
Medicare does not cover routine foot care. Previously Medicare covered the trimming of nails and calluses if they were painful and limited your ability to walk. Florida Medicare current policy states that these services are routine maintenance or hygiene and not medical treatment. They will still cover any problems of the feet which require surgery or medical attention, however routine trimming of nails or calluses is not a covered benefit. Medicare will pay for treatment of a nail or calus only if there is associated infection, inflammation, or ulcer. Medicare will pay for the initial evaluation and management or surgical correction of any symptomatic foot, ankle, or leg problem. Diabetic patient=s *may* be eligible for continued routine foot care *if* they fit very specific medicare criteria. The criteria state that diabetics may be covered for routine foot care if they are an amputee or have severe circulation problems of the feet, e.g. no pulses. If the criteria are not met then medicare will deny the service. Secondary insurances are not covering this service, unless there is a specific foot care policy.

In some instances this may preclude patients from medically necessary treatments. We urge you to keep appointments for routine foot care in order to prevent more severe foot problems. We provide routine foot care for patients on a fee for service basis. If you feel as we do that this should be a covered Medicare benefit please write your congressmen. Let them know that there are many reasons why Medicare age patients are unable to properly care for their feet and that routine foot care should be part of Medicare coverage in order to prevent complications.

Senator Bob Graham
2252 Killlearn Center Blvd, Ste 300
Tallahassee, FL 32309

Senator Bill Nelson
225 E Robinson St, Ste 410
Orlando, FL 32801

Representative Cliff Stearns
115 SE 25th Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

Steinberg Podiatry Associates, P.A. has been dedicated to health care since 1931, specializing in the medical and surgical treatment of the foot, ankle, and leg. We have offices located in Ocala, Belleview, and Spruce Creek South. Our physicians have staff privileges at Ocala Regional Medical Center, Munroe Regional Medical Center, Surgery Center of Ocala, The Villages Medical Center and The Wound Care and Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment Center.

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