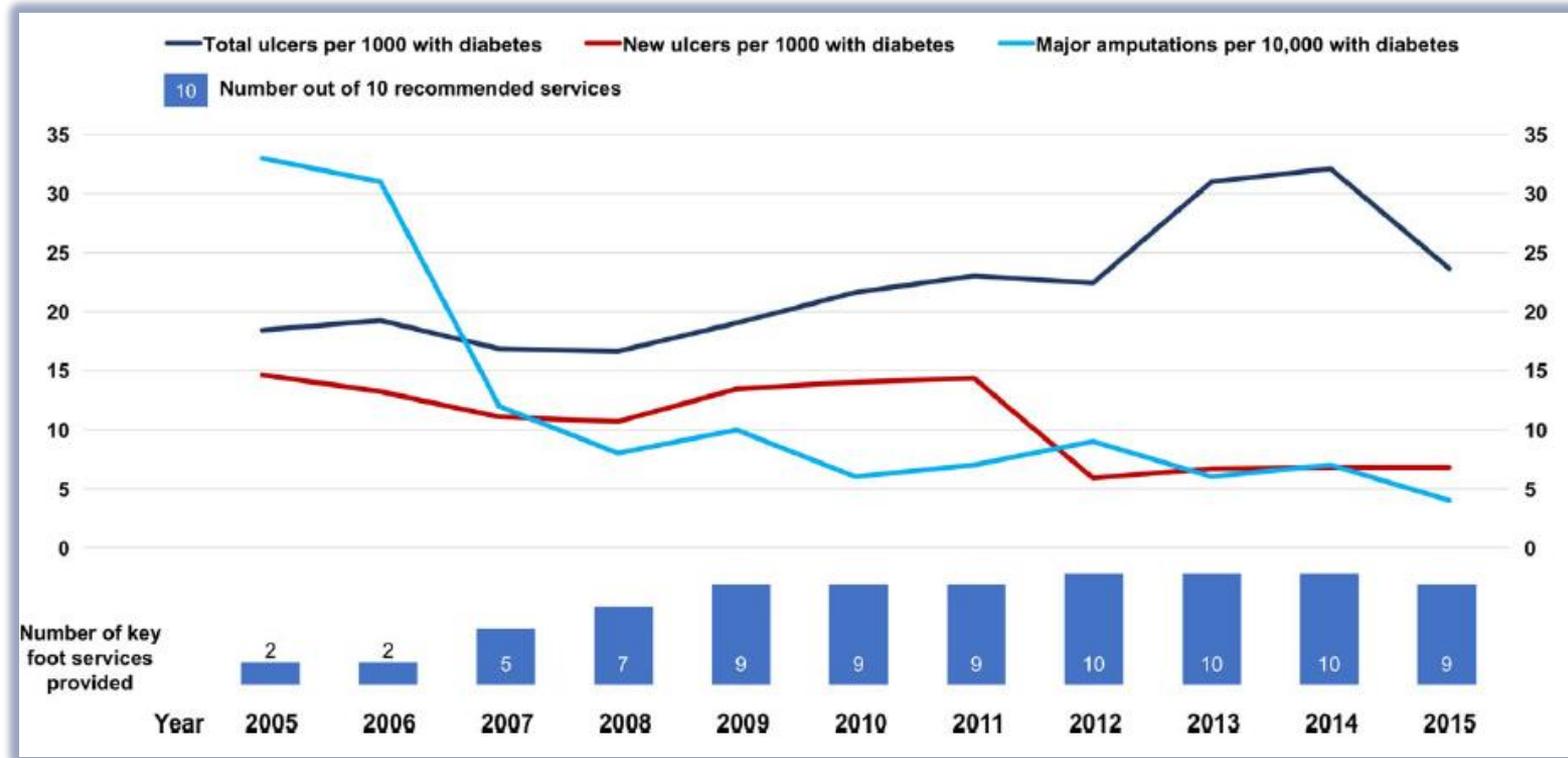
# Most Recently

## **Diabetes-related major lower limb amputation incidence is strongly related to diabetic foot service provision and improves with enhancement of services: peer review of the South-West of England**

R. B. Paisey<sup>1</sup> , A. Abbott<sup>2</sup>, R. Levenson<sup>3</sup>, A. Harrington<sup>4</sup>, D. Browne<sup>5</sup>, J. Moore<sup>3</sup>, M. Bamford<sup>3</sup>, and M. Roe<sup>3</sup> on behalf of the South-West Cardiovascular Strategic Clinical Network peer diabetic foot service review team

Diabet. Med. 35, 53–62 (2018)

