

Special Issue on New Insights into Prevention and Rehabilitation of Diabetic Foot Complications

CALL FOR PAPERS

Although they are pivotal in advancing the management of persons with diabetes, the literatures in prevention and rehabilitation interventions/ actions are scarce as they are hard to address. We aim to focus on the prevention and treatment of foot complications that are later consequences of diabetes progression. Foot complications are not only consequences of the diabetic neuropathy onset and development, and within this special Issue we would like to gather studies addressing early foot alterations due to diabetes itself and, thus, prevention on those foot problems could be designed earlier in the course of the pathology.

Exercise therapy appears to be a promising preventive and treatment strategy for patients with long-term foot complications, aiming at improving patients' functionality, recovering gait functionality, increasing joint mobility, decreasing joint stiffness, and redistributing plantar pressures during gait. Management of the musculoskeletal deficits and foot complications of diabetes is much more than general global exercises for healthy life styles. Personalized physiotherapy-based programs are one of the new approaches to advance in the prevention of foot complications and rehabilitation of problems already installed. Aside from cardiovascular and general strength training, specific therapeutic approaches have been shown to be effective for diabetic neuropathy management. Within the scope of this special issue, we aimed at encouraging the scientific community to report clinical studies to improve the level of evidence of foot-ankle specific exercises and consequently strengthen the role of exercise therapy in prevention and treatment of foot complications. High-quality original research and review papers are also welcome.

Health technology assessment is a promising approach to prove the clinical impact and effectiveness of a rehabilitation intervention to reduce human and financial costs in the prevention and management of the long-term complications of diabetes. Within the scope of this special issue, we also aimed to bring the attention of the clinical and scientific communities to HTA aspects for advancements in preventive and rehabilitation actions to the diabetic population.

As the incidence of diabetes and its complications are on an exponential rise, a step change is required in understanding the progression and the complications of diabetic foot disease. Between the lead editor and the guest editors, we have several collaborations around the world within the scope of this special issue and we expect that all groups in the field will contribute to this issue. The lead and the guest editors have had substantial input into developing an understanding of aspects related to the diagnosis, prevention, and rehabilitation of foot-complications, as well as mechanical aspects associated with foot diseases related to diabetes, which are evidenced by their list of publications.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Biomechanical outcomes of interventions for foot complications
- ▶ Biomechanical characterization of foot complications
- ▶ Neuromuscular interventions for foot complications
- ▶ Rehabilitation strategies for treatment of the foot complications
- ▶ Potential new treatments and preventive measures for foot complications
- ▶ Model for predicting foot complications
- ▶ Offloading techniques in conjunction with/as a tool for foot rehabilitation
- ▶ Exercise interventions for prevention and treatment of the foot complications
- ▶ Foot complications in different age groups and/or comorbidities
- ▶ Self-management interventions for foot complications
- ▶ Interventions for prevention of falls and foot ulcers
- ▶ Health technology assessment (HTA) for rehabilitation interventions (cost-effectiveness, feasibility, clinical impact, risk analysis, etc.)

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at <https://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/jdr/prdfc/>.

Papers are published upon acceptance, regardless of the Special Issue publication date.

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