HARP Diabetic Foot Unit
(Hospital Admission Risk Program)
Referral Pathway

Who is eligible:
- Have Diabetes
- Have current wounds or active diabetic foot complications
- Are at risk of presenting to the emergency department or have had a recent hospital admission

HARP Diabetic Foot Unit
The Diabetic Foot Unit (DFU) consists of Hospital and Community Services. Referrals will be triaged according to the information provided.

Diabetic Foot Unit - Hospital
RMH inpatients and outpatient multidisciplinary unit including:
- Podiatrists
- Endocrinologist
- Vascular surgeon
- Clinical Psychologist
- Orthotists

Refer when your patient:
- Requires vascular intervention
- Requires complex antibiotic management
- Is at high risk of hospital admission
- Requires complex wound management

Diabetic Foot Unit - Community
RMH Podiatrists and HARP Diabetes Educators work out of the following centres:
- Coburg (Merri CHS)
- Fawkner (Merri CHS)
- Niddrie (cohealth)

Refer when your patient:
- Requires complex wound management
- Requires Diabetes Educator co-consults
- Is at low risk of hospital admission

Accessing the service
Wait times: Clients are contacted within 3 days of referral receipt, first appointment is within 10 working days
Cost: Small payment may be required for footwear
Referral: Fax your referral to the Direct Access Unit on (03) 8387 2217 for triage
Referrals to include: medical history, medications, current management plan and reason for referral. Current inpatient referrals: Call DFU Team Leader on 0400 731 239 or contact the DFU Registrar through Switch with any queries
Website: https://www.thermh.org.au/health-professionals/clinical-services/community-services/harp-complex-care

What happens when my patient’s foot is stable?
The HARP DFU is a short-term service, patients will be transitioned to community health or private podiatry once their foot health is stable.

Contact
HARP Diabetic Foot Unit Team Leader 0400 731 239
diabeticfoot@mh.org.au