



Podiatry

...where's the science in that?

For more information on podiatry please visit our website

www.careersinpodiatry.com

or

[E-mail: enq@scpod.org](mailto:enq@scpod.org)



www.facebook.com/PodiatryCareers



[@PodiatryCareers](https://twitter.com/PodiatryCareers)



A Podiatrist keeps
you walking –
for life!



Podiatry

...where's the science in that?



www.careersinpodiatry.com

Podiatry

...where's the science in that?

The world around us is dominated by science in one way or another, be it biology in plants and the human body, physics in engineering or communications and chemistry in food or DNA research.

Podiatry is no exception... It's full of science!

To understand how the lower limb works and to help patients, you need to know all sorts about biology, physics and chemistry.

BIOLOGY



Biology is probably the main science people associate with working in a medical profession. As a podiatrist it's really important to understand the structure of the body as well as how things interact.

DIABETES

- Diabetes is an increasingly common and potentially dangerous disease.
- It develops when the body doesn't produce enough insulin or is not able to use insulin effectively.
- One of the early changes can be loss of sensation (peripheral neuropathy) in the feet, often starting at the toes.

A Podiatrist can check both the blood supply to your feet and any evidence of loss of sensation in your feet.

So you can see how important it is to know your anatomy!

www.careersinpodiatry.com

PHYSICS



Physics is also important. Podiatrists treat a lot of different patients with biomechanical problems and understanding levers and forces really helps diagnose the problem and work out how to treat the patient.



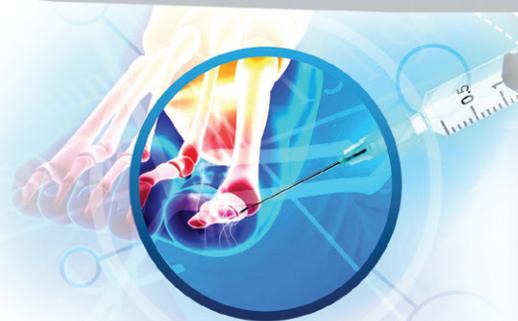
FORENSIC PODIATRY

- Understanding the relationship between foot shape and function related to bare footprints and shoe wear patterns are part of modern forensic science.
- Recognition of bare footprints and shoe wear patterns can assist in the solving of crimes and is a specialist area of Podiatry.

CHEMISTRY



Chemistry is also important in podiatry. Chemical reactions are essential for normal body function. Podiatrists need to know how illnesses and medicines may affect different chemical processes in the body in order to provide appropriate treatment.



Knowing about different kinds of medication and how they react with the body is essential.

NAIL SURGERY

Podiatrists can treat painful or ingrowing toenails using simple surgical techniques.

- Understanding chemistry enables podiatrists to calculate the maximum safe doses of local anaesthetic for a patient when performing nail surgery.
- In order to perform the surgery effectively an understanding of the structure of the toe and surrounding anatomy is essential.