

**Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
2025 North Coast Foot & Ankle Symposium (DRAFT)
August 14-16, 2025
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
Independence, Ohio**

Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine is approved by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education as a provider of continuing education in podiatric medicine.
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine has approved this activity for a maximum of **(25)** continuing education contact hours.

Thursday, August 14, 2025

AM Sign in: 3 Category 1 CECH

PM Sign in: 4.5 or 5.5 With Pica Category 1 CECH

Total Day: 7.5 or 8.5

Wound Care Section(s)

University Hospitals Limb Preservation (morning am)

Dr. Mehdi Shishehbor and the University Hospitals Limb Preservation Service will discuss the advanced therapies and procedures that they make available to their patients to mitigate limb loss.

Dr. Cole tract (pm)

Session 1: Best Practices in Hard-to-Heal Wound Management

Panelists: Mike Maier, Nick Butler, Dustin Prins, Megan Oltman

Summary: This panel discussion on best practices for wound management aims to bring together local providers to share insights, experiences, and innovative strategies. Participants will explore evidence-based, patient-centered care methods that enhance wound healing outcomes. The session will also address challenges faced in wound management, including infection control, pain management, and the role of nutrition. By fostering an open dialogue, the panel will highlight evidence-based practices that can be immediately applied in clinical settings.

Topics to include:

- Complete patient and wound assessment
- Making the right diagnosis
- Diagnostic testing
- Nutritional concerns
- Pain management
- Wound hygiene, cleansing and debridement
- Standard of care treatments per wound etiology
- Best practices for assessing wound progress

- Infection diagnosis and management
- Strategies for patient engagement and adherence

Objectives:

1. Identify Best Practices: Participants will learn about the latest advancements and establish best practices in wound care management.
2. Understand Patient Engagement: Discuss the importance of educating and involving patients in their own wound care to promote adherence and facilitate healing.
3. Address Infection Control: Share strategies for effective infection prevention and management in both acute and chronic wounds.
4. Evaluate Pain Management Techniques: Discuss pain management strategies and their impact on patient comfort and recovery.
5. Promote Evidence-Based Practice: Highlight recent research findings that can be integrated into everyday clinical practices for wound management.

Dr. Cole tract (pm)

Session 2: Incorporating Advanced Therapies into Limb Preservation

Panelists: Nick Campitelli, Thomas Arnold, Jackie Donovan, Megan Oltman

Summary: In this session, the panelists will engage in a discourse regarding the best practices associated with effective surgical techniques and strategies critical for the management of foot ulcers. Emphasis will be placed on the essential role of advanced therapies, soft tissue reconstruction, and surgical offloading. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the underlying pathophysiology of foot ulcers, learn how to effectively utilize advanced therapies to markedly enhance healing, and receive a comprehensive overview of innovative surgical interventions that are positively impacting the lives of individuals at risk.

Topics to include:

- Patient selection
- Skin grafts and flaps
- The use of CTPs in the limb salvage ladder
- Surgical complications (SWD)
- Surgical offloading
- NPWT and other advanced wound therapies
- Future technologies such as stem cell therapies and bioprinting
- Limb preservation cases

Objectives:

1. To elucidate the underlying pathophysiology of foot ulcers and its implications for effective management.

2. To explore advanced therapeutic options and their role in accelerating the healing process of foot ulcers.
 3. To examine best practices in surgical techniques and soft tissue reconstruction pertinent to the treatment of foot ulcers.
 4. To provide an overview of innovative surgical interventions that significantly improve outcomes for patients at risk of foot complications.
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Friday August 15, 2025

AM Sign in: 3 Category 1 CECH

PM Sign in: 4 Category 1 CECH

Forefoot Pearls and MIS approaches to the Foot & Ankle

8:00 – 9:30 Panel

Panelists: Larry DiDomenico, Nick Butler, Nick Campitelli, Frank Luckino, Danielle Butto

Summary: In this panel format session, the panelists will discuss indications and techniques utilized for Minimal Incision Surgery and they will also discuss evidence-based practices as they relate to forefoot pathology and treatment.

Objectives: The attendee will become familiar with the clinical criteria used to evaluate forefoot deformities and the indications of the use of Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) in the foot and ankle. These practices will include both conservative and surgical approaches. Those who utilize MIS will share their experiences and best practices.

9:30 – 9:45 Break

Surgical Complications Panel

9:45 – 11:15 Panel

Panelists: James Connors, Josh Moore, Jacqueline Donovan, Sam Figas, Molly Judge

Summary: In this panel format session, the panelists will discuss a variety of surgical complications that are encountered when treating the lower extremity. They will provide their experiences in navigating an area of medicine that we all try to avoid.

