

Advantages and disadvantages of combined consultation hour with medical doctor and orthopaedic shoe technician

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Introduction:

In the process of prescription of orthopaedic shoes, it is important to find a match between human-related intended use (HRIU) and product-related intended use (PRIU). The HRIU indicates what the product should make possible or what the product has to do. This is defined by the medical doctor (prescriber) in cooperation with the user. The PRIU indicates what the user can and may expect of the (semi-)orthopedic shoes. This is in particular the knowledge of the orthopedic shoe technician.



(HRIU)
Human
Related
Intended
Use



(PRIU)
Product
Related
Intended
Use

Aim:

In process of prescription to assess

- the benefits
- disadvantages or barriers



of a combined consultation between doctor & orthopedic shoe technician

Methods:

Questionnaire with

- open questions
- score for present state of combined consultation

Results:

21 orthopedic shoe technicians
39 medical doctors participated

- 👍 a better and quicker prescription of (semi-)orthopedic shoes;
- 👍 shared knowledge of medical diagnosis and shoe possibilities;
- 👍 shared decision making of the shoe prescription and clear communication rules.
- 🗨️ planning problems;
- 🗨️ (financial) reimbursement of this type of consultation by health insurance companies;
- 🗨️ time efficiency.

Overall score of this type of consultation:

7,9

All want to continue

Discussion/Conclusion:

- The professionals in the field of (semi-) orthopedic shoes appreciate the combined consultation hour of medical doctor and orthopedic shoe technician in order to improve the prescription of (semi-) orthopedic shoes.
- Due to disadvantages or barriers, such as planning problems and time efficiency, the combined consultation hour is not common practice.

These disadvantages can be overcome by adequate coordination and an appropriate digital medical system for exchange of information.