

# REED Medical launch Healix footwear after 2 years' research and development

Following more than 2 years' research and development, REED medical have launched their new range of Diabetic footwear. Healix footwear has been specifically developed to reduce the risk of plantar ulceration and re-ulceration of the neuropathic diabetic foot.

Healix is a modular rigid rocker soled shoe that is designed to reduce the mechanical stresses experienced under the foot\*. A growing body of published research indicates that footwear with rigid rocker soles and specific sole geometry can significantly reduce peak pressures. The Healix design draws on published data to position the patented dual axis rocker at 60% of the foot length with a sagittal plane rocker angle of 20 degrees.\*\*

The rigid rocker profile prevents sagittal plane extension of the metatarso-phalangeal joints, a feature considered essential in pressure reduction.\*\*\* Internal foot stability is achieved

by REED Medical's contoured removable "first line" polyurethane insole system.

REED Medical believe that footwear supplied to patients considered at risk of plantar ulceration should demonstrate design features that are effective in reducing the likelihood of the footwear being a causative factor in ulcer formation.

In partnership with Tekscan, REED Medical compared the in shoe pressure measurements found in eight UK commonly prescribed diabetic footwear brands with Healix. In five discreet areas of the foot, Healix reduced pressure/time integrals by between 28% and 54% and displayed the lowest pressure recording of all eight comparison shoes under the 1st ray, metatarsal heads 2-5, midfoot and rear foot.

Healix footwear is available in 3 widths and two depths fittings in a number of styles and is available in UK full sizes 6 to 11. n



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\*Dahmen R, Koomen B, Haspels R, Hoeksma AF (2001) Therapeutic footwear for the neuropathic foot-An algorithm. *Diabetes Care* 24: 705-9

\*\*van Schie C, Ulbrecht J, Becker M, Cavanagh P (2000) Design Criteria for rigid rocker soles. *Foot & Ankle International* 21: 833-43

\*\*\* Hutchins S, Bowker P, Geary N, Richards J (2009) The Biomechanics and clinical efficacy of footwear adapted with rocker profiles-Evidence in the literature. *The Foot* 19: 165-70