



DIABETIC RETINOPATHY SCREENING PROGRAM



The Lions of Michigan Foundation's new Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Program is a partnership between the Lions of Michigan Foundation and the District 11-A1 and District 11-A2 Lions Clubs aimed at detecting diabetic eye diseases early to prevent vision loss and potential blindness. A group of eye care professionals and research scientists at Henry Ford Health System are helping us collect and analyze the data.

Diabetes is a disease that affects blood vessels throughout the body, particularly vessels in the kidneys and eyes. When the blood vessels in the eyes are affected, this is called diabetic retinopathy. Major blood vessels lie on the front portion of the retina. When these blood vessels are damaged due to diabetes, they may leak fluid or blood and grow scar tissue. This leakage affects the ability of the retina to detect and transmit images to the brain.



Diabetic Retinopathy is the leading cause of preventable blindness in adults. Our Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Program utilizes a Topcon NW400 Retinal Camera and a LumineticsCore Artificial Intelligence Diagnostics System to identify adults who have Diabetic Retinopathy.

During the early stages of diabetic retinopathy, reading vision is typically not affected. However, when retinopathy becomes advanced, new blood vessels grow in the retina. These new vessels are the body's attempt to overcome and replace the vessels that have been damaged by diabetes. However, these new vessels are not normal. They may bleed and cause the vision to become hazy, occasionally resulting in severe vision loss or a complete loss of vision. The growth of abnormal blood vessels on the iris of the eye can also lead to glaucoma or the formation of cataracts, and the new vessels can damage the retina by forming scar tissue and pulling the retina away from its proper location, causing retinal detachment and blindness.

Symptoms of Diabetic Retinopathy:

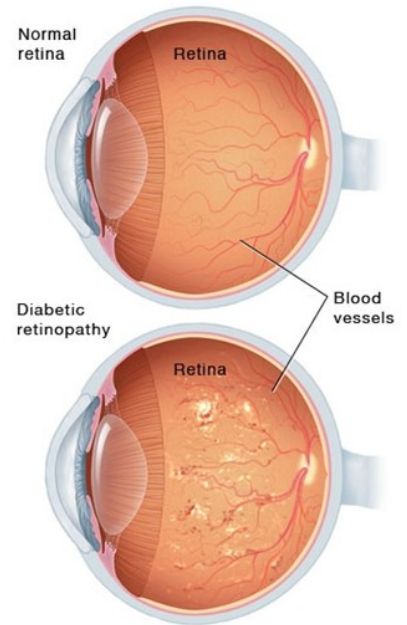
- Floaters
- Difficulty reading or doing close work
- Double vision

Causes of Diabetic Retinopathy:

- Diabetes: Everyone who has diabetes is at risk for developing diabetic retinopathy, but not everyone develops it. Changes in blood sugar levels increase the risk. Generally, diabetics don't develop diabetic retinopathy until they've had diabetes for at least 10 years.

Reduce Your Risk of Developing Diabetic Retinopathy by:

- keeping your blood sugar under control.
- monitoring your blood pressure.
- maintaining a healthy diet.
- exercising regularly.
- getting an eye exam at least once a year.



© MAYO FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.



Lions of Michigan FOUNDATION
www.lmsf.net - info@lmsf.net