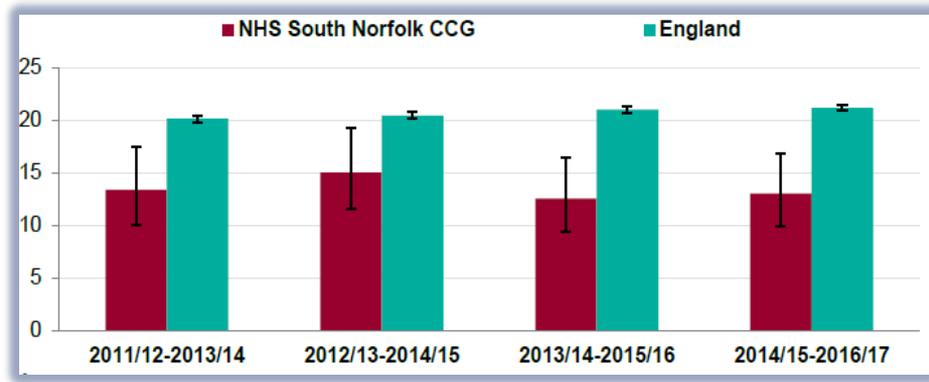
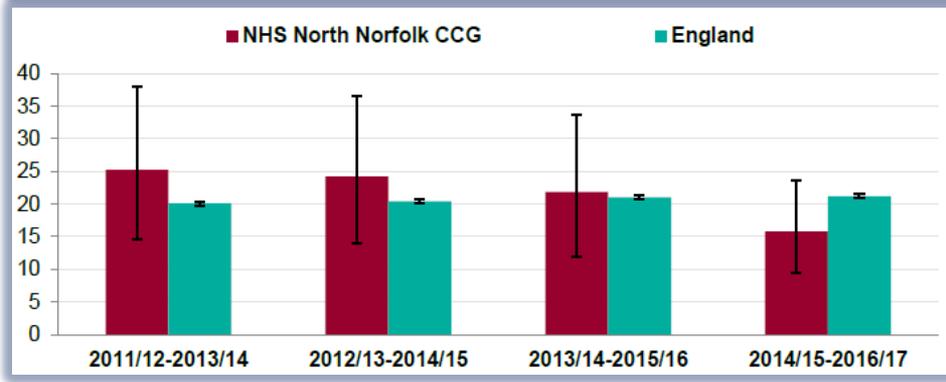
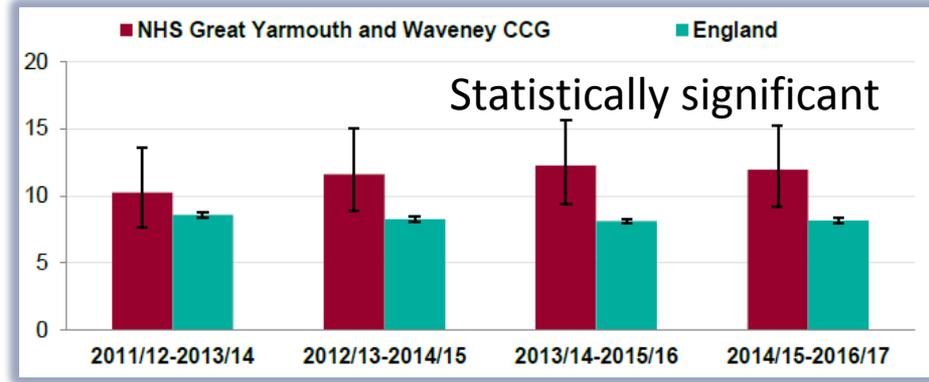
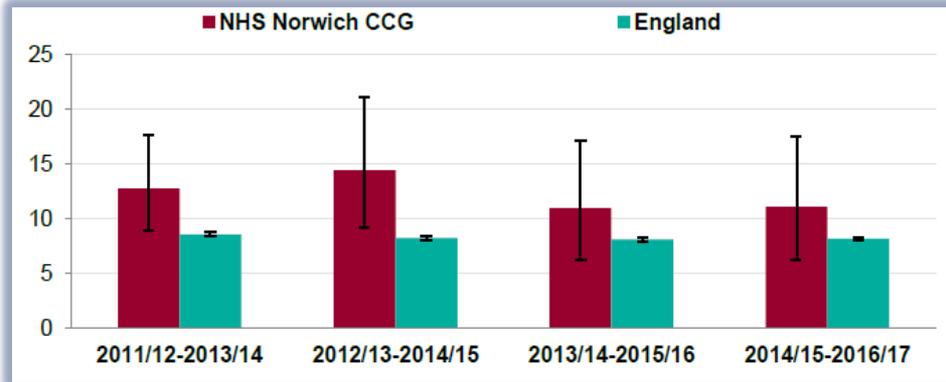
# Peer Review and Education



# The MDT Foot Service in Norwich

- 1 medical foot clinic per week (with access to me at all other times)
- 1 vascular foot clinic per week
- 1 orthopaedic foot clinic every other week
- Same day referral service (mostly)
- Weekly MDT inpatient foot ward round
- Daily podiatry inpatient ward round
- Weekly orthotist clinic
- 2 podiatry rooms running 8.30am – 5.30pm daily

