



FIP FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DES PODOLOGUES
IFP INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF PODIATRISTS

8th October
International
Podiatry Day

PRESS RELEASE AND MEDIA ADVISORY

International Podiatry Day to be held on 8 October 2018 Raising the awareness for Podiatry

Paris, 2 October 2018 – International Podiatry Day (IPD) held each year to draw attention to foot health and podiatry with the general public, other health professions and government health officials about the impact and the dangers of foot and ankle ailments, is to take place this year on Monday 8 October.

Individuals, healthcare professionals and organisations worldwide are expected to take part. The organisers, the International Federation of Podiatrists (FIP-IFP), has started the campaign since 20 September to work up towards the day.

The International Federation of Podiatrists gathers professional podiatry association throughout Europe and the world to advance podiatry globally by given it a strong voice on an International level.

This year will be the first global campaign of this size and will mainly be held digitally through a social media campaign and online videos.

Podiatry is that profession of health sciences concerned with the research, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of deformities, pathologies and injuries of the foot and associated structures – in relation with the body as well as the manifestations of systemic diseases – by all appropriate systems and technologies using scientific and professional specialised knowledge. Despite the variability of the educational programs in the different countries, and difference in the requirements and official qualifications that enables the practice of the Podiatric profession, podiatrists have a specific knowledge and skillset with direct positive effects to Public Health. Many research studies in the area of e.g. the diabetic foot have proven that well trained podiatrists have a positive impact on the well-being of the patients but also are very cost-effective for governments budgets.

International Podiatry Day is an initiative of the International Federation of Podiatrists
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 www.internationalpodiatryday.org

 www.facebook.com/fipifp



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The foot is a highly complex structure, which can develop problems affecting a patient's overall health and well-being. Podiatry can significantly improve people's quality of life by promoting and maintaining mobility. Moreover, podiatrists are working with patients at risk (post-traumatic, diabetic,...) in multi- and interdisciplinary teams. The knowledge and skill set and the critical/analytical thinking and scientific reflection is part the education in Podiatry to offer the high level of care and treatment to the patients as a safe practitioner.

In particular, IPD wants to celebrate the podiatry profession and draw more attention to the negative effects of the absence or underrecognized presence of podiatrists in the health care system.

For International Podiatry Day 2018, FIP-IFP is calling for the establishment and/or strengthening of the high level podiatry training and for more countries to recognise the added value of podiatrists in the health system.

"Podiatrists are the best kept secret in medicine and this should change. Including podiatrists in the health care system is an absolute requirement in a patient-centered care delivery model, aimed at improving patient care quality, efficiency and savings," says FIP-IFP President, Mr. Christian Jérôme.

"With this day we hope to raise the awareness on the profession, to increase the understanding of podiatry and comprehensive treatment approaches by podiatrists that can be delivered as part of patient care," he said.

-Ends-

The International Federation of Podiatrists:

The International Federation of Podiatrists is an international not-for-profit association since 1947 focused on global leadership and the development of podiatric medicine around the world. Working together collaboratively with leaders of the podiatry profession, the Federation enhances the podiatric profession through the sharing of knowledge, practice and research among 26 member associations.

For further information:

Please see the International Podiatry Day website: www.internationalpodiatry.org; Activities can also be followed on Twitter: (@IntPodiatryDay and #IPD), on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/International-Podiatry-Day-259266901344591> and on Instagram (@IntPodiatryDay);

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