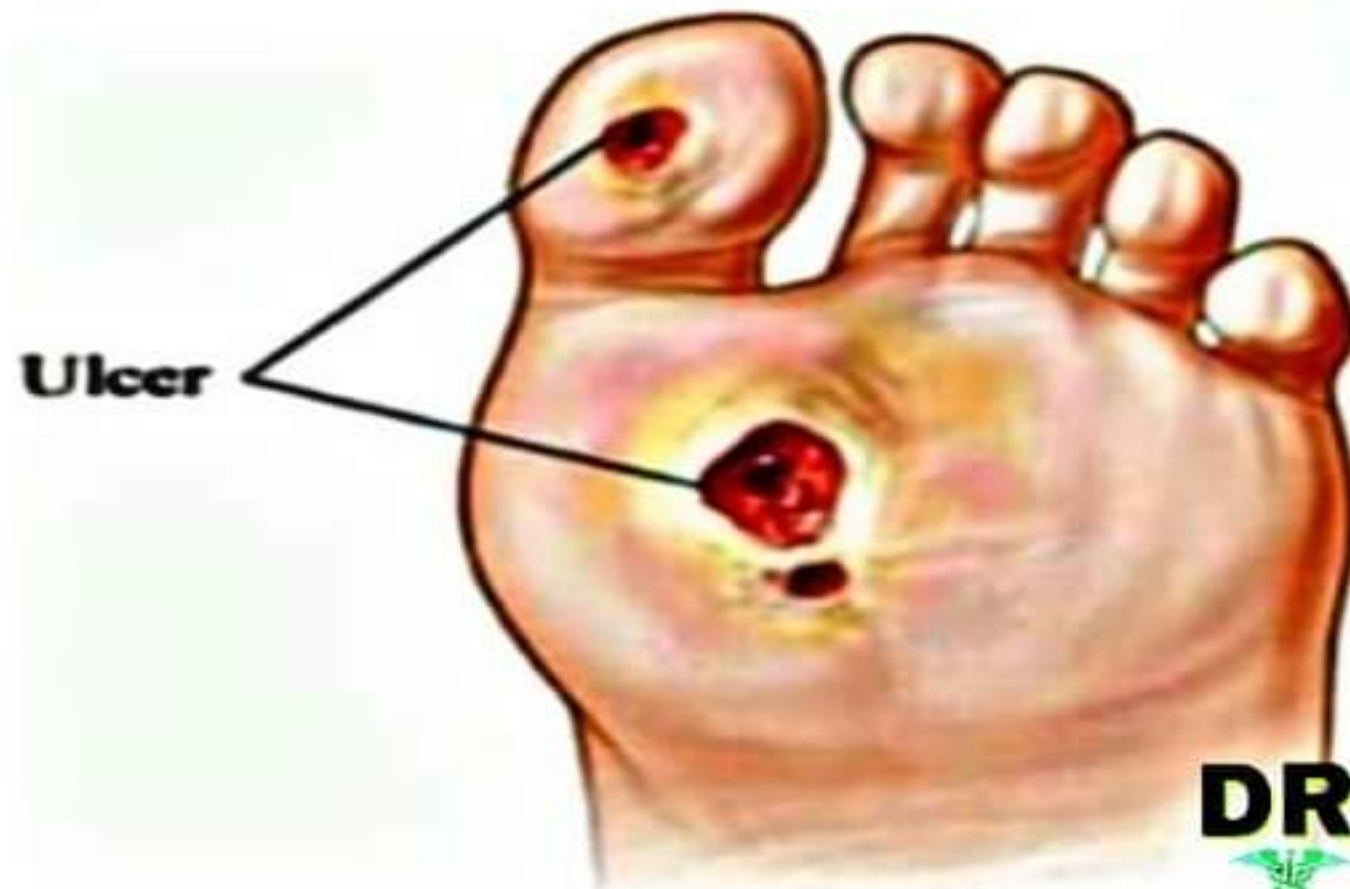


DIABETIC FOOT ULCER

DIABETIC FOOT



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INTRODUCTION

- Diabetic foot is a foot that exhibits any pathology that results directly from diabetes mellitus or any long-term (or "chronic") complication of diabetes mellitus (Jeffcoate & Harding, 2003).
- Diabetic foot implies that the pathophysiological process of diabetes mellitus does something to the foot that puts it at increased risk for "tissue damage" and the resultant increase in morbidity and maybe amputation (Payne & Florkowski, 1998).