# Amputation Data From Our Four CCG's 2010-17



Directly standardised rate per 10,000 people with diabetes

# Are We Therefore a Suboptimal Service?

Orthopaedic  
surgeons x 2

Podiatrists x 6

Vascular surgeons x 2

Diabetes doctor x 1

Orthotist x 1

Health Care  
Assistants x 2



Admin team x 2

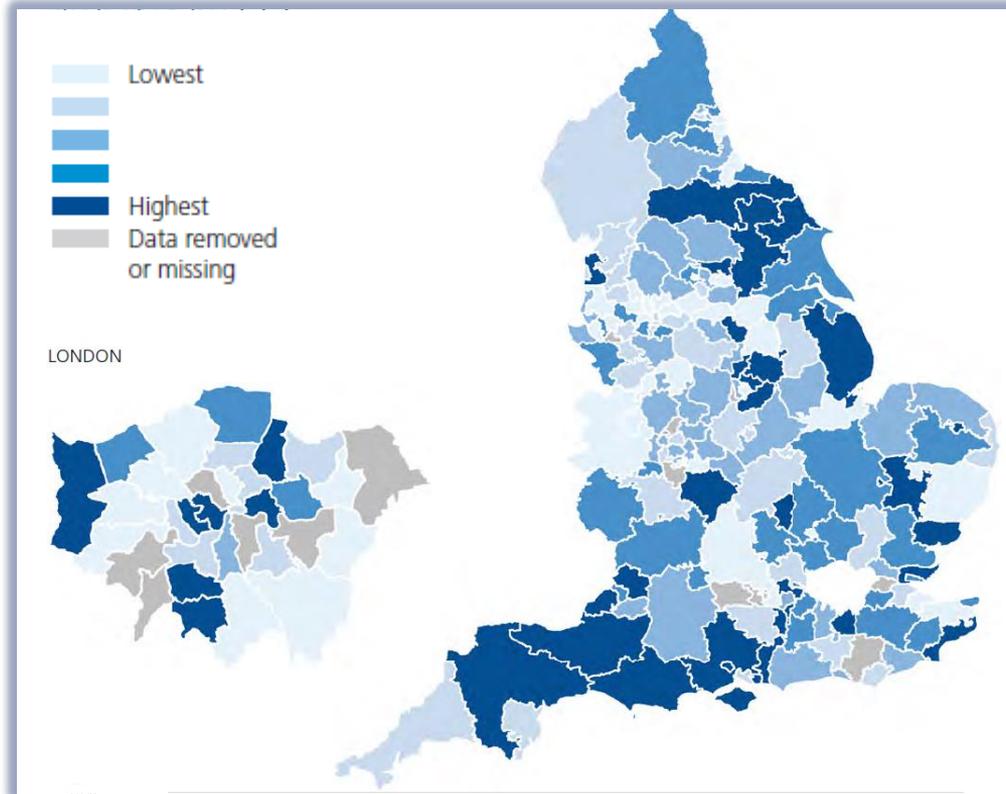
Research  
administrator x 1

Microbiologist x 1

Statistician x 1

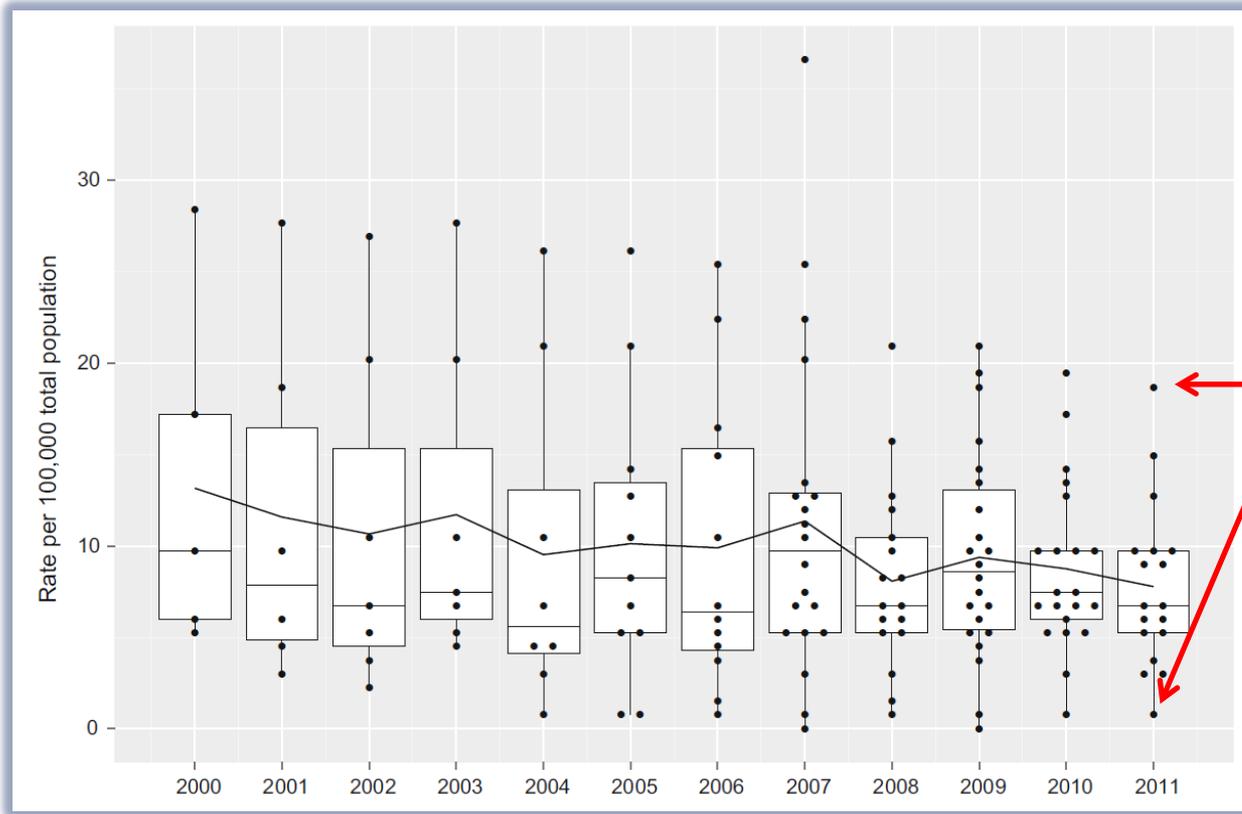
Amputation  
