Diabetic Mellitus Retinopathy Complication Screening in Tuen Mun Community Care Centre: 3 Wins Situation

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• Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Program
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Community Care Centre (CCC)

- PATIENTS EMPOWERMENT
- CLINICAL SERVICES
CCC – Health Talks
CCC – Patients’ Support Group
CCC – Self Help Corner
CCC – Clinical Services

• Clinics
  – Family Medicine Medical Triage Clinic
  – Hypertension Clinic
  – Back Clinic (by Physiotherapists)
  – P & O Foot Care Clinic (by P & O)
CCC – Retinal Photo for Diabetic Patients
Diabetic Retinopathy Screening - Training

• Operation on retinal camera
  – To both doctors and nurses
Diabetic Retinopathy Screening - Training

• 2 Workshops with Ophthalmologists
  – How to interpret retinal photo
  – Grading system on DMR
  – Referral guidelines
  – Case discussion
  – Reply system
Diabetic Retinopathy Screening – Referral Logistics

Diabetic Patients without eye follow-up

Feedback

CCC for retinal photo

Moderate to severe DMR or macular lesion

Mild DMR

Normal

Eye Unit

GOPC

+/−
Patient-held Retinal Photo Record
Sample of Retinal Photo
Reply Letter

To:
(Tuen Mun Community Care Centre)

Name:
Sex/Age:
ID:
(Gum label)

Diagnosis:
Treatment:

From:
(M.O. of eye clinic)

Date:

Would you kindly complete the reply letter and fax to: 26186837. Thank you!
Study - Objectives

• To evaluate whether the direct referral to ophthalmology unit is appropriate or not
• To study the treatment or investigation done for the appropriate referral cases
Study - Method

• Descriptive
• Period: Nov 2005 to Dec 2007
• Target: Cases referred by CCC to eye directly
• Finding of retinal photo reported by doctors in CCC was compared with the diagnosis replied by ophthalmologists
• If the finding was compatible with the diagnosis made by ophthalmologists, we would further assess if any treatment or further investigations were done
Study - Result

- Total retinal photos taken: 8071
- 232 patients (3%) were referred to Eye Unit directly
Study - Result

- Appropriate referrals: 139 patients (59.9%)
Study - Result

Chart 3: Appropriate referrals - Treatment & Investigation

- Laser therapy: 59
- No treatment or investigation: 75
- Other treatment or investigation: 5
Conclusion

• The result showed that family physicians were competent in reading retinal photo
• Based on the finding, we were also able to make correct referrals
• This Community Program created to a 3 Wins situation
Conclusion – 3 Wins

• Patients
  – Annual screening for diabetic retinopathy
  – Early screening for diabetic retinopathy
  – Early referral & intervention

• Family physicians
  – Gain experience in reading retinal photo

• Ophthalmologists
  – Reduce burden
Acknowledge

- Dr Chan WH (TM Eye Centre)
- Kam YC & Tang YS (RN TMCCC)
THANK YOU

Question & Answer Session