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Management of the high risk foot

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# Case Studies

Natasha Levy

Lead Diabetes Podiatrist

# Infection

**“Infection of the neuroischaemic foot is often more serious than in the neuropathic foot, which has a good arterial blood supply. A positive ulcer swab on a neuroischaemic foot is regarded as having serious implications”**

Edmonds & Foster 2005

**“ Infection is often the final common pathway leading to amputation of the foot”**

Reiber 1992

**“Twenty four hours undiagnosed and untreated infection can destroy the diabetic foot”**

Edmonds & Foster 2005

Reiber GE (1992) Risk factors for amputation in patients with diabetes mellitus. *Ann Intern Med* 117, 97-105  
Edmonds ME, Foster AVM (2005) *Managing the diabetic Foot*. Second Edition Blackwell

# Mr S

- Sensory and motor neuropathy
- Weight bears on outer border of foot
- Working farmer and mechanic 12 hour plus a day on feet
- Has total contact inlays, not always wearing them
- Arrived with .....



# Management

- Offloading vital
- Aircast advantageous
  - Rocker promoting more even weight distribution
- Patient past history
  - infection quickly spreads
  - daily visual checks
  - enabled at doff and don



# Long Term Treatment

- Prescription footwear and orthoses are necessary to prevent recurrence of ulceration