specialist nurse  
x 1

# Variation Across the UK - 2015



Variation across the UK is 3.9 fold between the highest and lowest

# Amputations Rates Across the OECD

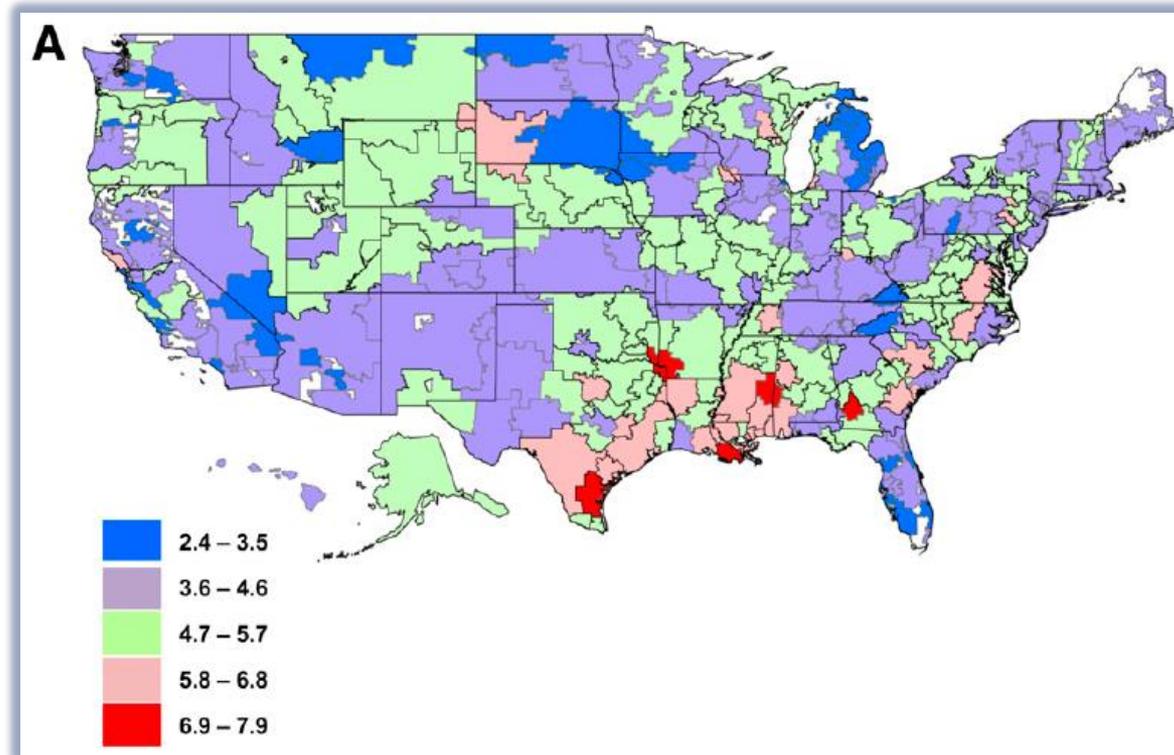


Across the 26 countries, there was a 40% decline in amputation rates

There was a huge variation – 18.4 vs 1.1 per 100,000 population (Germany vs Hungary)

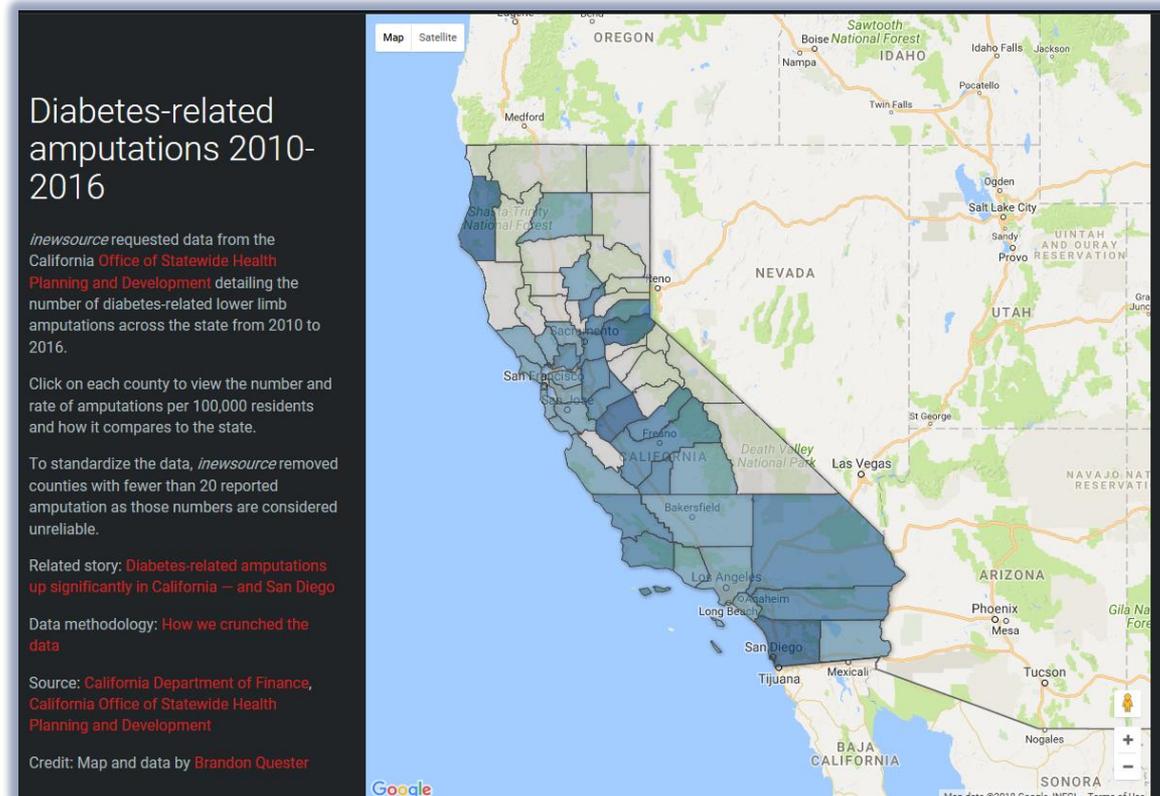
These data equate to 216 amputations per day (1 every 7 mins)