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INCIDENCE

- Studies have indicated that diabetic patients have up to a 25% lifetime risk of developing a foot ulcer.
- The annual incidence of diabetic foot ulcers is ~ 3% to as high as 10%. (Armstrong and Lavery, 1998)

Risk factors

- Previous amputation
- Foot deformity
- Past history of foot ulcer
- Peripheral vascular disease
- Peripheral neuropathy
- Visual impairment
- Diabetic nephropathy
- Poor glycemic control
- Cigarette smoking

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PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

- Neuropathy- leads to skin dryness and cracks, foot deformity and loss of protective sense in the foot
- Microangiopathy/vascular disease- lead to poor blood supply to the toes and foot and then ulcerate easily
- Immunopathy- Defects in leukocyte function (leukocyte phagocytosis, neutrophil dysfunction) and also deficient white cell chemotaxis and adherence

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CLINICAL PRESENTATION

- Soft tissue infections (superficial to deep tissue infection e.g. cellulitis, necrotizing fasciitis, etc.)
- Osteomyelitis (bone infection)
- Septic arthritis (joint infection)
- Gangrene (dry or wet)
- Chronic non-healing ulcer
- Combination of more than one of the above mentioned condition

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HISTORY

- Diabetic history
- Previous ulcer or amputation
- Symptoms of peripheral neuropathy
- Symptoms of peripheral vascular/ischemic problem
- Contributing factors
- Other complications of diabetes (eyes, kidney, heart etc).
- Current ulcer

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EXAMINATION

- Previous amputation/ulcer
- Deformity and footwear
- Inspect web spaces - signs of infection or wound
- Hypercallosity or nail deformity or paronychia
- Present of peripheral neuropathy with tuning forks, also mono filament and position sense.
- Peripheral pulses - peripheral vascular disease
- Ankle-brachial index (ABSI)
- Other relevant systems (renal, eye, heart etc)

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Do not forget to
examine the
other foot!

Etiopathogenesis

- As we all know, DM is one of the metabolic conditions that disturbs wound healing process.
- Many studies have shown a prolonged inflammatory phase in diabetic wounds, which causes a delay in the formation of mature granulation tissue and a parallel reduction in wound tensile strength

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- Altered metabolism
- Impaired nitric oxide synthesis
- Structural and functional changes in fibroblasts
- Increased matrix metalloproteinase (MMP) activity

Diabetes mellitus

Sensory neuropathy

Motor neuropathy

Autonomic neuropathy

**Decreased pain,
temperature,
and proprioception**

**Muscle
changes**

**Decreased
sweating**

**Impaired blood
flow**

Foot deformities

Dry skin

**Increased plantar
pressure**

**Callus
formation**

**At-risk
neuropathic foot**

Repetitive trauma

Angiopathy

Plantar ulcer

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Wagner's grading of diabetic foot ulcers

Grade 0: Foot at risk (with evidence of neuropathy)

Grade 1: Superficial ulcer

Grade 2: Deep ulcer (involving skin, subcutaneous tissue and muscle, without osteomyelitis)

Grade 3: Deep ulcer with osteomyelitis

Grade 4: Foot gangrene (half of foot)

Grade 5: Whole foot gangrene

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Grade 0

- Preulcer stage
- Skin is intact
- Redness of skin
- Calluses
- Bony deformities

It Can be prevented

It should be reassessed

Annually



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Wagner Classification of DFU

Grade 1

Superficial (shallow)
Ulceration

Should be reassessed
every 3 monthly



Wagner Classification of DFU

Grade 2

- Deep ulceration
- Visible Tendon, or bone in wound



Aggressive treatment is must

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Wagner Classification of DFU

Grade 3

- Deep Abscesses
- Osteo Myelitis(Infection of Bone)

Chances of losing leg



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Wagner Classification of DFU

Grade 4

Localized gangrene of toes /
forefoot

Needs Amputation
(Cutting) of Toe or
part of foot



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Wagner Classification of DFU

Grade 5

Gangrene of
entire foot or leg

Needs
Amputatation
(Cutting) of foot
or leg



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