

# Diabetic Foot Conference from May 6



**Kochi:** The Department of Endocrinology, Diabetic Lower Limb and Podiatric Surgery, Amrita Institute Of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Kochi, is organising the annual 'Amrita Diabetic Foot Conference 2011' on May 6 and 7. Dr Ramakant, president of the Associations of Surgeons of India, will be the chief guest.

Among the guest speakers are Dr David Neilson and Dr Sarnarendra Miranpuri, podiatric surgeons from the US, wound-care specialist Dr Sunitha Nair, Australian endocrinologist Dr Christy P Sankoorikal and several leading endocrinologists and diabetic foot surgeons from across the country. The talks will centre around the surgical and medical management of diabetic foot.

The concept of surgical correction for diabetic foot and ankle deformity has recently evolved as a means to correct foot deformities secondary to long-standing diabetes. The re-shaping of a deformed foot or toes by surgical correction is presently being done only in the US, the UK, Russia, Germany, Spain, and Australia. These surgeries help prevent the formation of callus and ulcers of the foot and thus can prevent amputations.

Over-riding of the big toe and crowding of toes can cause skin breakdown thus resulting in ulcers and infections. Corrective surgery is done to bring the toes to their normal position. If the foot is not properly aligned, then again high pressure builds up in the soles causing ulceration. 'Charcot Foot' is a severe complication of diabetes, which leads to erosions and collapse of the foot and ankle-bones, which in turn may lead to marked deformities and ulcerations. Different types of surgical corrections are carried out so as to normalise the shape and function of these grossly deformed feet.