# The Variation Across the US



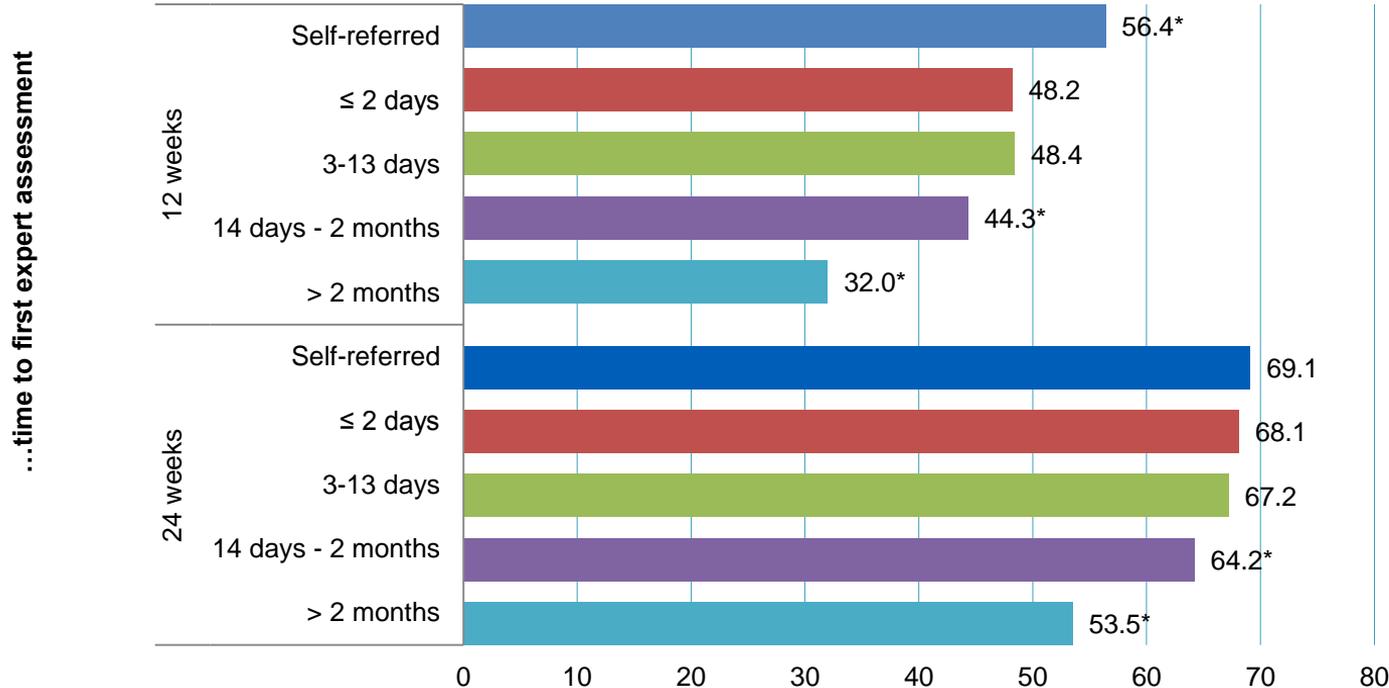
Incidence of  
LEA per 1000  
people on  
Medicare  
with diabetes  
by hospital  
referral region

