

### **BAFHT Chiropody Explanation of Services**

The most common reasons for referral to the BAFHT Chiropodist are for the assessment and treatment of acute and chronic foot conditions that may result from injury, aging, or chronic diseases such as diabetes. This handout provides a brief explanation of each.

We strive to create an environment of trust, safety and meaningful connection with our patients. We understand how care rooted in compassion, curiosity and understanding can help people to heal and stay well.

Patients referred for Chiropody services will be contacted by a BAFHT administrative staff member to schedule an initial appointment. Given the limited nature of our chiropody resources, patients with the means to access private services in the community will be encouraged to do. As a courtesy to your provider and other patients waiting to access our services, we ask that you provide 24-hour notice of cancellation when unable to attend your appointment. This notice allows us to offer your appointment to another patient. As all programs and services offered by the BAFHT are funded by Ontario Health, there is no direct charge to patients to access.

While patients may choose to contact the chiropodist through e-mail, please be aware that due to privacy limitations and concerns around e-mail security, we do not communicate patient health information by e-mail.

#### **Reason for Referral: Assessment and Treatment of Acute Foot Condition**

The role of the BAFHT Chiropodist is to assess and provide treatment for acute foot conditions, such as pain, injury, corns, warts, and ingrown toenails. In addition, the chiropodist will provide education to support the prevention of future occurrences and the maintenance of healthy feet. Chiropody services are available to patients with an acute footcare issue who lack the means to access a chiropodist in the community.

Patients can expect a 45-60 minute in-office initial appointment, followed by up to three 30-minute follow-up appointments.

#### **Reason for Referral: Diabetic Foot Assessment**

The role of the BAFHT Chiropodist is to provide diabetic foot assessment, treatment, and follow-up as indicated. In addition, the chiropodist will provide education to support the self-management of healthy feet. Chiropody services are available to patients with diabetes with an ulcer or history of ulcers with thick, painful, hard to trim nails who lack the means to access footcare services in the community.

Patients can expect a 45-60 minute in-office initial appointment. Follow-up treatment, which is generally a 30-minute appointment, is dependent on level of risk, with frequency ranging from every 3 weeks (ulcer or high-risk for ulcer), 2-3 months (higher risk), 3-9 months (moderate risk), and annually (low-risk).

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