Diabetic and the Eye: An Introduction

FRCSEd (Ophth), FCOphthHK, FHKAM (Ophthalmology)

Department of Ophthalmology, Grantham Hospital & Queen Mary Hospital

Background

- Diabetes mellitus (DM) affects 422 millions of people in the world¹
- Diabetic retinopathy (DR) causes 1.9% of moderate-to-severe visual impairment and 2.6% of blindness¹

¹ World Health Organization. Global report on diabetes. 2016.

How common is diabetic retinopathy?

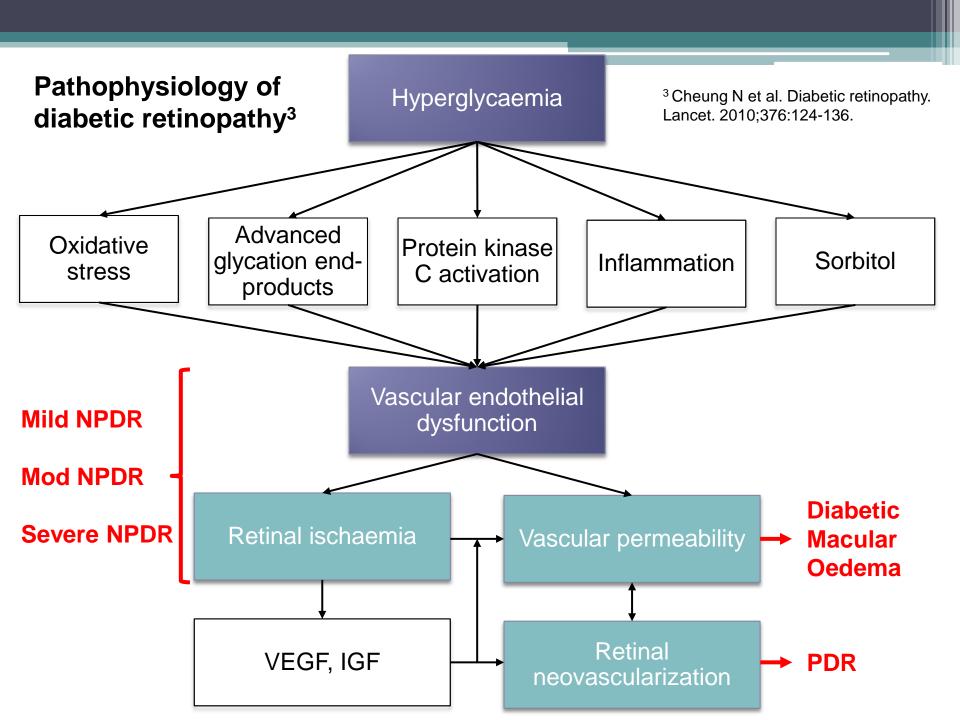
Among individuals with DM:

- 30-35% has diabetic retinopathy^{1,2}
- 5-10% has vision-threatening diabetic retinopathy²

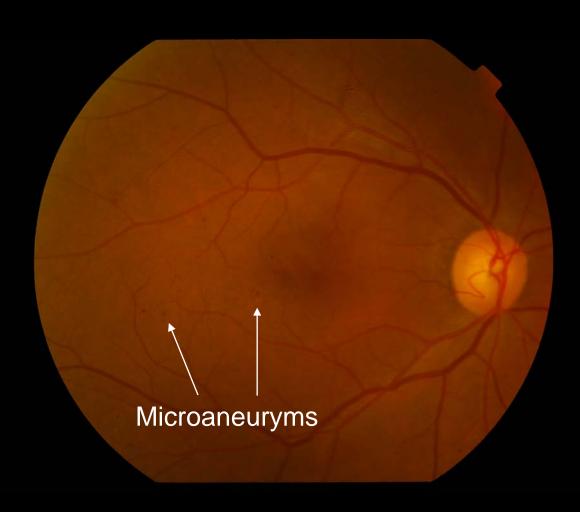
Life-time risk of diabetic retinopathy:

