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Title

The team treatment of the Charcot foot - how not to amputate

Coauthors

None

Summary

This introductory lecture briefly recounts the history, definition and current treatment of the Charcot foot. The purpose of this symposium is, besides deepening and broadening the knowledge, to become acquainted with the chains of care to improve the quality of life for these critically endangered patient population.

Introduction

Jean-Martin Charcot (Paris, 29 November 1825 - Morvan, August 16 1893) was a versatile and brilliant doctor responsible for several medical breakthroughs. One of them is the Charcot Foot. The definition, diagnostics and treatment of the Charcot feet have experienced some necessary refinements over the years. The most important refinement seems to be the treatment in a team, as an ultimate example of chain care.

In a well-organised care chain, except for the patient himself, there is no most important link. In older, monodisciplinary guidelines the patient was forgotten, and comfort and therapy compliance were not a subject of discussion. In the current guidelines we regard these as the essence of the Charcot treatment.

Methods

The Charcot foot is one of the most complex, potentially most endangering complication to the Diabetic patients functioning. Yet, in my own practice, no one has lost his feet yet.

Is this because we refined our early detection and follow up, and that we are extra cautious? Is it because our teams seamlessly manages the problem from early detection to consolidation and far beyond? Or is it because the Charcot patient is, with proper education, the most compliant patient? This symposium gives the obvious answers to these 3 questions.

Results

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Conclusion

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References

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