**Clinician and patient perspectives on the role of the dietitian and diabetes educator in the high-risk foot clinic setting.**

**Background/Aim**

Multidisciplinary diabetes foot services have been shown to improve patients’ health outcomes. However, Diabetes Educator (DE) and Dietitian roles in these multidisciplinary clinics haven’t been investigated.

Our aim was to explore patient and clinician perspectives on the role and impact of the DE and Dietitian within the High-Risk Foot Clinic at NSW tertiary hospital outpatient clinic.

**Methods**

Patients attending the high-risk foot clinic were invited to complete anonymous surveys (December 2024 - March 2025) regarding the addition of the Dietitian and DE to their usual care at the clinic.

Members of the multidisciplinary team were also invited to provide feedback anonymously. The questionnaire asked whether they perceived the Dietitian and DE at clinic as beneficial, or if it was intrusive, created mixed messages or turned patients off attending. Responses were collected on the REDCap database and analysed using Stata BE17. Descriptive statistics are presented. Nil identifiable information was collected.

**Results**

Twenty patients completed the Dietitian survey and eighteen completed the DE survey. 82.35% of patients were satisfied with the Dietitian consultation offered at the clinic appointment and 95% found the Dietitian consultations held in the clinic setting convenient. All patients were satisfied with the DE presence, finding it convenient and supportive to reach their personal health goals.

Podiatrists, Allied Health Assistants and Doctors (n=17) from the Endocrine and Orthopaedic teams completed the clinician survey. Clinicians felt both the Dietitian and DE were beneficial for patient outcomes, and facilitated referrals to diabetes services. Nil indicated a negative consequence. 88.24% reported the Dietitian reminded them to consider nutrition, and 82.35% reported the DE prompted consideration of glycaemic control, for wound healing.

**Discussion/Conclusion**

Dietitians and DEs embedded in the high-risk foot clinic are perceived positively by clinicians and patients as an integral part of the multidisciplinary team, providing convenient, effective, acceptable care.