

## **Foot, Ankle & Leg Emergencies - When to Call for Urgent Care:**

- There are signs of bacterial infection, including:
  - Increased pain, swelling, redness, tenderness, or heat in the foot or leg.
  - Red streaks extending from the open cut or painful area.
  - Discharge of pus and/or foul odor of a cut .
  - Fever of 100°F (37.78°C) or higher with no other cause.
  - Spreading of the infection to other areas, such as:
    - from the nail to the skin under the nail or, the surrounding skin of the toe;
    - from a cut or open sore to other nearby skin or joints with increasing redness, swelling, streaks or pain.
- You have an injury leading to pain and swelling or bruising of ankles, feet or toes.
- There are blisters on your feet that have become larger, more red and painful with pus.
- You have heel or any type of joint pain accompanied by a fever, redness, sometimes warmth, or numbness or tingling, or persistent pain without putting any weight or pressure on the area, or the pain is not alleviated by ice, aspirin, ibuprofen or acetaminophen.
- You have diabetes or certain diseases associated with poor circulation and you develop athlete's foot. People with diabetes are at increased risk for a severe bacterial infection of the foot and leg if they have athlete's foot.

## **Conditions Podiatrists treat but are not considered urgent care:**

- Your toenail is getting thicker and causing you discomfort.
- You have noticeable change to your nails or skin.
- Your feet are severely cracking, scaling, peeling, or developing blisters.