In Surgery

Diabetic Foot Management

- 1. 85% of feet with Diabetic foot ulcers have good vascularity.
- 2. The presence of at least one of the pedal pulses is a sign of adequate vascularity.
- 3. Neuropathy causing loss of protective sensation (LOPS) can be determined clinically by monofilament testing. Failure to detect a 10 g (orange) monofilament indicates LOPS.
- 4. Most plantar trophic ulcers occur secondary to altered biomechanics. These ulcers will not heal with dressings and require adequate offloading to heal them.
- 5. There are two methods of offloading plantar trophic ulcers. External offloading with Total contact cast and internal offloading by surgery
- 6. Prescription footwear is no longer recommended for active ulcers in the diabetic foot.
- 7. Most ulcers start as calluses and, if not appropriately offloaded, become infected, increasing the risk of major amputation.
- 8. The average survival rate after major amputation in diabetic feet is less than two years, which is worse than many cancers.
- 9. Prevention of amputation is the key to survival, while healing of ulcers and preventing recurrences is the key to a good quality of life.

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