

**Title of Intervention:** Intensive training for general practitioners to screen for diabetic retinopathy

**Intervention Strategies:** Provider Education

**Purpose of the Intervention:** To improve general practitioners' knowledge and skills about diabetic retinopathy

**Population:** General practitioners in New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

**Setting:** General practice facility in Sydney, Australia ; worksite-based

**Partners:** None mentioned

**Intervention Description:**

- Provider Education: A brief skills workshop was held to provide an overview of diabetic retinopathy. In addition, ophthalmologists provided demonstrations and opportunities to practice the use of an ophthalmoscope and funduscopy (eye exam).

**Theory:** Not mentioned

**Resources Required:**

- Staff/Volunteers: Two ophthalmologists
- Training: Not mentioned
- Technology: Not mentioned
- Space: Meeting space
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: Fundus photographs for demonstration, ophthalmoscope, educational materials
- Evaluation: Knowledge and practical tests

**Evaluation:**

- Design: Cohort
- Methods and Measures: General practitioners went through multiple written and practical assessments of their eye skills and knowledge.

**Outcomes:**

- Short Term Impact: There was a significant change in knowledge about diabetic retinopathy. The percentage of general practitioners reaching 60% specificity of a correct diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy assessments increased. However, fundus photography analysis did not significantly change.
- Long Term Impact: Not measured

**Maintenance:** Not mentioned

**Lessons Learned:** Brief education sessions can improve general practitioners' correct diagnostic rate of diabetic retinopathy.

**Citation(s):**

Confos N, Frith J, Mitchell P. Training GPs to screen for diabetic retinopathy. The impact of short term intensive education. Aust Fam Physician. May 2003;32(5):381-382, 384.