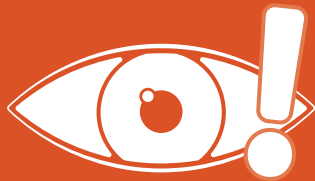
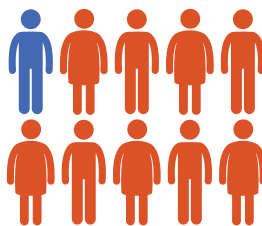




# Diabetic retinopathy among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



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



## 1 in 10

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults with diabetes\* experience vision-threatening DR<sup>[1]</sup>

\*adults 40 years and over with known diabetes

Health centre staff can help patients with diabetes prevent severe vision loss from DR by<sup>[2]</sup>



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<sup>[3]</sup>



1/2 don't receive

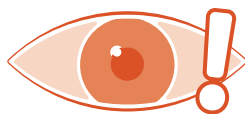


1/4 have never had one

But there is good news!



Yearly eye checks have increased



Vision loss from DR has decreased<sup>[3,4]</sup>



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!**

updated August 2018

Source:

1. Keel S, Xie J, Foreman J, van Wijngaarden P, Taylor HR, Dirani M (2017). The prevalence of diabetic retinopathy in Australian adults with self-reported diabetes: The National Eye Health Survey. *Ophthalmology* 124(7), 977-984.
2. International Diabetes Federation, The Fred Hollows Foundation (2015) *Diabetes eye health: a guide for health care professionals*. Brussels, Belgium: International Diabetes Federation
3. 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
4. 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 infographic about DR that are available on the HealthInfoNet's Eye Health Portal: [healthinonet.ecu.edu.au/learn/health-topics/eye-health/diabetic-retinopathy](http://healthinonet.ecu.edu.au/learn/health-topics/eye-health/diabetic-retinopathy)



The Fred Hollows Foundation

