# Podiatry interview: meet Louise

>> LOUISE: My name's Louise, and I'm an advanced podiatrist. I work for NHS Grampian. An advanced role - you’re working to a high level of clinical experience as well as leadership. Working as an advanced podiatrist allows me to use all the skills that I have learned and continue to learn and apply them to patients and people that come into the service and need our help.

>> LOUISE: It's challenging every single day. So, we see a mixture of patients, we see a mixture of different things, and at the end of each day, generally there's satisfaction in that day by being able to help patients be more mobile, be more comfortable, answer any questions that they have.

>> LOUISE: We have such an extended level of knowledge in all things, both medical, physical. We can assess, treat, diagnose, anything, that may affect the foot, the ankle, or the lower limb.

>> LOUISE: A lot of people think that podiatrists just treat toenails or just treat hard skin, and I think that's a big misconception. We treat so many areas of the foot that, to be honest, is unknown to most people before they even go into the profession.

>> LOUISE: An exciting development for podiatry is access to independent prescribing, which means we can prescribe medication to our patients in times when they need it. You can see patients that come in week by week to get their feet checked and for wounds. You might also see patients that have had surgery and you're helping them to recover or the other side and their requesting surgery.

>> LOUISE: So, as a podiatrist, we see a broad range of the general public and that's one of the really exciting things about it.

>> LOUISE: If you're considering to become a podiatrist, as your career choice, I would recommend that you spend some time with a podiatrist. Try and understand all the aspects of our role and what we can offer.

>> LOUISE: The thing that I love most about being a podiatrist is that within my eight year career so far, it has been ever changing, helping people keep active, keep mobile, but you also work jointly with so many other team members within the healthcare system, and that is really satisfying at the end of the day.