

Alberta Diabetic Foot Care Clinical Pathway: Urgent Scenarios

URGENT
Cellulitis, draining ulcer, acute charcot joint collapse, gangrene, cold white painful foot or part thereof



Urgent Care



Surgery, antibiotics, etc.



Reassess once stable

URGENT RISK
Triage for immediate treatment if any of the following are present

- Infection - draining diabetic foot ulcer or wet gangrene
- Red, hot, swollen foot
- Acute Charcot foot
- Acute pain in a previously insensate foot
- Absent pedal pulses with cold, white, painful foot or toes



Red, hot, swollen foot

- Infection or cellulitis



Infected, draining ulcer

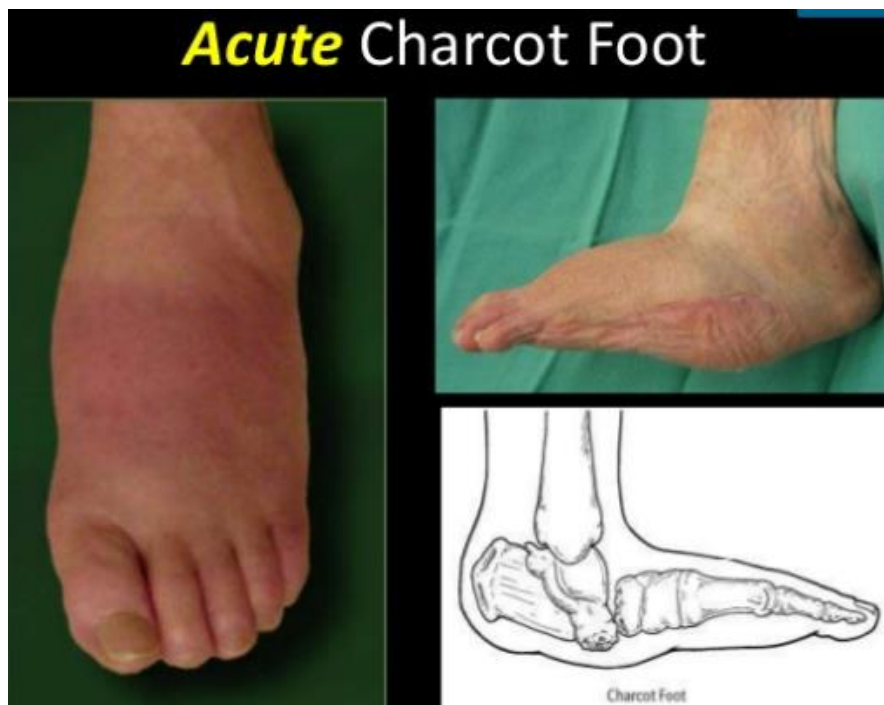
(Source: Diabetes Foot Care Clinical Pathway AHSAlbertahealthservices.ca/scns/Page13331.aspx)

URGENT RISK Assessment

- Red, hot, painful joint or acute Charcot foot

URGENT RISK Assessment

- Acute onset of pain in a previously insensate foot; may present with edema



Red, hot, swollen on top of foot above joint e.g. acute Charcot collapse (often little discomfort) (source:Rafi Mahandaru slideshare.net/rafimahandaru/charcot-foot)



Acute Ischemia: Pain, marble white foot or leg (left of picture) compared to the other, absent pedal pulses in patient with acute ischemia. (Source:BMJ 2000;320:764)



Gangrene insufficient tissue death from blood circulation. Wet gangrene describes tissue death with an active infection. (source: Wet gangrene health education, infection control (icsp). Youtube)