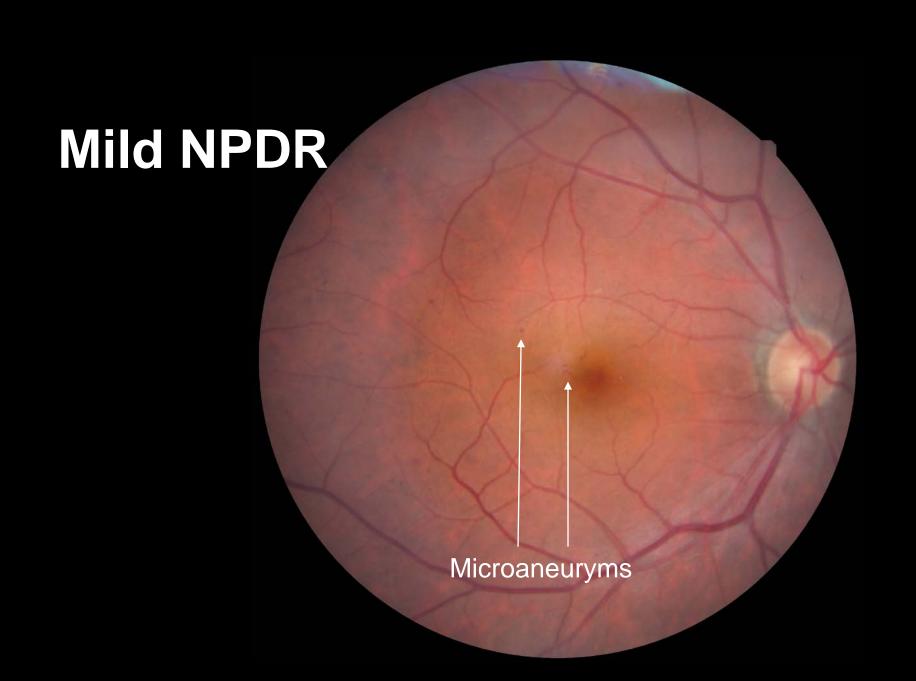
- 50-60% in type 2 DM²
- 90% in type 1 DM²

- ¹ World Health Organization. Global report on diabetes. 2016.
- ² Wong TY et al. Diabetic retinopathy. Nature Reviews Disease Primers. 2016;2:16012.

