

**PODIATRY SERVICE****NAIL SURGERY CARE PROGRAMME****Competency Assessment****Introduction.**

The learning outcomes outlined below are designed to allow staff to be competent and confident in the administration of local analgesia and to safely and effectively carry out minor nail surgery for patients as outlined in the nail surgery care programme.

Podiatrists will shadow and have opportunities to practice local analgesia and nail surgery under the supervision by their mentor. Each learning outcome will be discussed by the podiatrist and their mentor and when both are satisfied that all the outcomes have been met, the outcomes will be signed off by both, and the podiatrist will be timetabled to carry out minor nail surgery in designated clinics.

**Learning outcomes**

On completion of the local analgesia update and shadowing process the podiatrist should be able to:

- Understand the process of triage as described in the nail surgery care programme
- Recognise complications of an adverse reaction to LA and know the appropriate steps to manage this condition
- Discuss the importance of medical history taking and undertake a clinical risk assessment in the context of LA administration
- Calculate the maximum safe dosages associated with the use of LA
- Demonstrate the appropriate and safe administration of LA using an appropriate and safe technique
- Minimise cross-infection by practicing within a sterile field.
- Demonstrate an appropriate and effective technique for partial and total nail avulsions
- Demonstrate knowledge of evidence based post operative wound care for primary and secondary dressings.
- Demonstrate accurate and comprehensive record keeping for LA and surgical procedures
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills with patients and other health care professions regarding LA, nail surgery, and post operative procedures

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**Assessment Sheet**

<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Podiatrists comments (self assessment)</b>	<b>Mentors comments</b>	<b>Learning outcome signed off &amp; dated. Podiatrist &amp; mentor</b>
Understand the process of triage			
Recognise complications of an adverse reaction to LA and know the appropriate steps to manage this condition			
Discuss importance of medical history taking and undertake a clinical risk assessment in the context of LA administration			
Calculate the maximum safe dosages associated with the use of LA			

<p>Demonstrate the appropriate and safe administration of LA using an appropriate and safe technique</p>			
<p>Minimise cross-infection by practicing within a sterile field</p>			
<p>Demonstrate an appropriate and effective technique for partial and total nail avulsions</p>			
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of evidence based post operative wound care for primary and secondary dressings.</p>			

<p>Demonstrate accurate and comprehensive record keeping for LA and surgical procedures</p>			
<p>Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills with patients and other health care professions regarding LA, nail surgery, and post operative procedures</p>			

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**Guidelines / Notes for Mentors and Podiatrists**

<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Syllabus for assessment. The podiatrist will need to consider / demonstrate</b>
Understand the process of triage as described in the nail surgery care programme	Knowledge of elective vs acute referrals How to refer How to complete relevant paperwork for triage Process for combining notes into patients community clinic records
Recognise complications of an adverse reaction to LA and know the appropriate steps to manage this condition	Completion of the anaphylaxis course and know how to recognise and manage anaphylaxis. Be able to recognise and manage a faint.
Discuss the importance of medical history taking and undertake a clinical risk assessment in the context of LA administration	To be able to recognise medical conditions, medication and psycho-social factors that contra-indicate to LA or surgery. The podiatrist should demonstrate knowledge of how to contact team leader or patient's GP for further advice in cases where there is doubt as to whether LA or surgery is advisable.
Calculate the maximum safe dosages associated with the use of LA	Be able to accurately calculate maximum safe dosages of commonly used anaesthetics based on patient's body mass.
Demonstrate the appropriate and safe administration of LA using an appropriate and safe technique	Techniques used to administer digital blocks vary from practitioner to practitioner. Podiatrists should be able to demonstrate a safe technique including aspiration which effectively anaesthetises a digit in preparation for surgery.
Minimise cross-infection by practising within a sterile field.	The podiatrist whether conducting surgery or assisting in surgery should be able to maintain the sterile field for the procedure . The podiatrist needs to be able to recognise where and when the sterile field has been accidentally broken and what to do to rectify the situation.

<p>Demonstrate an appropriate and effective technique for partial and total nail avulsions</p>	<p>Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the maximum time for use of a tourniquet. Be able to apply a tourniquet and efficiently and effectively conduct a partial nail avulsion and a total nail avulsion. Demonstrate knowledge of how to apply phenol and for how long. Demonstrate how to deal with wound post phenolisation.</p>
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of evidence based post operative wound care for primary and secondary dressings.</p>	<p>Demonstrate evidence based practice for post-operative dressings. Principles of wound care to include: Dressing selection should be based on patient's medical history and the wound characteristics. A haemostatic dressing should only be used for patients with 'excessive' post operatively bleeding and not used routinely due to adherence of alginate dressings to wound surfaces. Not to use antiseptic dressings unless clinical signs of infection are evident. Not to advise long foot soaks when patients are re-dressing at home To know when systemic antibiotics are indicated post operatively.</p>
<p>Demonstrate accurate and comprehensive record keeping for LA and surgical procedures</p>	<p>To be familiar with using Trust Podiatry Nail Surgery documentation  To be able to understand the requirements and procedure for obtaining consent prior to surgery and to be able to complete the relevant paperwork.  To complete relevant paperwork for LA including maximum safe dosage and how much LA used. Knowledge of how to record and the importance of recording batch number, expiry date, quantity and percentage of LA used.  To complete accurate notes on the surgical procedure including tourniquet time  Understanding that all paperwork needs to be signed by the podiatrist</p>

<p>Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills with patients and other health care professions regarding LA, nail surgery, and post operative procedures</p>	<p>To be able to communicate with patients in a calm and relaxed way to give them assurance and reduce anxiety levels.</p> <p>To be able to describe in sufficient detail to patients what to expect during the procedure and post operatively and to give patients the opportunity to ask questions.</p> <p>To be able to use appropriate written communication with G.P's / other health care professionals / referrer where required to inform them of the procedure / LA use.</p>
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