

5 November 2025

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST SURVEY QUESTIONS AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025

- 1. In the previous 12 months, how many posts within your Podiatry service have you had removed? No what were the reasons?**
- 2. Have you stopped providing any services since August 2024? - No**

(a) If yes, please provide more detail.

- 3. Within your Podiatry service which NHS band are you finding it most difficult to recruit qualified podiatrists to? (choose up to 3)**

New graduate podiatrists (band 5), Specialist Podiatrist (band 6). Advanced Podiatrists (band 7)

- 4. What number of podiatrists are you expecting to retire from your Podiatry service within the next five years?**

7

- 5. How many of the qualified podiatry workforce in your service are funded by short term funding?**

None

- 6. How many apprentices do you have in the Podiatry service?**

None

- 7. How many support workers do you have in the Podiatry service?**

7

- 8. Are any of the posts within the Podiatry service externally funded?**

NO

- 9. What were the number of qualified podiatrist vacancies in your Podiatry (WTE) service on week commencing 12 August 2025?**

8

5 November 2025

10. What was your total qualified podiatry workforce in your service on a full-time equivalent basis (WTE) week commencing 12 August 2025

(a) And Staff numbers (to capture part-time staff)?

65 wte = 73

(b) and the number of rheumatology posts

<5

11. Please provide workforce no's per band (WTE)

Band 1-4	8.6
Band 5	<5
Band 6	23
Band 7	28
Band 8a	10
Band 8b	<5
Band 8c	0

12 Please provide your podiatry service specification?

The access criteria to the Podiatry Service in Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.

Belfast Trust Podiatry service accepts self-referrals and referrals from all professional disciplines.

All referrals are triaged based on the information received from the referral.

Those patients triaged as low risk will receive a foot health talk. If further clinical information is identified at the foot health talk a one to one assessment will be offered to the patient.

Patients are identified as 'at risk' if they have the following medical condition with a podiatric need

- Bacterial Infection
- Active foot ulceration
- Diabetes, Type 1 and 2
- Renal disease (CKD Stages 4&5)
- Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD)

5 November 2025

- Lower Limb Amputee
- Rheumatology
- Neurological conditions
- Immunocompromised / immunosuppressed patients
- Sensory neuropathy (loss of protective sensation)
- Paediatric and adult biomechanics
- Nail Surgery

13. Which of the following podiatry services does your Trust provide?

**Community High Risk foot/ Foot Protection Service Acute
Multidisciplinary Wound Service
Community MSK/Biomechanics
Podiatric Surgery
Musculoskeletal Clinical Assessment and Treatment
Service (MCATS)
Domiciliary (inc social care)
Core Podiatry
Vascular
Nail Surgery
Prison Services
Mental Health Services
Homeless Service
Inpatients
Paediatrics**

These patients will receive a one-to-one assessment. At this assessment a care pathway will be identified.

Where numbers are low we have indicated <5 (less than five) rather than give the exact figure. We feel that providing the exact figure has the potential to make people identifiable and so that information is exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.