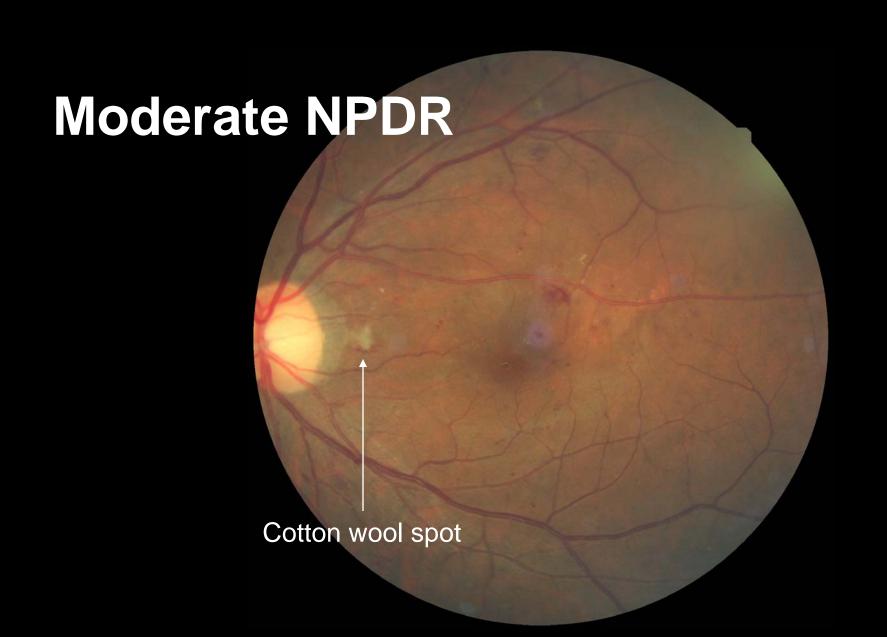


Mild NPDR



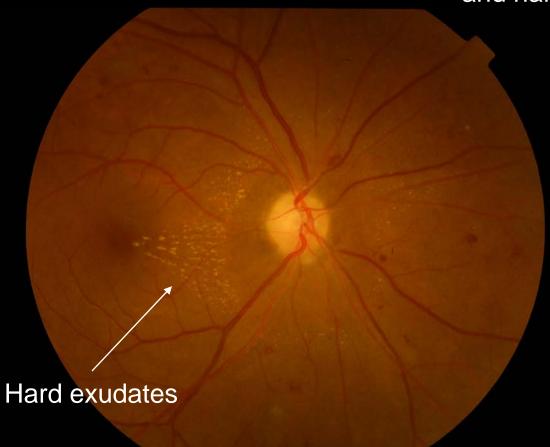


Dot retinal haemorrhage / microaneurysm Mild NPDR Hard exudates Blot retinal haemorrhage

