

SENSITIVE, item 158

Many people find it very comfortable to walk and stand on soft surfaces.

While some people may perceive noticeable comfort from a particularly soft and extremely lightweight bedding, there are other people for whom this type of bedding can provide significant health benefits. Diabetics must make sure that their feet rest on soft bedding and that they avoid all types of pressure points.

Background information on diabetes...

In 2009 there were around 8 million diabetics in Germany.

For 2010 experts are estimating that this figure will rise to 10 million.

This makes Germany one of the top ten countries worldwide with the most diabetic patients.

Diabetes is now a typical lifestyle disease. As well as inherited factors, diabetes can occur as a result of poor nutrition, smoking, lack of exercise, obesity and high blood pressure – it is also affecting more and more people.

... and diabetic foot

As a consequence of diabetes, reduced blood flow to the extremities can lead to an undersupply of nutrients and oxygen. This in turn can lead to nerve damage which is linked to a lack of feeling in the feet and also poor wound healing.

The combination of these symptoms can cause rubbing on the sole of the foot (due to a seam, stone, etc) to go unnoticed and due to the poor healing properties of the skin can lead to open wounds and ulcers. In extreme cases it can even make amputation necessary.

Preventive measures and an explanation for the patients about correct foot care (wash regularly with lukewarm soapy water, dry thoroughly, avoid injuries with files and nail scissors/clippers) as well as suitable shoes and soft foot support are essential.

Soft bedding SENSITIVE: suitable for type I+II diabetes patients

The soft foot support is principally designed for patients with type I and type II diabetes. There are however limitations due to definition by the Deutsche Diabetes Gesellschaft – German Diabetes Association

Risk categories 0-I: unlimited suitable

Risk category II: individual suitability should be evaluated by a specialist

The risk categories* provide information about the skin damage as well as morbid changes to blood vessels (angiopathy) and nerve disease (neuropathy). If these nerve and blood vessel diseases are not yet present – no risk category has been assigned – **pedag SENSITIVE** can be recommended as a preventive measure.

* The risk categories are defined by the Deutschen Diabetes Gesellschaft – German Diabetes Association.