Diabetic ulcers typically:
- Occur on the sole of the foot or over pressure points e.g., toes
- The wound bed can be shallow or deep, producing low to moderate amounts of exudate
- The surrounding skin is usually dry, thin and frequently has callous formation

**Characteristics of a Diabetic Foot Ulcer**

- Uncertainty of diagnosis
- There is a low or high ABPI
- Symptoms impact on quality of life
- Complicated ulcers e.g., multiple aetiology
- Signs of infection or wound probes to bone
- No progress in healing or deterioration of ulcer

**References:**
- National Evidence-Based Guideline on Prevention, Identification and Management of Foot Complications in Diabetes: Melbourne Australia 2011
- SIGN-Assessment and Management of Foot Ulcers for People with Diabetes. Toronto: FINAD 2005
- McIntosh A et al. Prevention and Management of Foot Problems in Type 2 Diabetes. Sheffield: NICE 2003