

# What is Podiatry?



hcpc  
registered



Stirling  
Podiatry

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Podiatrists (also known as chiropodists) diagnose and treat diseases of the feet. They are highly skilled health professionals trained to prevent, diagnose, treat and rehabilitate abnormal conditions of the foot and lower limbs. They also prevent and correct foot deformity, relieve pain and treat infections.

In order to practice as a Podiatrist they must hold Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registration. To gain this they have to complete a degree in Podiatry at one of the thirteen UK universities housing schools of Podiatry or have met strict HCPC entrance criteria.

Podiatrists play an integral part in keeping the population active and mobile as well as providing specialist services for people with conditions such as diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, vascular disease and many other conditions which can cause long term complications. Podiatry is a service available on both the NHS and in the private sector.

A Podiatrist can help you with your general footcare issues such as nail cutting, removal of painful dead skin and corns and treatment of infections such as verrucae. They can also carry out more advanced treatments such as the prescription of corrective devices (orthotics) and the surgical correction of ingrown toenails under local anaesthetic.

The College of Podiatry

[www.cop.org.uk](http://www.cop.org.uk)

The Health & Care Professions Council

[www.hcpc-uk.org](http://www.hcpc-uk.org)

