

## IDENTIFYING PATIENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR THERAPEUTIC FOOTWEAR

I. Determine whether patients qualify for shoes and inserts during routine office visits or by a review of their charts.

**Type I or Type II** diabetic patients qualify. The patient may be diet controlled, on oral hypoglycemics or insulin. The patient requires one or more of the conditions listed below to qualify.

*Diabetic shoes, inserts and/ or modifications to the shoes are covered if the following criteria are met:*

- 1) The patient has diabetes mellitus (ICD-9 diagnosis codes 250.00-250.91); and*
- 2) The patient has one or more of the following conditions:*
  - a) previous amputation of the other foot, or part of either foot, or*
  - b) history of previous foot ulceration of either foot, or*
  - c) history of pre-ulcerative calluses of either foot, or*
  - d) peripheral neuropathy with evidence of callus formation of either foot, or*
  - e) foot deformity of either foot, or*
  - f) poor circulation in either foot;*

II. If a patient qualifies, find out if they have received shoes in the present year under the Medicare program and/or if they are interested in shoes at this time. Patients may receive one pair of shoes and 3 pair of inserts within one calendar year. If patients have received shoes in the present year they do not qualify for shoes until next year. For example, anyone who has received shoes in 1999 may receive shoes at any time in the year 2000 even if the last time they received shoes was less than one year ago.

For patients meeting the criteria, coverage is limited to one of the following within one calendar year:

- a)** One pair of depth shoes (A5500) and 3 pairs of inserts (A5512 – In-office fabrication) or 3 pairs of inserts (A5513 – Lab fabricated). SureFit Custom Inserts are lab fabricated and qualify for the (A5513) code.
- b)** One pair of custom molded shoes (A5501) (which includes inserts provided with these shoes) and two additional pairs of inserts (A5512 or A5513).