

Author

Kuffel, Charles (Blaine, MN US) | CPO, FAAOP
Arise Orthotics & Prosthetics

Title

Clinical Considerations and Decisions for Protecting the Neuropathic Foot from Friction

Coauthors

Charles Kuffel, CPO, FAAOP

Summary

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Introduction

Clinical management of the neuropathic foot requires a thorough understanding of the shear and perpendicular forces applied to plantar tissues and the resultant trauma on the insensate foot. The thoughtful design, fabrication and application of orthotic devices using biomechanical principals and various shear reducing materials increases the margin of safety for the neuropathic patient.

Methods

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Results

The increase in the margin of safety allows individuals with neuropathy to ambulate for extended periods of time while limiting the severity and extent of tissue degradation. This lecture focuses on the evaluation, clinical considerations and management of neuropathic foot problems and their outcomes. It includes case studies that highlight outcomes when biomechanical principals and orthotic design are included in a clinical setting.

Conclusion

Management of neuropathic foot complications requires a thorough understanding of plantar forces (shear and perpendicular)and resultant trauma on delicate tissue. Limited plantar sensation necessitates an increase in the margin of safety to help manage trauma and prevent further complications.

References

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