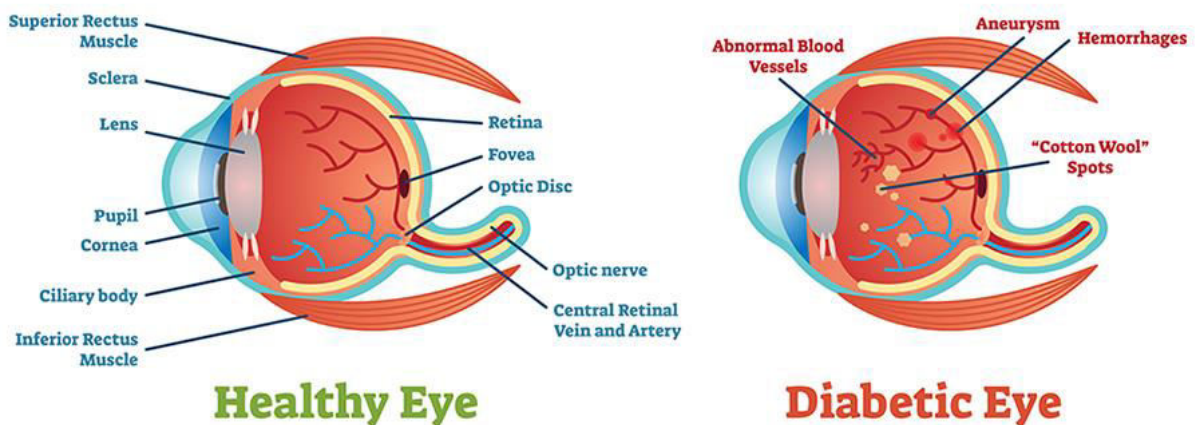


Diabetes Retinopathy

Diabetic retinopathy is a condition that may occur for people who have type 1 or type 2 diabetes. It causes damage to the retina. When sugar levels are high, the blood vessels in your retina can swell and leak, sometimes abnormal new blood vessels can also grow on the retina, all this can steal your vision.



There are two stages in diabetes retinopathy:

1. NPDR (Non-Proliferative Diabetes Retinopathy): This is an early stage of diabetes retinopathy. In this stage the symptoms can be mild or non-existent state. Swelling occurs in the tiny blood vessels in the retina and some may start to leak. Blockages can occur causing parts of the retina to be cut off from blood flow, causing parts of the retina to be damaged.
2. PDR (Proliferative Diabetes Retinopathy): This is the more advanced form of the disease. In this stage, new abnormal vessels start to grow inside the eye, these blood vessels can leak easily. And this leakage of blood can make your eye much harder to see and may block your vision entirely. These blood vessels can form scar tissue and can cause problems with the macula or lead to a detached retina.

Symptoms:

- Seeing floaters or dark spots
- Difficulty seeing at night
- Blurred vision
- Loss of vision
- Having a dark or blank spot in the field of your vision.
- Noticing colours appear faded or washed out.

Diagnosis:

The doctors will check for abnormal blood vessels, swelling, scarring and optic nerve damage. The following test can be performed to get detailed analogy of your eye.

- Fluorescein angiography
- Optical coherence tomography (OCT)