

# Diabetic RetinaScreen Bulletin

Spring 2024

## About Diabetic RetinaScreen - how to register

Diabetic retina screening is available free of charge to people with type 1 and type 2 diabetes aged 12 years and older. People with diabetes can register themselves for screening by filling in a registration form online. This form needs to be signed by a GP and sent to: Diabetic RetinaScreen, FreePost, PO Box 328, North City DSU, Cork.

GPs, practice nurses, dietitians or eye doctors can also complete the registration process for their patients. If you have a patient with diabetes you can register them at – [hse.ie/diabeticretinascreen](https://hse.ie/diabeticretinascreen) or freephone 1800 45 45 55.

## Diabetic RetinaScreen HSELandD eLearning module launch

We have launched a new Diabetic RetinaScreen elearning module. It aims to increase knowledge about diabetic retina screening so that health and social care staff can support eligible patients to take part in the screening programme. The module takes around 15 minutes to complete.



To access the module, log on to HSELandD using your credentials and search for 'Diabetic RetinaScreen'.

## Research: diabetic retina screening awareness and attitudes

We have recently published research on:

- the levels of knowledge about diabetic retinopathy and the importance of regular diabetic eye screening and
- understanding the knowledge and attitudes towards diabetic retina screening by socio-economic group.



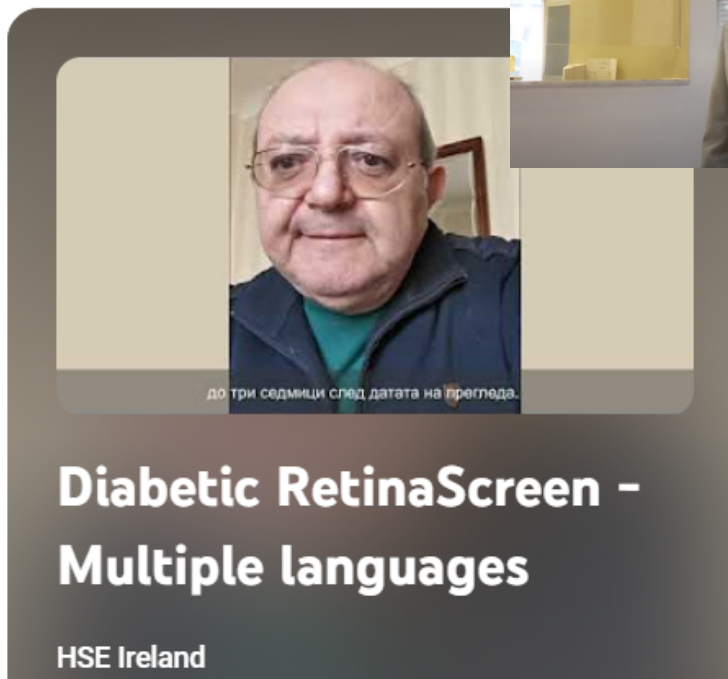
# Diabetic RetinaScreen information resources

We have lots of resources [available here](#) to help you and your patients through their screening journey including:

- Video - patient attending a diabetic retina screening appointment (2023), with subtitles
- Video on Diabetic RetinaScreen video available in multiple languages
- Easy read - Guidance on supporting persons with additional needs
- Patient Charter for Diabetic RetinaScreen
- Cairt Scagthástála Diabetic RetinaScreen
- Quality Assurance standards
- Clinical Practice Guidelines for Treatment Clinics
- General information leaflets
- Programme Reports



Your guide  
to diabetic  
retinopathy  
screening



Diabetic  
Retina  
Screening  
in Pregnancy



## Single national screening provider

Since January 2024, we are providing diabetic retina screening services nationally through one provider, NEC Care. We have been working with NEC Care in areas of Ireland since 2013. You can read more about this change [here](#).

Neither you nor your patients need to take any action with this move to a single national provider. Screening is being provided as usual. Information on screening locations is kept up to date on our [website](#).

# Screening for women with diabetes who become pregnant

Did you know that women with type 1 or type 2 diabetes who become pregnant are at greater risk of developing serious eye problems?

We offer more frequent diabetic retina screening for women with diabetes who are pregnant.

This service is arranged through maternity units and the local DRS screening locations. See [here](#) for more details.



## Diabetic RetinaScreen results and what they mean

- Screening looks for diabetic retinopathy and might not detect other eye conditions.
- We send the participant and the participants' GPs a letter about the test results within 3 weeks of the test appointment. This letter will also set out the next steps.
- If a participant requires treatment, we will refer them to a Diabetic RetinaScreen treatment clinic in a hospital. This follow-up assessment and treatment is free-of-charge.

Screening result	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• R0M0*</li><li>• R1M0</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• R1M1 (VA score <math>\leq</math> 6/18)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• R1M1 (VA score <math>&gt;</math> 6/18)</li><li>• R2M0</li><li>• R2M1</li><li>• Specific non-diabetic eye disease (NDED)</li><li>• I (incomplete screen)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• R3aM0</li><li>• R3aM1</li><li>• R3sM0</li><li>• R3sM1</li><li>• NDED of Age-Related Macular Degeneration (ARMD)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• U (ungradable)</li></ul>
Programme action	Remain in routine <a href="#">screening</a>	Referral to Digital Surveillance (DS) pathway i.e. 6 monthly screening	Routine referral to Ophthalmology treatment centre	Urgent referral to Ophthalmology treatment centre	Referral to slit lamp biomicroscopy (SLB) screening

\*Two R0M0 results in a row refer to 2-yearly screening

## Contact us

### Diabetic RetinaScreen

Email: [info@diabeticretinascreen.ie](mailto:info@diabeticretinascreen.ie)  
Freephone: 1800 45 45 55  
Website: [hse.ie/diabeticretinascreen](http://hse.ie/diabeticretinascreen)

Post: Diabetic RetinaScreen,  
National Screening Service,  
Kings Inn House,  
200 Parnell Street,  
Freepost FDN7633, Dublin, D01 A3Y8