

Podiatry service

What is Podiatry?

The podiatry service deals with the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of conditions affecting the lower limbs and feet. The service is provided by Greenwich Adults' Community Health Services which is run by Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust.

How can a podiatrist help me?

A podiatrist can assess you if you have urgent or non-urgent foot problems.

Examples of urgent foot conditions include:

- Reduced sensation (loss of feeling) in your feet
- Poor circulation (blood supply)
- An infection or resistance to infection
- Open wounds or ulcers on the foot
- Problems with wound healing

You may also see a podiatrist if you have other problems such as:

- Foot deformities (hammer toes, bunions and club foot etc)
- Skin disorders (such as psoriasis or fungal skin infections)
- Very hard skin (callus) or corns
- Painful feet
- Problems with the function or action of the foot (this can affect the whole leg and lower back)
- Ingrown/infected toenails
- Problems with difficult toenails

What can I expect?

Every patient referred to our service will be offered an appointment to be seen in our New Patient Triage clinic. Once assessed, you will be provided with advice and education specific to your foot health needs. During your assessment your risk of developing foot complications will be determined and you will be categorised as low, increased or high risk. In line with our service criteria and treatment pathways you will be booked a following appointment, discharged to self-care or referred to another specialism depending on your foot health needs. **We do not offer routine treatment or nail cutting for patients assessed as low**

risk of foot complications. Referrals will be rejected if you have been assessed as low risk and discharged for the same foot condition within the last year.

How do I apply for podiatry treatment?

We have an open access referral system. This means that you can contact us directly if you have a foot problem for an assessment.

Alternatively, your GP or another health or social care professional can refer you. Everyone with a Greenwich GP will be offered an assessment appointment.

Ongoing treatment will be provided on the basis of your medical and foot health needs. You will be asked to attend a central clinic for your initial assessment followed by regular reassessments of your care plan if necessary.

You can do this by completing a referral form available from your GP practice or by contacting our Podiatry Admin Team (contact details at the end of this sheet).

There will be a chance for you to ask questions and you may like to write them down before your meeting and keep them handy.

If you have any additional needs, for example you require an interpreter, please make this clear on your referral form or you can contact the Podiatry Admin Team directly. If you are bed bound or completely house bound a home visit can be arranged if we are informed in advance. Transport clinics are also available for those patients need assistance to get to clinic.

Confidentiality

All our staff are required to abide by a strict code of conduct on confidentiality. We will only share information with those who need to know in order to provide good quality care. Occasionally there may be exceptions to this, for example to support a clinical audit or to monitor the quality of care provided.

Podiatry clinics

Fairfield Health Centre

Fairfield Grove
Charlton, SE7 8TX

Eltham Community Hospital

Passey Place
Eltham, SE9 5DA

Gallions Reach Health Centre

Bentham Rd
Thamesmead, SE28 8BE

Manor Brook Medical Centre

117 Brook Lane
Blackheath, SE3 0EN

Garland Road Health Centre

Garland Rd
Plumstead, SE18 2AE

Market Street Health Centre

20 Market St
Woolwich, SE18 6QR

Kidbrooke Health Centre

7 Elford Close
Kidbrooke, SE3 9FE

Greenwich Square Health Centre

2nd Floor, 12 Lambarde Square.
Greenwich, SE10 9GB

Contact us

Oxleas Adult Community Greenwich Podiatry Service

0208 320 3550

oxl-tr.podiatry@nhs.net

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:30pm

It is not always possible for us to answer the phone straight away.

Please leave a message and your call will be returned.

Please let us know if you require an interpreter or have any additional needs.