

FBC News

Diabetic amputations a drain on health resources

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Diabetic amputations are a major drain on public health resources and degrade ones quality of life.

This was the message from Dr. Jone Hawea during FBC TV's 4 The Record Programme last night.

Dr. Hawea, a former surgeon, is now an Associate Director of the NGO – FRIEND and dedicates his time to improving lifestyle choices, stress management and physical activity.

He focuses primarily on the community level.

“Our wards are full of this problem. It’s the most common cause of admission in our surgical ward, it’s using up a lot of operation theatre resources and it’s the most common cause of death.”

There is one amputation in Fiji every 12 hours.

Dr. Hawea says many people don’t show up to hospitals until it’s too late and limbs have to be operated on.

In most cases, patients become upproductive, rely on family members for daily care and take their emotional state deteriorates over time.

FRIEND is now reaching out to all communities through social, economic and health programmes.

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