

QUALITY, RELIABILITY AND CONTENT COMPREHENSIVENESS OF DIABETIC FOOT VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE

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Background: Diabetic foot is a major cause of diabetes-related ulceration, infection, hospitalization, and lower-extremity amputation. Prevention, patient education, and self-management are essential components of diabetic foot care. YouTube provides extensive health-related content and may be encountered by individuals seeking information about diabetic foot. However, evidence regarding the quality, reliability, and comprehensiveness of diabetic foot-related YouTube content remains limited

Aim: To evaluate the quality, reliability, and content comprehensiveness of diabetic foot-related videos available on YouTube.

Methods: In this cross-sectional study, a structured YouTube search was conducted using seven diabetic foot-related keywords. Of 700 videos screened, 82 met the inclusion criteria. Video quality, reliability, and content comprehensiveness were independently assessed by two researchers using the Global Quality Scale (GQS), modified DISCERN instrument, and Comprehensiveness Assessment Tool for Diabetic Foot (CAT-DF). Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, intraclass correlation coefficients (ICC), Spearman correlation analysis, and the Mann-Whitney U test.

Results: Of the 82 included videos, treatment (80.5%), risk factors (79.3%), and disease definition (74.4%) were the most frequently addressed topics. In contrast, prevention (23.2%), patient education and follow-up (23.2%), and classification (24.4%) were addressed in only about one-quarter of videos. Mean GQS, modified DISCERN, and CAT-DF scores were 3.65 ± 0.77 , 3.51 ± 0.90 , and 3.70 ± 1.02 , respectively. Inter-rater agreement was high across all assessment tools ($ICC = 0.823 - 0.851$; $p < 0.001$). View count was positively correlated with DISCERN ($r = 0.270$, $p = 0.014$) and CAT-DF scores ($r = 0.235$, $p = 0.034$). Similar associations were observed for likes and both DISCERN ($r = 0.258$, $p = 0.019$) and CAT-DF scores ($r = 0.227$, $p = 0.041$).

Conclusion: YouTube videos on diabetic foot demonstrated moderate quality, reliability, and content comprehensiveness. However, prevention and patient education content were markedly underrepresented despite their importance in diabetic foot care. These findings highlight gaps in the coverage of key components of diabetic foot prevention and self-management on YouTube and underscore the need for reliable digital educational resources