



WHAT'S YOUR FEET FOCUS? 🔍

# Media release

11 NOVEMBER 2024

**Diabetes Feet Australia has launched the inaugural Diabetes Feet Day on November 12. To advocate, educate and spread awareness to help improve foot health outcomes for people living with diabetes.**

In Australia each year, it's estimated that 510,000 people live with diabetes-related foot disease (DFD), 6300 people will undergo a DFD amputation, it accounts for around 47,100 hospitalisations and costs the Australian Health System \$2.7 billion.

Diabetes Feet Australia Chair Associate Professor Byron Perrin spoke about the impact of DFD in Australia.

"Diabetes-related foot disease has been described in the Medical Journal of Australia as the least known major health problem in this country, but it's also the largest cause for hospitalisations, amputation and disability burdens in people living with diabetes."

Australian Diabetes Society CEO Sof Andrikopoulos spoke about the importance of focusing on feet.

"Foot care is vital for people living with diabetes. It's estimated that 1.5 million people in Australia are living with diabetes. But up to 50% don't receive an annual foot screening. For Diabetes Feet Day, we encourage people living with diabetes to look down, look around and find out their DFD risk level."

Diabetes Feet Australia Chair Associate Professor Byron Perrin spoke about what's needed to make a real difference to improving foot health outcomes for people living with diabetes.

"Diabetes Feet Australia has developed and just launched the 'Australian Foot Health and Disease in Diabetes 2030' draft document for public consultation.

This important national strategy is needed to not only build upon the recent successes in DFD health service delivery reform and foot health outcomes in people with diabetes, but also to identify areas of need that require urgent attention.

We look forward to hearing the valuable insights from the public to help inform and shape the national strategy.

Diabetes Feet Australia estimates that by implementing the strategies outlined in the 'Australian Foot Health and Disease in Diabetes 2030' draft document, 20,250 hospitalisations, 2,840 amputations and \$945 million in health care costs could be prevented per year in Australia."

To learn more about Diabetes Feet Day 2024 and access the 'Australian Foot Health and Disease in Diabetes 2030' draft document visit [www.diabetesfeetaustralia.org/diabetes-feet-day-2024](http://www.diabetesfeetaustralia.org/diabetes-feet-day-2024)

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