# Even Within States



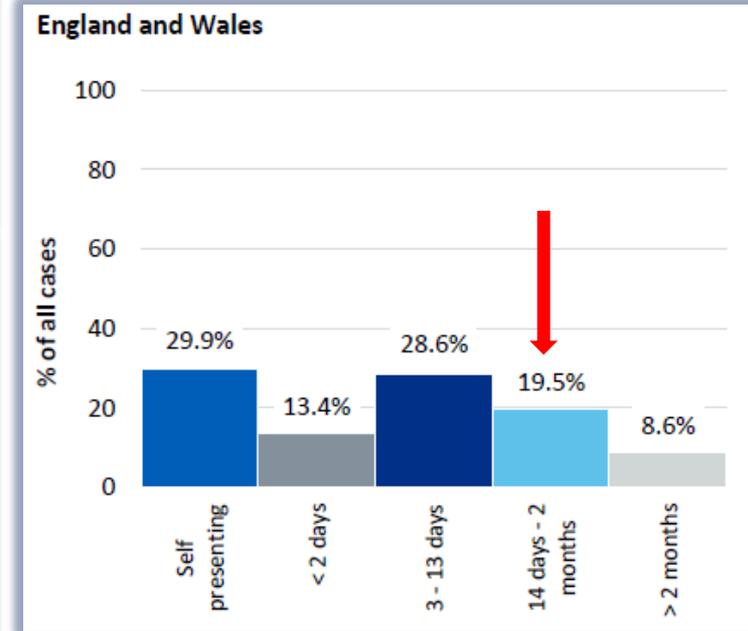
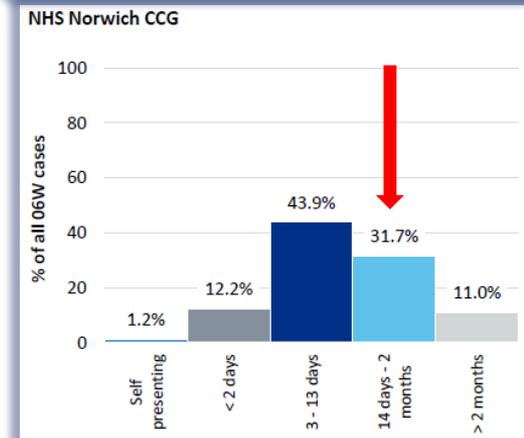
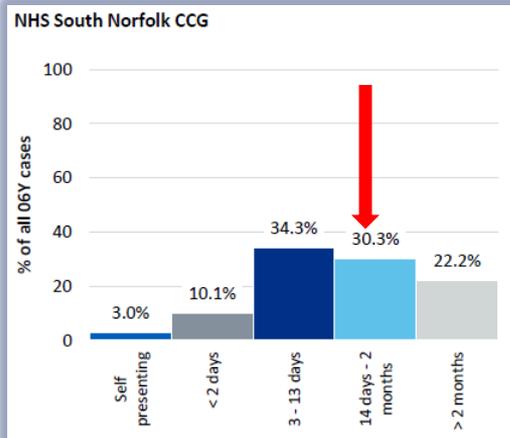
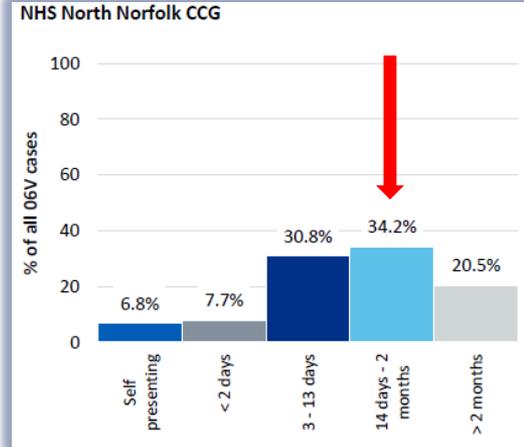
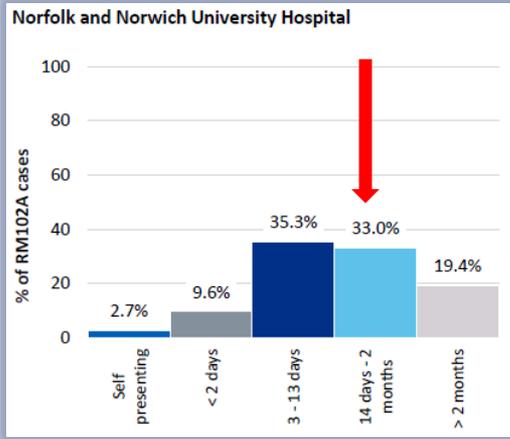
# Maybe it is to do with Primary Care?

% alive and ulcer-free at ...



People who have an **expert assessment** of their ulcer **within two weeks** of their first presentation to an HCP are **more likely** to be alive and ulcer-free than those seen later

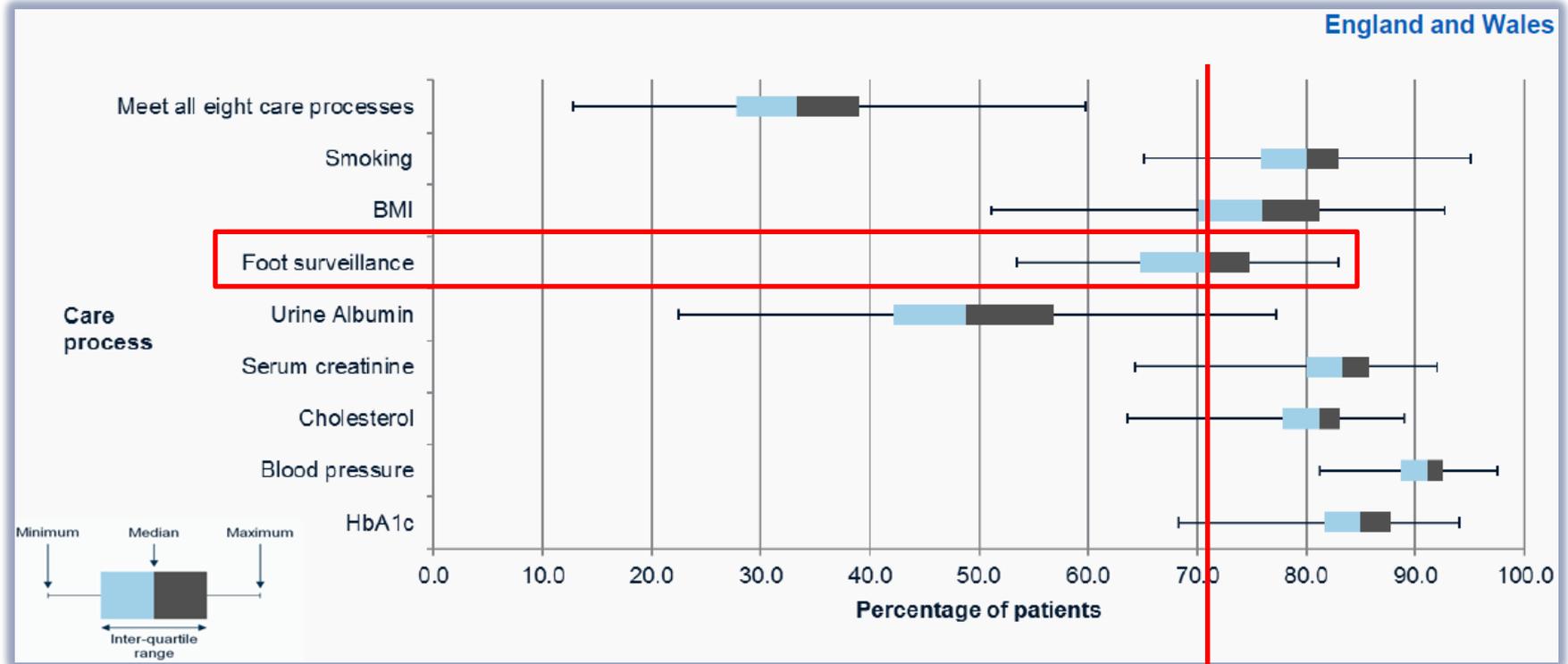
# Back to My Service – Time to Assessment 2014-16



