

OFFICE LOCATIONS  
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(908) 687-5757  
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(609) 924-8333



Newsletter

Winter 2017

[www.associatesinpodiatry.com](http://www.associatesinpodiatry.com)

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Winter 2017, Vol 5

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## Keeping on Our Toes

Dr. Stevens and Dr. Gomez attended the annual meeting of the Association of Extremity Nerve Surgeons in Arizona in November. The meeting focused on the latest treatments, both conservative and surgical, in managing the diabetic foot with accompanying nerve damage, particularly Peripheral Neuropathy.

### What is Peripheral Neuropathy?

Peripheral Neuropathy is a condition that develops as a result of damage to the peripheral nervous system. Research suggests that the damage is caused by many related factors that jointly affect the peripheral nerves and the tiny blood vessels that lead to those nerves. Symptoms can include burning, tingling, pins and needles, sharp stabbing pain, and numbness.

### What causes Peripheral Neuropathy?

Peripheral neuropathy is nerve damage caused by a number of conditions. Causes of neuropathies include: Alcoholism, Autoimmune diseases, Diabetes, Exposure to poisons, Medications, Infections, Inherited disorders, Trauma or pressure on the nerve, Tumors, Bone marrow disorders, and other diseases.

One of the most common causes of peripheral neuropathy is related to **Vitamin deficiencies such as B vitamins – including B-1, B-6 and B-12**

**Metformin** interferes with the absorption of vitamin B and, as a result, the chronic use of metformin may act to reduce vitamin B levels in the patient with diabetes. Vitamin B compounds are critical for normal nerve health and function. Accordingly, a reduction in the level of vitamin B may result in an increased incidence of neuropathy in those taking metformin.

### How is Peripheral Neuropathy Treated?

First, the underlying cause of the peripheral neuropathy is determined by performing a history and physical, neurological examination, and ordering necessary tests. If it is determined that a vitamin deficiency is present you may be suggested to take medical food supplement for replenishing vitamin stores in the body. The doctors can discuss individual patient treatments in the office.



## Our Offices

### Associates In Podiatry

#### Princeton Office

4491 Route 27  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
609-924-8333 (phone)  
609-924-8663 (fax)

Monday:  
04:00 PM – 07:00 PM  
Tuesday: Closed  
Wednesday:  
09:00 AM – 07:00 PM  
Thursday: Closed  
Friday:  
09:00 AM – 02:00 PM  
Saturday: Closed

#### Roselle Park Office

318 Chestnut Street  
Roselle Park, NJ 07204  
908-687-5757 (phone)  
908-241-1172 (fax)

Monday:  
09:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Tuesday:  
09:00 AM – 07:00 PM  
Wednesday: Closed  
Thursday:  
09:00 AM – 07:00 PM  
Friday: Closed  
Saturday:  
09:00 AM – 01:00 PM

## A 2017 Resolution You Can Keep: Take Care of Your Feet

The holidays are all about traditions. Did you watch the Times Square crystal ball drop or maybe enjoy a local fireworks show? Or did you celebrate with a quiet evening at home with family and friends?

Although we celebrate the New Year with many diverse traditions, there is one thing that most of us have in common - we make resolutions for the coming year. If you've resolved to take better care of your health, don't forget that foot health is a major wellness component.

Resolve to take good care of your feet in 2017 with these simple steps:

- Protect your feet with comfortable, sturdy shoes, boots and sandals. Save your flip-flops for poolside and the beach. Don't forget to apply sunscreen to your feet too.
- Clean your feet every day with soapy water and dry thoroughly, especially between the toes.
- Soothe after washing by applying a rich foot lotion or cream - but not between the toes. Moisturize toenails with cuticle cream or petroleum jelly.
- Invest in your feet with new, well made shoes with plenty of support. Shop later in the day when feet are largest and measure both feet each time. Give your toes plenty of wiggle room.
- Trim toenails straight across to prevent ingrown toenails - don't round at the edges.
- Check your feet every day, especially if you have diabetes. Look for foot fungus or any type of damage like cracked skin, abrasions or puncture wounds that are not healing.
- Stretch your feet and ankles along with the rest of your body to keep them flexible and help prevent injury.
- Put your feet up often during the day to help your circulation and take pressure off muscles and tendons.

