

Footwear Matters: Risk of Limb Loss

The potential for limb loss is a reality that people living with diabetes must face. However, the right tools and support can help in reducing the risk of amputation or prevent further limb loss from occurring.

Foot complications associated with diabetes can be better managed with items like therapeutic shoes, socks, or compression wear. The use of therapeutic footwear can help people living with diabetes reduce the risk of foot ulcers—a foot complication that, if left untreated, can lead to limb loss.

See the impact that footwear has in the prevention or management of foot complications associated with diabetes.

Therapeutic Footwear

In a study following people with type 2 diabetes, research showed that the use of therapeutic footwear helped lower the risk of foot ulcers by 12% and the risk of limb loss by 18%.

Foot Ulcer Care Cost

When comparing patients with foot ulcers and those without, research shows that foot care costs were 5.4 times higher in the first year and 2.8 times higher in the second year.

Foot Care Program

A foot health program that monitors risk and actively tries to prevent foot complications can see the risk of limb loss decrease by 85%.

Risk of Limb Loss

67% of all lower limb loss in the US result from diabetes

80% of those limb loss cases started with a foot ulcer

Learn more at

<https://www.diabetes.org/living-with-diabetes/complications/footcare>

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