

**North Perth**

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## Fungal Infection

Fungal infection of the nail is termed “onychomycosis”.

It is a condition, which produces problems from simple nail discoloration through to a thickened, brittle and crumbly appearance. Usually this is not painful but a secondary infection may also occur, producing inflammation at the nail borders and toe. Often there can be fungal influence between the toes (tinea) or the condition may affect either one or multiple nails. Multiple fungal organisms have been identified with some being more resistant than others.

Treatment consists of adequate diagnosis, removal of the offending fungal tissue, possible confirmation with laboratory testing and either topical or oral anti fungal medications. Occasionally, the nail may be required to be removed to give it the best chance to re grow without infection. This condition may prove stubborn to resolve.

Laser or photodynamic light therapy is also a method in treating nail fungal infections. This is a painless process requiring no medication where the fungus is destroyed via the specific light frequency used in treatment.

CentrePod Podiatrist can assess and assist with this problem.



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**Other Nail Problems**

These include conditions such as Psoriasis, Eczma, Trauma, Splitting, Bacterial infections, Clubbing, Other discolouration, Melanoma etc.

The Podiatrist will determine the likely diagnosis and referral may be required in some cases to exclude other causes.

**Athlete's foot**

Also known as tinea pedis is a fungal infection of the skin that causes scaling, flaking, and itch of affected areas. It is typically transmitted in moist communal areas where people walk barefoot, such as showers or bathhouses the disease requires a warm moist environment, such as the inside of a shoe, in order to incubate.

Tinea pedis most often manifests between the toes, with the space between the fourth and fifth digits most commonly afflicted.



Antifungal treatment will be required.

CentrePod Podiatrists can assess and treat this condition.