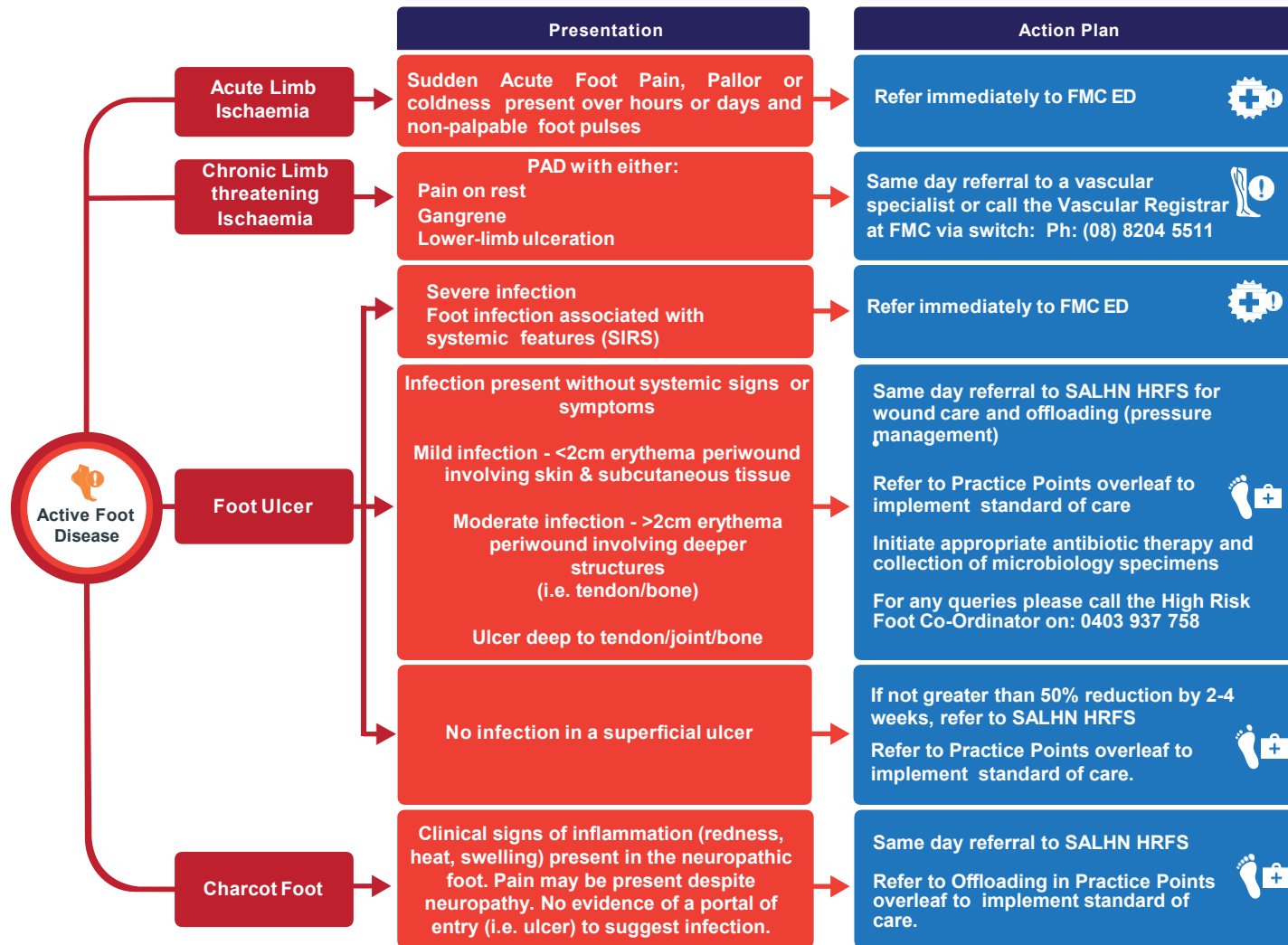


Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN) Diabetes Foot Care Pathway

Active Foot Disease Pathway



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are recognised as a high risk group for foot ulceration and amputation. Aboriginal Health Workers/Practitioners are part of our HRFS to provide holistic and culturally safe care.



Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN) Diabetes Foot Care Pathway

Active Foot Disease Pathway

Practice Points



Address infection if present



Score ulcer (use SINBAD plus other classification system as appropriate) to assess progress and facilitate faster triage



Local wound care: sharp debridement and ulcer dressing to absorb exudate



Optimise perfusion, diabetes holistic management and modifiable risk factors



Offloading the ulcer or charcot foot, consider immobilising the affected leg with knee-high cast/boot and/or wound care. Discuss options with local HRFS

Definitions

High Risk Foot Service: The SALHN High Risk Foot Service comprises of clinics at multiple sites to provide best practice care. These include, FMC, NH and Marion GP Plus.

Clinics include:

- The interdisciplinary foot clinic – consisting of Podiatry, Vascular Surgery, Endocrinology, Infectious Diseases, Orthopaedic Surgery, Dietetics, Orthotics and Prosthetics, Aboriginal Health, Medical Illustration, Diabetes Nurse Educator.

- Podiatry/Orthopaedic clinic

- Nail surgery clinic

- Podiatry Outpatient clinics

Co-morbidities: The presence of one or more additional conditions co-occurring with a primary disease. While many people with diabetes + foot infection may not require hospitalisation, comorbidities, such as renal failure or an immunocompromised state, may require an admission.

Abbreviations

ED: Emergency department
FMC: Flinders Medical Centre
NH: Noarlunga Hospital
HRFS: High Risk Foot Service
LOPS: Loss of Protective Sensation

SINBAD: Site (Ulcer), Ischaemia, Neuropathy (LOPS), Bacterial infection, Area, Depth
SIRS: Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (refer to local guidelines)

References

International Working Group Diabetic Foot Guidelines – 2019: <https://iwgdfguidelines.org/guidelines/guidelines/>
Identification and Management of Foot Complications in Diabetes (Part of the Guidelines on Management of Type 2 Diabetes) 2011. Melbourne Australia Diabetic foot problems: prevention and management NICE guideline (NG19): <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/NG19>

D-Foot International fast track pathway: <https://d-foot.org/projects/fast-track-pathway-for-diabetic-foot-ulceration>

NADC Collaborative Interdisciplinary Diabetes HRFS Standards 2018: <https://nadc.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/HRFS-Standards-FINAL-9.7.18.pdf>