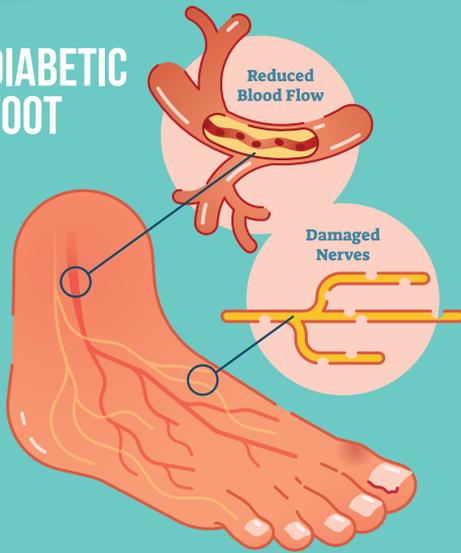




DIABETIC SURVIVOR

OSTEOMYELITIS

DIABETIC FOOT



Reduced Blood Flow

Damaged Nerves



CALLUS



LITTLE ULCER



LARGER ULCER



BONE INFECTION

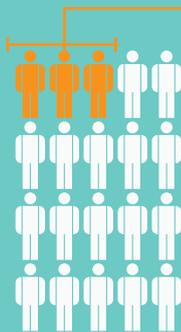


LEFT UNTREATED THIS CAN LEAD TO THE DREADED COMPLICATION OF AMPUTATION IN THE FOOT.

DIABETIC FOOT ULCERS ARE COMMON AND ESTIMATED TO AFFECT

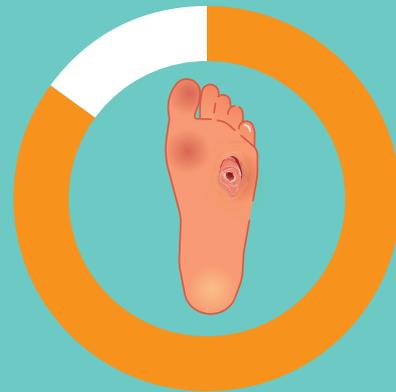
15%

OF ALL DIABETIC INDIVIDUALS



15/20%

OF PATIENTS WITH SUCH FOOT ULCERS GO ON TO NEED AN AMPUTATION.



ALMOST 85% OF THE AMPUTATIONS ARE PRECEDED BY DIABETIC FOOT ULCERS.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT OSTEOMYELITIS



STAPH AUREUS IS THE MOST COMMON CAUSATIVE ORGANISM

In those with diabetes, peripheral vascular disease, and other conditions resulting in a weaker immune system infections will persist and can spread further than would be possible in the presence of a healthy immune system.



MOST COMMON TYPE OF OSTEOMYELITIS IN ADULTS IS DIRECT SPREAD

This means that the bacteria started in the skin and then proceeded through soft tissues until it hit bone. There has to be a break in the skin for this to occur, and may be due to trauma such as a cut or scrape that becomes infected



OSTEOMYELITIS DOESN'T HAPPEN OVERNIGHT

It takes time for the bacteria to move from the skin to the bone, even if the skin is directly overlying the bone. The good news is that this is quite a long distance for the bacteria to travel, the bad news is that we are one of the favorite food groups for bacteria.



WHY IS OSTEOMYELITIS SO DIFFICULT TO TREAT?

As the bacteria breaks through the outer layer of bone, it is often under siege by the body's immune system. The body will begin forming new bone which is called involucrum, often with the bacteria within.



TREATMENT WITH ANTIBIOTICS OR SURGICAL DEBRIDEMENT

Antibiotics may be via mouth or intra-venous and often lasts four to six weeks, and may last months. Surgical treatment consists of removing part or all of the infected bone.