

Research in Genes and Proteins

Abstract Title: The lived experience of people with diabetes using off-the-shelf prescription footwear in Singapore: a qualitative study using interpretative phenomenological analysis



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Abstract

Footwear prescription has been a part of clinical guidelines to manage Diabetic Foot Ulcers (DFUs) in Singapore. However, adherence to prescription footwear is typically poor amongst patients. Reasons for this have been explored in Northern American and Western European studies, but not in Singapore's context. This study aims to explore the lived experiences of participants with diabetes using prescription footwear in Singapore.

Methods

This was a qualitative study using interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA) to understand individuals' personal experiences of using off-the-shelf prescription footwear. A total of 8 people with diabetes who received prescription footwear as part of their diabetic foot management were recruited. All participants provided written consent and took part in a semi-structured interview lasting up to an hour. Interviews were digitally recorded, transcribed and

Biography Sheena Tan is a Senior Podiatrist with Ng Teng Fong General Hospital, Singapore. She currently leads a team of podiatrists in managing diabetic foot complications in the hospital. She has a special interest in footwear, its use and implications on health and well-being, especially amongst people with diabetes in Singapore. Her research aims to open conversations about the way footwear is used in disease prevention and management, so as to improve patient outcomes and daily clinical



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