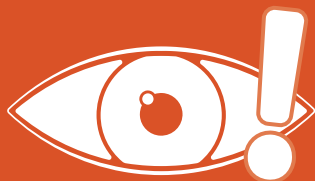




Australian Indigenous
HealthInfoNet

Key facts

Diabetic retinopathy among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



Diabetic retinopathy (DR)
**can damage
the eyes**
of people with diabetes before
they notice vision problems



Among adults with diabetes,
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are
**2x more likely to have
vision problems from DR**
than non-Indigenous people^[1]

Health centre staff can help patients with diabetes **prevent severe vision loss from DR by**^[2]



supporting them to
manage their diabetes



conducting/referring them for
yearly eye checks



referring them for
specialist care if needed



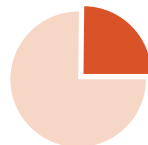
supporting them to
complete treatment

Research tells us that **among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with diabetes**^[1]



**1/2 don't
receive**

yearly eye checks

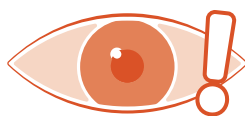


**1/4 have never
had one**

But recently there has been **good news!**



Yearly eye checks have increased



Vision loss from DR has decreased^[1,3]



MBS item 12325
is available for health
centres to do yearly
screening for DR
using a retinal camera

Increasing retinal screening and improving access to eye care can lead to better eye health!

Source:

1. Foreman J, Keel S, Xie J, van Wijngaarden P, Crowston J, et al. (2016) *The National Eye Health Survey 2016 report*. Melbourne: Vision 2020 Australia
2. International Diabetes Federation, The Fred Hollows Foundation (2015) *Diabetes eye health: a guide for health care professionals*. Brussels, Belgium: International Diabetes Federation
3. Taylor HR, National Indigenous Eye Health Survey Team (2009) *National Indigenous eye health survey: minum barreng (tracking eyes): full report*. Melbourne: Indigenous Eye Health Unit, The University of Melbourne

For more information see the key facts and animated video about DR that are available on the HealthInfoNet's
Eye health web resource: www.healthinonet.ecu.edu.au/other-health-conditions/eyeworkers/diabetic-retinopathy



The **Fred Hollows**
Foundation

