

Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical audit of foot problems in patients with RA treated at Counties Manukau District Health Board, Auckland.

Version: 1 **Date:** 13 April 2009

Reviewer: anita williams

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting and useful study that will help to support the need for foot care to this patient group. I recommend that it is published with some minor ammendments

Introduction - Relevance rate? Do you mean prevelence rate

Podiatrist role > podiatrists role

Additionally a podiatrists role also inlcudes monitoring foot health status, education and support in behaviour change in lifestyle, and maybe they are the only HCP that the patient sees on a regular basis therefore acts as gatekeeper to other members of the MDT - i think this addition would add to the understanding of other HCP reading this paper about the scope and importance of the role of the podiatrist.

There are new NICE guidleines for the management of the Adult RA - it would be useful to mention this as a section is devoted to podiatry. Also the Futures Report supports the need for specialist foot care.

YOu mention in the dicussion about referral and working with orthotists I think it would be useful to add working with surgeons in relation to appropriateness for foot surgery (this option is often overlooked by podiatrists.

How do your results align (or not) with those of Williams and BOwden?

Prednisone (in table) incorrect spelling - there are some minor spelling inaccuracies in the main body please check through again

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.