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# Ophthalmoscopy - performed

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**Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>**

## *Identifying and Definitional Attributes*

Data Dictionary: NHDD  
Knowledgebase ID: 000838                      Version number: 1  
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT  
Registration Authority: NHIMG                      Admin status: SUPERSEDED  
Effective date: 01-MAR-05  
Definition: Whether or not an examination of the fundus of the eye by an ophthalmologist or optometrist as a part of the ophthalmological assessment has been undertaken.  
Context: Public health, health care and clinical settings.

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## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype: Numeric  
Representational form: CODE  
Representation layout: N  
Minimum Size: 1  
Maximum Size: 1  
Data Domain: 1                      Yes, ophthalmoscopy performed  
                  2                      No, ophthalmoscopy not performed  
                  9                      Not stated/ inadequately described  
Guide For Use: Record whether or not a fundus examination of the eye has occurred.  
Collection Methods: Ask the individual if he/she has undertaken an eye check, including examination of fundi with pupils dilated.  
  
Pupil dilatation and an adequate magnified view of the fundus is essential, using either detailed direct or indirect ophthalmoscopy or fundus camera. This will usually necessitate referral to an ophthalmologist.  
Related metadata: relates to the data element Blindness - diabetes complication version 1  
                          relates to the data element Cataract - history version 1

relates to the data element Ophthalmological assessment - outcome version 1

relates to the data element Referred to ophthalmologist - diabetes mellitus version 1

relates to the data element Visual acuity version 1

relates to the data element Health professionals attended - diabetes mellitus version 1

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### *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document: National Diabetes Outcomes Quality Review Initiative (NDOQRIN) data dictionary.

Source Organisation: National Diabetes Data Working Group

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Comments: When reporting :

-Record whether or not an examination of the fundus of the eye by an ophthalmologist or optometrist as a part of the ophthalmological assessment has been undertaken in the last 12 months.

Patients with diabetes have an increased risk of developing several eye complications including retinopathy, cataract and glaucoma that lead to loss of vision.

Eye examinations should be commenced at the time diabetes is diagnosed. If no retinopathy is present, repeat the eye examination at least every 2 years. Once retinopathy is identified more frequent observation is required.

Diabetic retinopathy is a leading cause of blindness. Retinopathy is characterised by proliferation of the retina's blood vessels, which may project into the vitreous, causing vitreous haemorrhage, proliferation of fibrous tissue and retinal detachment. It is often accompanied by microaneurysms and macular oedema, which can express as a blurred vision. The prevalence of retinopathy increases with increasing duration of diabetes. In the early stage, retinopathy is asymptomatic, however up to 20% of people with diabetes Type 2 have retinopathy at the time of diagnosis of diabetes. Cataract and glaucoma are also associated diabetic eye problems that could lead to blindness.

Regular eye checkups are important for patients suffering from diabetes mellitus. This helps to detect and treat abnormalities early and to avoid or postpone vision-threatening complications.

References:

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Vision Australia, No. 2 - 1997/8; University of Melbourne.

Diabetes: complications: Therapeutic Guidelines Limited  
(05.04.2002).

### *Data Element Links*

#### *Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element*

NHIM Request for / entry into service event

#### *Data Agreements which include this Data Element*

DSS - Diabetes (clinical) From 01-Jan-03 to

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