

Dear colleague,

22 April 2014

New National Diabetes Footcare Audit (NDFA)

We are pleased to announce that as a part of the expanding portfolio of the National Diabetes Audit (NDA), a new National Diabetes Footcare Audit (NDFA) will be launched in July 2014.

The National Diabetes Audit (NDA) is commissioned by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) as part of the National Clinical Audit and Patient Outcomes Programme (NCAPOP) following advice to the Department of Health from the National Advisory Group on Clinical Audit and Enquiries (NAGCAE). The NDA programme is managed by the Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) in partnership with Diabetes UK and the National Cardiovascular Intelligence Network (NCVIN), Public Health England.

Disease of the foot in diabetes cost £600 million in 2010-11 – approximately 0.6% of the total NHS healthcare budget for England. Diabetic foot disease is also associated with a high mortality: at 50% by 5 years it is worse than many cancers. Evidence indicates that there is a tenfold variation in the incidence of major amputation and that much of this variation could result from differences in clinical practice – differences in speed of referral and differences in the availability and organisation of specialist services.

The NDFA will determine the extent to which details of both the structure of foot care services and the process of management of each new case account for variations observed in clinical outcome. The NDFA will also enable all participating foot care services to measure their performance against NICE clinical guidelines and quality standards, compare themselves with peers and monitor adverse outcomes. It has been designed to be as simple as possible for local clinical staff to take part and will provide annual comprehensive benchmarked reports.

To ensure that the audit packs reach the appropriate person(s) within your hospital, we would appreciate your support in ensuring that suitable staff are made aware of the audit and that a local **key contact** has been identified and notified to NDFacomms@diabetes.org.uk by the end of **June 2014** in time for inauguration of the audit in July 2014.

Thank you for your help.

Yours faithfully,

Prof William Jeffcoate
Chair, National Diabetes Footcare Audit
Steering Group

Dr Bob Young CBE
Specialist Clinical Lead for the
National Diabetes Audit