Get Back into the Diabetic Shoe Program with Dia-Foot

By Robert M. Gaynor, DPM, C.Ped

Dia-Foot is a podiatry-owned diabetic shoe company which supplies podiatry offices with quality namebrand diabetic shoes. We feature shoes from top brands in-



cluding New Balance, SAS, Brooks and Hush Puppies.

In recent years many podiatry offices have suspended their diabetic shoe programs or simply ended them

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completely. Frustration with pre-audits from Medicare and obtaining PCP documentation are just some of the reasons why many DPM's have chosen to throw in the towel.

Dia-Foot has developed a Medicare Compliance Program to help podiatry offices eliminate their frustration with the Diabetic Shoe Program. We request three items from podiatry offices: the Clinical Foot Exam note, the patient shoe order and our completed PCP Information form. Our staff first reviews the exam note to ensure compliance with Medicare guidelines. Over 68% of the clinical foot exams fail pre-audits.

The Diabetic Shoe Program is here to stay.

Once we approve the podiatry exam note, our staff obtains the required signatures and documentation needed from the PCP. This includes a signed and dated Statement of Certifying Physician Form and the PCP recent medical notes documenting the management of the patient's diabetes. Our staff reviews all documents carefully to ensure they are Medicare-compliant so that podiatrists can pass potential pre-audits.

All documents are sealed in envelopes and mailed out with the patient shoe orders. To complete the pro-



cess your podiatry staff simply fits the patients with their diabetic shoes and inserts, creates its In-Office Dispensing Note, and completes its Proof of Delivery documentation.

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program is part of the Social Security Act and thus it would take an Act of Congress to end the program. There are 4 regions that oversee the entire DME program: Regions B and C are run by CGS Medicare and Regions A and D are run by Noridian. The Medicare allowable for A5500 and A5512 is \$313. The Medicare allowable for A5500 and A5513 is \$397. The average cost for A5500 and A5512 is \$100. The average cost for A5500 and A5513 is \$150. A busy four-provider podiatry group can realize up to another \$250,000 in revenues by having a successful Diabetic Shoe Program.

The number of diabetics in the United States is rising, as are the number of foot ulcerations and the cost to treat these ulcerations. Patients who are wearing their

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diabetic shoes and inserts are a cornerstone to any preventative program for diabetics. Having a Diabetic Shoe Program in your office has many benefits:

1) It reduces the incidence of complications associated with diabetes.

2) It allows patients to receive their diabetic shoes from their own podiatrist instead of seeking out another supplier who may give your patient a lesser quality shoe or even misfit them.

3) It completes the Diabetic Foot Care program that you offer your patients.

4) It adds another revenue source to your practice.

Visit dia-foot.com, call Dia-Foot today at (877) 405-3668, or click here and let us show you how we can help your practice re-energize your Diabetic Shoe Program today!

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