According to the American Diabetes Association there are 23.6 million diabetics in the United States, 82,000 of which will undergo amputations for non-healing diabetic wounds each year. With the increased need for screening and patient education, how will already strained healthcare providers meet their patients’ needs?

CFCN’s providing care in podiatry offices will result in supplemental risk assessment screenings; earlier detection of lower extremity diseases; and repetitive, comprehensive patients education. The addition of a CFCN to a private practice has empowered the office with an additional specialized clinician with the ability to provide hands-on and telephone support to the patients. Interruptions to the podiatrist have decreased, as straightforward phone questions can be addressed by the CFCN; patient satisfaction has increased; and new patient referrals have increased. Effective and timely communication between the CFCN and the podiatrist facilitates a credulous relationship and safe patient care.

“Certification with the WOCNCB is a voluntary process designed to protect the consumer and ensure current knowledge in this nursing specialty. This respected certification is held only by an elite group of specialty nurses.” (WOCNCB)

CFCN’s spend time educating patients and other nurses within their area of expertise. Education is critical for early recognition and intervention to prevent advancement of complications of lower extremity diseases.