Objectives: Based on the clinical experiences of the panelists and the conclusions of the medical literature, the attendee will become familiar with recognizing surgical complications of the lower extremity and optimal management strategies. The experts will discuss the current guidelines and explain how to apply them in daily practice and also how they apply to different patient populations.

11:15 – 12:30 Lunch On Own

Foot & Ankle Trauma

12:30 – 2:00 Panel

Panelists: Jordan Grossman, Lauren Kishman, Steve Mariash, James Connors, Gary Most

Summary: In this panel format session, the panelists will discuss pediatric and adult trauma in the foot and ankle. This is a case-based session that will include individual case presentations with dialogue from each of the panelists.

Objectives: The attendee will recognize the various traumatic injuries and fractures that occur in the foot and ankle. The panel of experts will discuss diagnostic studies, surgical planning, surgical technique, and rehabilitation practices to manage these injuries.

2:00 – 2:30 Break

Arthrodesis & Reconstruction Protocols

2:30 – 4:30 Panel

Panelists: Jordan Grossman, Josh Moore, Steve Mariash, Frank Luckino, Gary Most

Summary: In this panel format session, the panelists will review clinical diagnosis and the surgical management of the pediatric and the adult flatfoot, cavus foot and derangement of the ankle. Operative interventions will be discussed including procedure selection and description of the accepted techniques. Pitfalls and complications of deformity correction will be discussed.

Objectives: The attendee will become familiar with the indications for joint sparing and joint sacrificing procedures in the foot and ankle. Total ankle arthroplasty will be discussed. The attendee will also be exposed to the pitfalls and complications of deformity correction in this difficult demographic.

Saturday August 16, 2025

AM Sign in: 3 Category 1 CECH

PM Sign in: 4 Category 1 CECH

Total Day: 7

Sports Medicine in the Lower Extremity

Panelists: Mark Hardy, Mark Mendezsoon, James Connors, Gary Most, Lauren Kishman

Summary: In this panel format session, the experts will discuss cases, diagnostic studies, surgical techniques, and complications that may occur in the high performance and/or recreational athlete.

Objectives: The attendee will recognize the various sports injuries and conditions that occur in the lower extremity. The attendee will learn systematic approaches for evaluation of foot and ankle deformity in the athlete as well as understand concomitant pathologies that may dictate individualized treatments.

8:00 – 9:40

9:40-10:00 Q&A/Moderator

10:15-10:30 Break

General Medicine and Biomechanics

10:30 – 11:45 Panel

Panelists: Nick Butler, Larry Osher, Scott Spencer, Mark Mendeszoon, Dustin Prins

Summary: In this panel format session, the experts will speak on a wide range of topics in general medicine, biomechanics and orthobiologics. They will provide cases and discuss best practices as it relates to the above.

Objectives: The attendee will learn systematic approaches for evaluation of foot and ankle deformity as well as understand concomitant pathomechanics. The selection of diagnostic imaging modalities and how these studies influence the treatment method will be discussed. The content experts will review the trending research to help guide best standards of practice. The attendee will examine the available imaging studies to effectively evaluate foot and ankle abnormalities and treatment planning. Manage patient cases involving staging principles, positioning, and fluoroscopy methods. Lastly, the attendee will be introduced to a number of orthobiologics and the process of patient selection and utilization of these state-of-the-art products/techniques.

11:45 – 12:00 Moderator Q&A

12:00 – 12:30 Lunch On Own

Limb Salvage Techniques and Management of the Diabetic Foot

12:30 – 2:00 Panel

Panelists: Larry DiDomenico, Jacqueline Donovan, Danielle Butto, Lauren Kishman

Summary: In this panel format session, the experts will provide case presentations of the diabetic foot including but not limited to ulcer management and Charcot care (conservative and surgical). Their presentations and the dialogue will be based on their collective experiences in practice and evidence based medicine guidelines.

Objectives: The attendee will appreciate the underlying systemic diseases that affect planning and outcomes of surgical intervention and ulcer management. The attendee will identify common manifestations of systemic diseases in the lower extremity as well as understand how to prevent the complications related to systemic diseases.

2:00 – 2:30 Break

Resident Case Presentations (7)

2:30 – 4:30 Moderator

Molly Judge, DPM

Local residents will present interesting and thought-provoking cases that will be moderated by Dr. Molly Judge. This session will be interactive and create dialogue between the attendees and residents.