

Is your practice interested in improving patient attendance at diabetic retinopathy screening?

The IDEAS Study

Aim: to examine the feasibility of an **approach to improve eye care for people with diabetes.**

Why?

Screening is an essential part of diabetes management, yet **uptake in Ireland is only 61%.**

Is your practice eligible?

- Computerised record system
- Practice nurse

What would taking part involve?

- **Training session (1.5 hour)** for practice staff on intervention procedures and practice audit conducted by the research team.
- **Audit** by practice nurse or administrator at baseline and re-audit at 6 months to identify patients with diabetes who have not attended RetinaScreen and any changes in attendance.
- Nurse or administrator sets up **electronic alerts** on patient files to prompt GPs and nurses to remind patients.
- GPs and nurses **remind** patients who have not attended screening face-to-face and by phone.
- **Practices send a letter reminder with a key information leaflet.** These materials will be provided by the study team. The intervention will run for 6 months.

Benefits of taking part

1. Opportunity to improve care for patients with diabetes
2. **Training:** improve practice expertise in running searches and conducting audit
3. Audit can fulfil Medical Council obligations or be **counted as internal CPD**
4. **Practice reimbursement:** up to €1000 depending on the number of patients audited (standard fee €500 + €5 per patient)

If you are interested or want to know more please contact Fiona Riordan at 021 4205532 or fiona.riordan@ucc.ie. The closing date for expressions of interest is **Friday 19th April.**

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