



DIABETIC FOOT ULCER – FROM FICTION TO MANAGEMENT

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Every 30 seconds, a lower limb is amputated due to diabetes

-85% of diabetes-related amputations are preceded by a foot ulcer

-50% to 70% of all lower extremity amputations are related to diabetes

-3% to 8% of people with diabetes have a foot ulcer

- It takes on average 11-14 weeks to heal a diabetes foot ulcer

-There is approximately a 15% amputation rate in people with diabetes foot ulcer

-20% of total expenditure on diabetes can be attributable to the diabetic foot

The diabetic foot constitutes a tremendous challenge for patients, care givers and health

care system The International consensus document on the diabetic foot published 1999 endorsed by IDF/WHO was a

milestone in the recognition of the importance and consequences of the diabetic foot. The document has since then been translated in to 28 languages and printed in almost 20,000 samples.

Since then there has been published a substantial amount of national consensus statements, position papers, reviews and an impressive number of original papers.

We are now seeing the birth of the Second International Consensus Document of the Diabetic Foot expected at the 5th

European conference in Noordwijkerhout, the Neetherlands 12 May 2007. The document has been totally rewritten, new

chapters added based on an extensive review of the literature, analyses according to evidence

based medicine, expert opinions and with up graded Practical Guidelines all in

consensus from the International Consensus Group of the Diabetic Foot, now a task force within IDF, with

representatives from 88 countries.