

Guidelines for Vision Screening for Patients With Diabetes

General Vision Screening Guidelines for Patients With Diabetes per the ADA and the AAO

Schedule of Eye Exams ^{1,2}	First Retinal Exam (ADA and AAO)	Subsequent Retinal Exams (ADA)	Subsequent Retinal Exams (AAO)
Type 1 diabetes	Within 5 y of diagnosis	Every 1-2 y (if no DR, diabetes well controlled), OR at least annually (any sign of DR)	Yearly
Type 2 diabetes	At time of diagnosis		
Planning pregnancy or pregnant	Before pregnancy or in first trimester	Every trimester and for 1 y postpartum	Every 3-12 mo (no DR to moderate NPDR), OR every 1-3 mo (severe NPDR)

AAO, American Academy of Ophthalmology; ADA, American Diabetes Association; DR, diabetic retinopathy; NPDR, nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy **1.** ADA. Taking charge of your diabetes and eye health. https://diabetes.org/diabetes/eye-health/understand-eye-conditions. 2022. Accessed 11/29/22. **2.** AAO. Ophthalmology. 2020;127:P66-P145.

When to Refer Patients With Diabetic Retinopathy to an Ophthalmologist or Retina Specialist

Classification	Images	Re-Examination, Next Screening	Referral to Ophthalmologist
No apparent DR		1-2 y	Not required
Mild NPDR		6-12 mo	Not required
Moderate NPDR		3-6 mo	Required (nonurgent)
Severe NPDR		<3 mo	Required (urgent)
PDR		1 mo	Required (urgent)

PDR, proliferative

DR Wong TY et al. *Ophthalmology*. 2018;125(10):1608-1622.

Images courtesy of Judy E. Kim, MD.



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