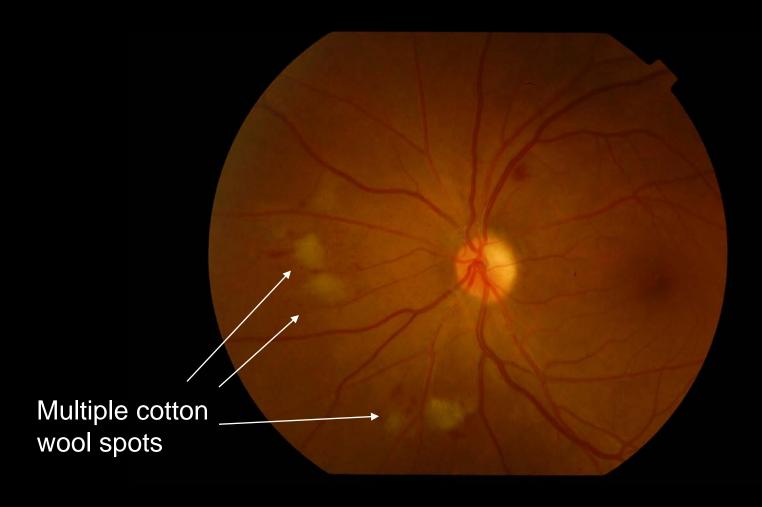


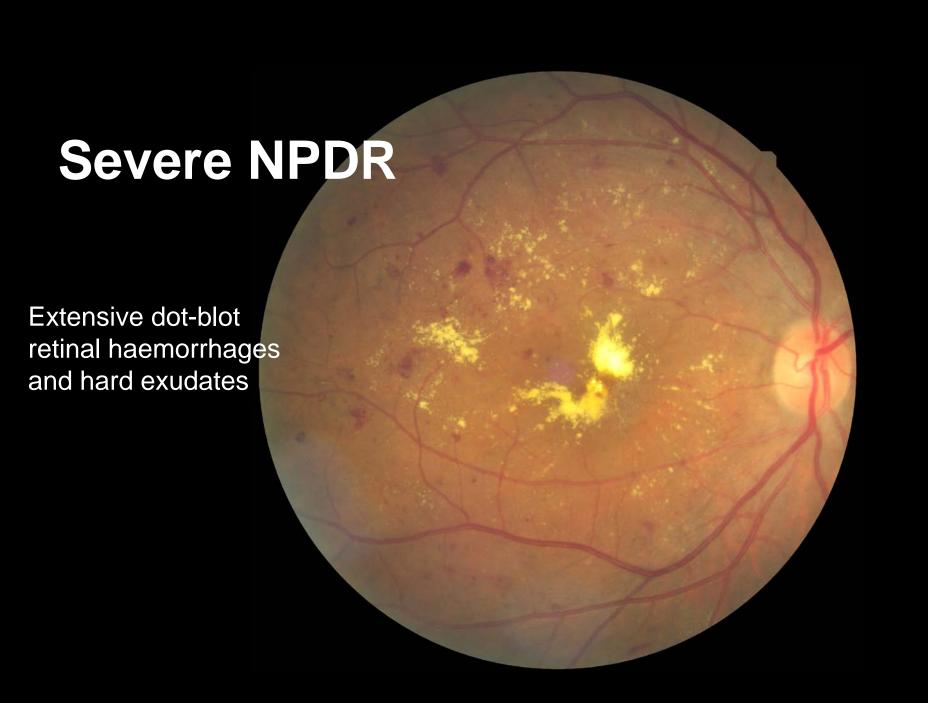
Moderate NPDR

More diffuse dot-blot retinal haemorrhages and hard exudates



Moderate NPDR



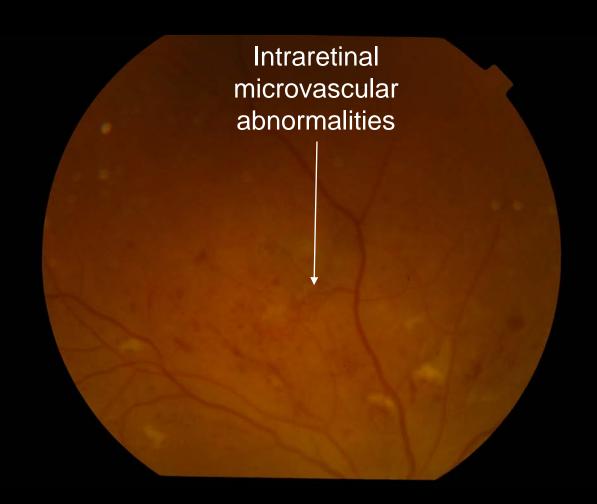


Severe NPDR

Venous dilatation and tortuosity



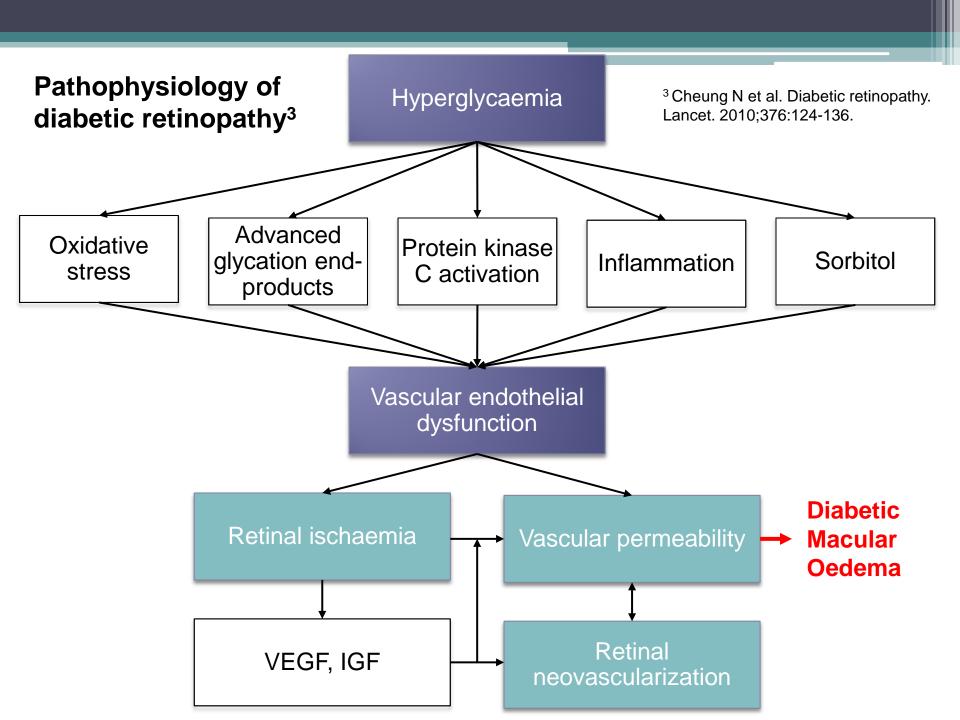
Severe NPDR



Vision-threatening diabetic retinopathy

- Diabetic macular oedema
- Proliferative diabetic retinopathy

Vision-threatening condition 1: Diabetic Macular Oedema



Diabetic Macular Oedema

Incidence:4

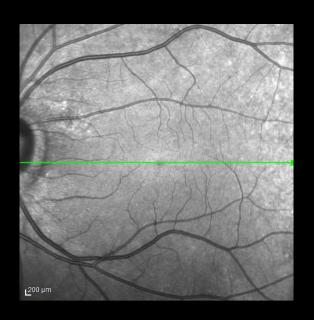
- 14-25% type 2 DM
- 20% of type 1 DM
- developed macular oedema within 10 years

