

**Cleveland Foot and Ankle Clinic**  
10685 Carnegie Avenue – Cleveland - Ohio - 44106  
216-231-5612

Medical Record No. \_\_\_\_\_

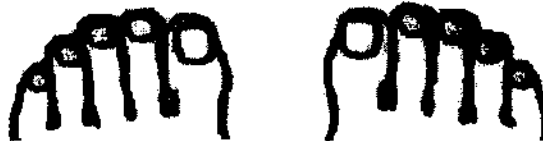
To our patients:

Medicare has new rules regarding the trimming of toenails. To assure governmental compliance while maintaining the quality care that you are accustomed to receive, we must obtain certain information. Excerpts from the Medicare Newsletter dated September 2001 pages 26-31, 36-41:

“Routine foot care is not a covered Medicare benefit. Medicare assumes that the beneficiary (patient) or caregiver will perform these services by themselves, and therefore, they are excluded from coverage. Medicare does allow exceptions to this exclusion when medical conditions exist that place the patient at increased risk of infection and/or injury if a non-professional would provide these services.”

“The trimming, cutting, clipping or débriding of nails is considered routine nail care and is usually not covered by Medicare. However, nail care may be covered for patients with certain systemic conditions and for pain or secondary soft tissue infection caused by mycotic nails.” The cutting or removal of corns or callouses is considered by medicare to be routine foot care and is also excluded from coverage.

Medicare requires that toenails are **painful** in most cases to qualify for coverage. Please indicate which toenails are painful by drawing an “X” on your painful toenails in the picture.



There are some patients with diabetes and poor circulation that will still be covered. Simply having diabetes does not qualify for coverage. Please check all that apply. We will review your answers to see if you are covered.

Who is your Primary Care Doctor? \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name)  
When did you last see him or her? \_\_\_\_\_  
(month and year)

Have you been diagnosed with any of the following diseases:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Neuropathy                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peripheral Vascular Disease | <input type="checkbox"/> Phlebitis (swollen red veins) |

Check all that apply:

- Previous amputation
- Cold feet
- Abnormal sensations in the feet (paresthesia)
- Burning

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please sign your name on this line.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please date.