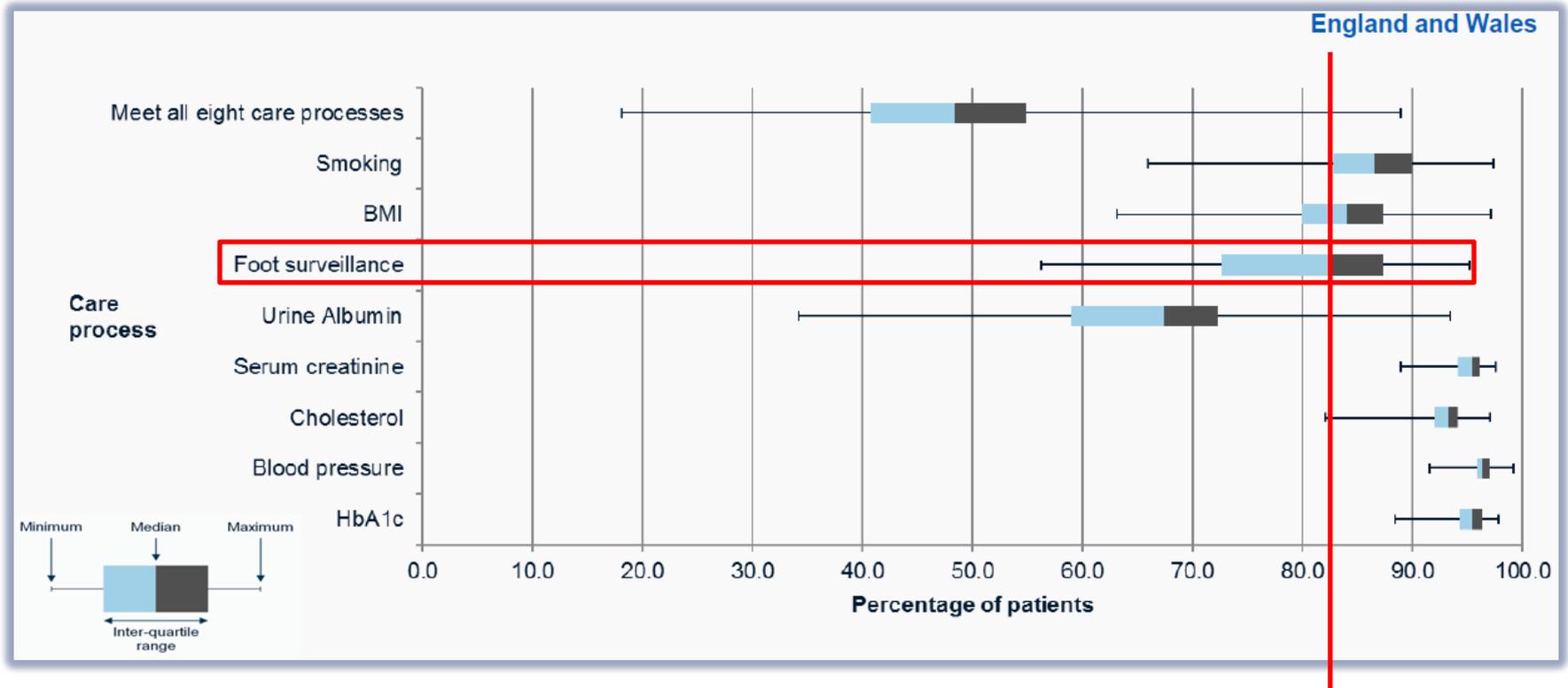
# Primary Care

- Substantial variations in recording of foot examinations across CCG's examination (68%-94%) but also variations with age and type of diabetes
  - Overall 87% T2DM vs 72% T1DM
  - In those <40 years old 74% T2DM vs 60% T1DM
- Secondary care outcomes are only as good as primary care referrals?
- Maybe it is about patient education – which is predominantly provided by primary care

# Care Processes – Type 1



# Care Processes – Type 2



# Ways to Help?



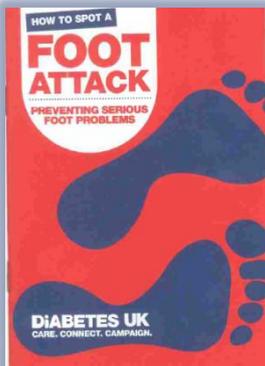
Dr Matthew Young

## Welcome to Safe Management of the Diabetic Foot

This module will help you to recognise and manage active foot disease and in doing so improve the lot of patients and reduce costs for the NHS.