For patients with diabetes, please add one more resolution. Come in to our office regularly - at least once a year - for a thorough checkup. It's important to check for neuropathy by testing for loss of sensation. We'll also assess your overall foot health and inspect your feet closely for any sign of injury. Left untreated, any foot damage can lead to serious problems in those with diabetes.

We wish all our patients and their families a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

## All About Toes

Our toes are engineering marvels of bone, tendons and muscles and they really take a beating! They are constantly exposed to injury with walking, running or just moving around. And the pressures inside our shoes can cramp the toes and lead to stress-related problems.

If you have toe discomfort, there are many different causes that we will look for. First we'll ask you what type of pain you have - is it a burning feeling or numbness? Sharp or dull? Does it get worse when you're walking or standing? ...continued on page 3



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### History FootNote

People make New Year's resolutions all over the world. The ancient Babylonians first made resolutions 4,000 years ago, promising to pay their debts and return any borrowed items!

### Celebrity Foot Focus

Point guard George Hill of the Utah Jazz was recently sidelined for at least one game due to a sprained big toe.

### Joke of the Month



Q: How do Eskimos make their beds?  
A: With sheets of ice and blankets of snow.

....continued from page 2 **All About Toes**

Here are a few common causes of toe pain:

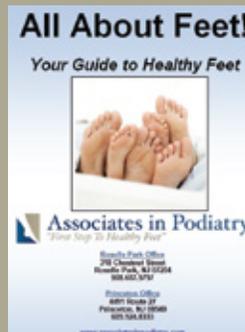
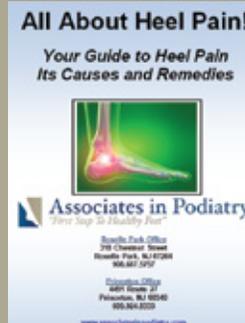
- Ingrown toenails where the nail cuts into the adjacent skin and often becomes infected.
- Bunions can form when the big toe is pushed up against the others. Bunions can be hereditary or can result from wearing tight, narrow shoes.
- Corns and calluses develop from excess friction and pressure on the skin.
- Arthritis, whether caused by wear and tear or rheumatoid arthritis, causes tenderness, stiffness and difficulty walking. Gout, a painful buildup of uric acid crystals in the joints, is a form of arthritis.
- Hammertoes and claw toes are abnormal bends in the toe joints caused by muscle imbalance. Poorly fitting shoes is often the cause for these painful deformities.
- Morton's neuroma is a nerve problem that causes pain between the toes caused by trauma or excessive pressure from tight shoes.
- Capsulitis causes pain and swelling in the toes or ball of the foot caused by inflammation of the ligaments.

Please come see us if you have persistent toe pain as these conditions will not go away by themselves.

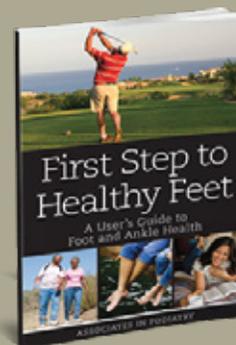
**Word Search**

M X X Z I Z S G R A B X B H Q  
 P U R I T X U I E K C B U A C  
 C P S B O L N H S P O V N M H  
 F A O C E A S F O X R M I M H  
 A F L C L O C U L G N L O E X  
 P R G L V E R N U O E I N R T  
 M T T V U S E G T U U G D T R  
 V C W H M S E U I T R A I O T  
 T H T X R V N S O Q O M A E E  
 T Q G F J I R G N I M E B V N  
 H E R E D I T A R Y A N E A D  
 M O I S T U R I Z E P T T N O  
 Y Y E Q K C D I S J C V E K N  
 E O B Z N L X L Y J P C S L P  
 I M K Q T O E N A I L B U E Q

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**Trivia**

January has 31 days. How many other months also have 31 days?

- A. Five
- B. Six
- C. Seven
- D. Eight

**Answer: C**

....continued from page 3 **Word Search**

hereditary	resolution	sunscreen	arthritis
hammertoe	ligament	diabetes	muscle
toenail	callus	tendon	moisturize
bunion	neuroma	fungus	ankle
gout	corn	toe	



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**See Answer at:**

<https://www.ami-solutions.net/aipodi/nl/2017/winter/podnljan2017wordsearchanswer12022016.pdf>



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## Meet our Doctors



**Todd E. Stevens**  
DPM, FACFAS



**Danny J. Gomez**  
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