

What is a Podiatric Surgeon?



Surgical Training

Podiatrist

A 3-to-4 year Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Podiatric Medicine

Specialist Podiatrist

A 2-to-3 year MSc in The Theory of Podiatric Surgery and clinical experience

Preparation for Podiatric Surgery Peer Review

Podiatric Surgical Trainee

3-year Consultant-Supervised Training with Master of Podiatric Surgery

Final surgical examination

Specialist Registrar in Podiatric Surgery

3-year Specialty Registrar Training to consolidate surgical skills

Podiatric Surgeon

Can apply for a Consultant Post as a lead clinician

A minimum of 11 years specialist training.

rcpod.org.uk

What is a Podiatric Surgeon?

Podiatric surgery has been a specialist field of practice within the podiatry profession for 50 years.

Podiatric surgeons are not medical doctors but are independent and autonomous specialists, who consult, diagnose, and admit patients for foot and lower limb surgery. They undertake extensive training in the foot and lower limb that takes a minimum of 11 years to complete.

Despite practising surgery, your podiatric surgeon will advise you about the non-surgical treatments available for your foot problem. This will help you make an informed choice regarding your treatment and you and your podiatric surgeon can agree a care plan together.

Podiatric surgery is a proven and effective part of foot healthcare with thousands of foot operations undertaken in the UK by podiatric surgeons every year.

...an Expert in their Field

Podiatric surgeons have a formal education in foot health and medical sciences and are trained to recognise the signs and symptoms of general medical conditions within the lower limb e.g. diabetes. Your consultant can treat the foot and ankle symptoms of these conditions, but will liaise with your GP for a formal medical opinion or assistance if required.

Where do Podiatric Surgeons Work?

Consultant podiatric surgeons work in the NHS and private sector and are recognised by private health insurance providers. Podiatric surgeons often work collaboratively as part of multidisciplinary teams (MDT). They frequently work with anaesthetists, vascular surgeons, rheumatologists, diabetologists, orthopaedic surgeons, interventional radiologists, nurses and others to ensure each patient receives the highest quality care and the best clinical outcomes.

Quality Assurance

Podiatric surgeons are regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), which is the independent UK regulatory body responsible for setting and maintaining the standards of professional training, performance and conduct of 15 healthcare professions. Podiatric surgeons are further annotated on the HCPC register with 'PS' denoting they have met the additional 19 standards for podiatric surgery.

Information on podiatric surgery is collected for audit purposes to review performance, show evidence of practice and assess patient outcomes and experiences.

Ask your consultant about the national audit database PASCUM-10.



Pre-operative



Post-operative

Questions and Concerns

If you have any questions or concerns about the treatment you receive, your consultant will be happy to discuss these with you or help to arrange a second opinion.

Alternatively, the NHS Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS), or business office (private sector) can provide further help and advice.

With the compliments of:



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