Foot and ankle problems are common in the general population. In addition, the prevalence increases with age. It has been estimated that 20 to 40% of older adults report pain in their feet. It is also important to note that a larger percentage of patients have conditions involving the feet that are nontraumatic, nonpainful, yet may result in symptoms and/or alteration in form and function if gone undiagnosed and untreated. Therefore, it is not surprising that a chief complaint involving the foot or ankle comprises a significant percentage of consultations with primary care physicians. In this issue of Medical Clinics of North America, our expert, orthopedic guest editor, John DiPreta, MD provides a standard approach to the examination of the foot and ankle complex, and the understanding of the association of these structures to gait and ambulation. In addition, the articles to follow review the presentation, evidence-based diagnostic evaluation, therapeutic modalities, recommended follow-up care, and appropriate subspecialty referral for many of the common foot conditions encountered in the outpatient setting.