



## NEW OPTIMISM FOR PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY PATIENTS

Approximately 21 million Americans suffer from *peripheral neuropathy*, or damage to the peripheral

nerves. There are over 100 causes for this condition, with diabetes and chemotherapy being the most common previously incurable causes in the United States. Twenty percent of all senior citizens experience *peripheral neuropathy* which is often of an unknown cause. Symptoms in the hands and feet range from constant, severe toothache type pain, intermittent burning or tingling, or complete numbness resulting in loss of balance. The implications on healthcare in the U.S. are profound when considering the related chronic pain, chronic wounds, infections, amputations, fractures, and deformities that must be treated, all of which are largely a result of *peripheral neuropathy*.



The reason for these devastating effects is simply that historically there have been no successful treatment options for *peripheral neuropathy*. Therefore, patients were instructed to pay special attention to their feet, cleaning and inspecting them daily, to take their pain killers, and to report immediately to their foot specialist when infections developed. However, recent advancements in the diagnosis and treatment of *peripheral neuropathy* are offering a new sense of hope for people afflicted with this condition. The physicians of American Health Network Foot & Ankle Centers, through our comprehensive approach to the diagnosis and treatment of *peripheral neuropathy*, are able to offer hopes of both restoring sensation and decreasing pain related to this previously untreatable condition.

Treatment of *peripheral neuropathy* is designed to relieve pain and to restore strength and sensation. Accomplishing these goals leads to a decrease in the need for pain medications, less deformities, ulcerations, infections, and amputations, as well as fewer injuries due to falls. At American Health Network Foot & Ankle Centers, we emphasize an attempt to achieve these results without dependence on powerful drugs through employing non-surgical or surgical means. Unique to Indiana, our physicians are able to offer both scientifically proven methods of treatment through our practice alone. Therefore, patients are afforded the option of making an educated, non-biased decision on their preference of treatment modality based on their individual needs.



### SUMMARY

*Peripheral neuropathy* is a common, previously incurable condition imparting devastating effects on many people worldwide. Although a percentage of these patients remain without a cure, recent advancements offer hope that they all may live a significantly more enjoyable life. The physicians of American Health Network Foot & Ankle Centers are the first in Indiana to offer this comprehensive specialized approach to the treatment of *peripheral neuropathy*. Please contact our offices with any questions or to schedule an appointment at the most convenient of our five locations.