

Diabetes Retinal Eye Exam Tip Sheet

Measure Description	The % of patients 18 to 75yrs with a diagnosis of Diabetes (Type I and Type 2) who had a retinal eye exam to screen for diabetic retinal disease by an eye care professional yearly if dx of Retinopathy or every 2 yrs if No dx of Retinopathy.
Definition of Diabetes (DM)	Primary/secondary dx of Type I and Type 2. Documented DM visit in Hospital/Outpt visit/ED/Observation in past 2 yrs or dispensed insulin, hypoglycemic-anti-hyperglycemic agent as outpt in the past 2 yrs. (Excludes Metformin)
Exclusion for Diabetes Dx	Gestational DM, Steroid induced DM or Hospice.
Exclusion for Retinal Exam	History of Unilateral eye enucleation (absence of eye). Blindness or legal blindness are NOT exclusions.

FAST FACTS TO ASSIST IN READING A DIABETIC RETINAL EYE EXAM RESULT

Abbreviations	Definition	Positive/Negative
BDR	Background Diabetic Retinopathy	Positive
CSME	Clinically Significant Macular Edema	Positive
DR	Diabetic Retinopathy (Damage to small blood vessels that nourish retina)	Positive
DME	Diabetic Macular Edema (Leakage of blood vessels= swelling-Alone or with DR)	Positive
MA	Microaneurysm (Tiny area of blood protruding from artery in back of eye)	Positive
NPDR	Non proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy	Positive
NVD	Neovascularization (Formation of abnormal new blood vessels) of the Disc	Positive
NVE	Neovascularization (Formation of abnormal new blood vessels) Elsewhere	Positive
PDR	Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy	Positive

OD = Right Eye, OS = Left Eye, OU = Both Eyes

STAGES OF RETINOPATHY

Stage	Stage Description/Report Details	Test Frequency Req.
No apparent DR	No abnormalities noted	Negative (q 2 yrs.)
Stage I Mild nonproliferative DR Microaneurysm	Small areas of balloon like swelling occur in the retina's tiny blood vessels	Positive (q yr.)
Stage II Moderate nonproliferative DR Microaneurysm	Disease progresses, some blood vessels that nourish the retina become blocked	
Stage III Severe nonproliferative DR Microaneurysm	During this stage, many more blood vessels become blocked, which disrupts the blood supply. The damaged retina signals the body to produce new blood vessels	
Stage IV Proliferative DR Microaneurysm	Advanced stage; develop new abnormal blood vessels that grow in the retina and vitreous (interior gel of eye). Can rupture = hemorrhages. Form Scar tissue = tugging on retina.	

RETINAL EYE EXAM DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

To report completion of a DM Retinal Eye Exam the practice must have one of the following:

- Note, letter or form completed by an eye care specialist or primary care professional documenting ophthalmoscopy exam by eye care professional with date, type of exam (dilated or retinal) and results in current yr.
- Bilateral retinal photograph of fundus abnormalities reviewed by an eye care professional with date and results in current yr.
- Documentation of **POSITIVE retinal exam** by eye care professional from the current yr. (Category II-CPT code- 2022F)
- Documentation of **NEGATIVE retinal exam** by eye care professional from the prior yr. (Category II-CPT code-3072F, 2023F)
- Documentation of bilateral enucleation.