

2008 OAAC Conference
April 25 & 26

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT – December 18, 2007

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Podium Presentation 20 minutes
Approximate length (minutes) _____

Poster Presentation

Title of Abstract: Self Reported Foot Care Practices of Persons Living With Diabetes
Prior to a Unilateral or Bilateral Lower Limb Amputation

Curriculum Vitae (indicate how you would like to be introduced)

Kyle Goettl is the Nurse Clinician for the Amputee Rehabilitation Program at Parkwood Hospital, St. Joseph's Health Care in London. He is a member of the Canadian Association of Wound Care education committee and has a keen interest in wound care and wound prevention particularly in people living with Diabetes.

Audiovisual Aids Required:

- Slide Projector
- Power Point Presentation
- Overhead Projector
- Other _____

ABSTRACT OF PRESENTATION

Format: Title, Presenter(s), and Precis of presentation (150 words, Arial font, 11 point, single spaced)

Note: Electronic submission to Karen.fairley@sunnybrook.ca is preferred.

Introduction

While developing educational strategies and materials for an in-patient amputee rehabilitation population (80% diabetic) it became apparent that there was a lack of knowledge with regard to living with diabetes and managing foot care among the new patients.

Objective

The object of the survey was to examine self-reported foot care practices of persons living with diabetes prior to a unilateral or bilateral lower limb amputation.

Results

Thirty-three of the 34 surveys given to patients were returned, resulting in a 97% response rate

- 45.5% of the respondents reported having never received information on how to look after their feet
- 51.5 % of respondents reported having never checked the inside of their shoes or socks for pressure points or foreign objects
- 30.3% reported living with Diabetes for over 20 years

Summary

People living with diabetes and those caring for loved ones living with diabetes must be given the opportunity to access current information that can help them to make informed decisions regarding their own foot care.