100 diabetes related amputations take place in the UK each week. 80% thereof could be prevented if patients as well as non-specialist healthcare professionals were more aware of the risk and knew how to minimise it.

*mydiabetes \* myway*  
... the interactive diabetes website



### Prevention - avoid foot injury



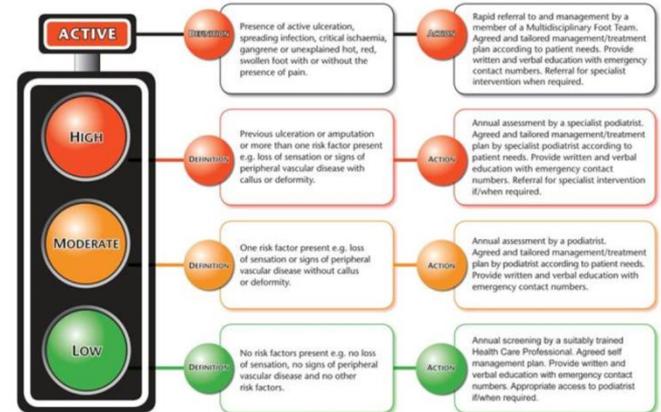
- Do not walk bare footed
- Have your shoes properly fitted
- Always check your shoes for sharp objects such as tacks or stones
- Prevent burns by not warming your feet on a radiator or hot-water bottle, and always check bath temperature with your hands
- Inspect your feet daily for cuts, bruises and infection

### If you go into hospital for any reason -

- Your feet must be examined on admission
- Your feet must be protected as your risk of heel ulcers is increased
- Contact the Diabetes Team or PALS service if problems arise

- If on admission you have a foot problem e.g. ulcer, fracture, infection**
- Tell the admitting doctor/nurse so it can be immediately inspected
  - You must be seen by the Diabetes Foot Team (diabetes doctor or podiatrist) within 24 hrs - **Ask to be referred showing this card**

## DIABETIC FOOT RISK STRATIFICATION AND TRIAGE



Produced by the British Diabetes Group - Foot Action Group

These risk categories relate to the use of the SCI-DOC foot risk stratification tool

# The Vascular Society and Then Back to NICE

## ***Service Design***

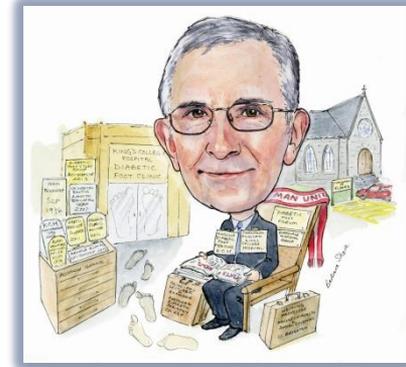
*Effective care requires multidisciplinary team working between professionals in different specialties and, in some cases, in different hospitals or **across primary and secondary care**.*

The presence of multidisciplinary care with a well-designed team reduces rates of amputation and the length of hospital stay.

A culture of sharing of information, skills and abilities will be created by integrating the multidisciplinary foot care service with other services responsible for caring for people at risk of, or with, diabetic foot problems. This could lead to people with diabetes becoming better informed, having faster access to treatment, and fewer mistakes being made.

# The 10 Foot Commandments

1. I am thy foot forever. Take good care of me, for thou shalt have no foot other than me
2. Thou shalt regularly debride me, when I develop callosities and ulcers
3. Thou shalt fit me with casts and insoles to offload my high pressure areas
4. Thou shalt carefully look for early signs of infection in me and treat it aggressively
5. Thou shalt diagnose ischaemia without delay and revascularise me
6. Thou shalt educate all patients how to examine me and take care of me
7. Thou shalt carefully inspect the shoes that I have to wear and encourage the use of appropriate footwear
8. Thou shalt continuously aim to achieve tighter blood glucose control for me
9. Thou shalt not commit amputation on me, unless there is a compelling reason
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's amputation rates, but try to improve yours



# The 10 Foot Commandments (Version 2)

1. I am thy foot forever. Take good care of me, for thou shalt have no foot other than me
2. Thou shalt regularly debride me, when I develop callosities and ulcers
3. Thou shalt fit me with casts and insoles to offload my high pressure areas
4. Thou shalt carefully look for early signs of infection in me and treat it aggressively **and refer urgently to a specialist team as soon as problems arise**
5. Thou shalt diagnose ischaemia without delay and revascularise me **(endovascularly if possible)**
6. Thou shalt educate all patients **and HCPs** how to examine me and take care of me **and know when to refer**
7. Thou shalt carefully inspect the shoes that I have to wear and encourage the use of appropriate footwear
8. Thou shalt continuously aim to achieve tighter blood glucose, **blood pressure and lipid** control for me
9. Thou shalt not commit **MAJOR** amputation on me, unless there is a compelling reason
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's amputation rates, but try to improve yours



# Can a Good Diabetes Foot Service Reduce Amputations?

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