

## PREVIEW\_ Gary Fettke - The Doctor Who Couldn't Be Silenced (BRECK 2017) 2

**Dr. Fettke:** Most people now are aware that diabetes has long-term problems that affect small blood vessels, or affect the brain, or the heart... But it particularly affects the foot.

**Dr. Eenfeldt:** So you get ulcers.

**Dr. Fettke:** Ulcers, breakdown ultimately when those feet—

**Dr. Eenfeldt:** You got to amputate.

**Dr. Fettke:** Got to amputate. So whereas I used to probably do an amputation once a year, every week now I'm amputating someone's part of their foot or their whole leg. So what was, you know, an occasional thing is now totally out of control.

So last week before I came here I saw five patients who had impending amputations. It's five new patients in a week. So this is completely unsustainable for society, the economics, the system, but actually for the patients. So these people, their lives are ruined, I realized I am seeing them at the end stage. But the complications of diabetes are completely avoidable.