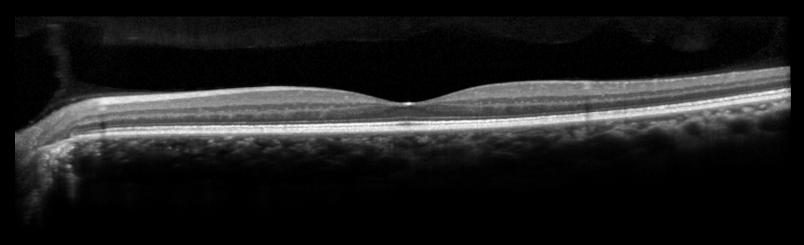
⁴ Klein R et al. The Wisconsin Epidemiologic Study of Diabetic Retinopathy. XV. The long-term incidence of macular edema. Ophthalmology. 1995;102(1):7-16.

Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) image

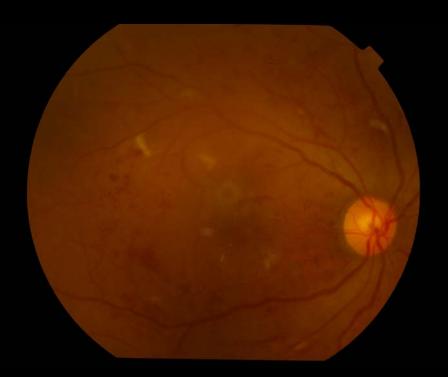
Normal macula

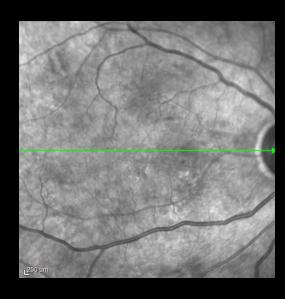
Visual acuity: 20/20

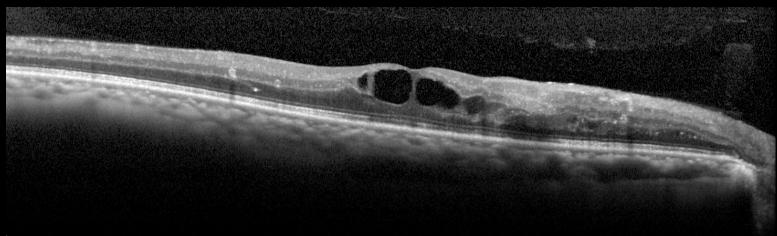




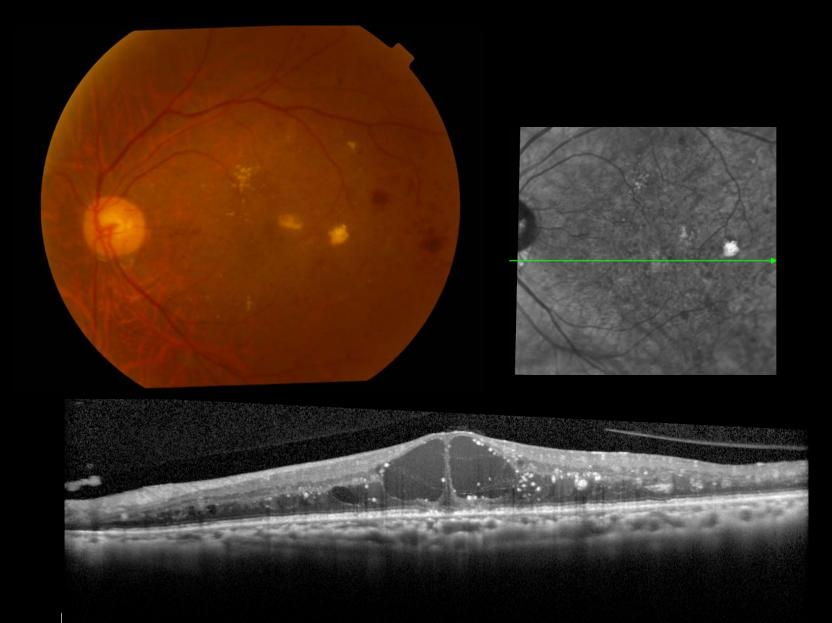
Diabetic Macular Oedema

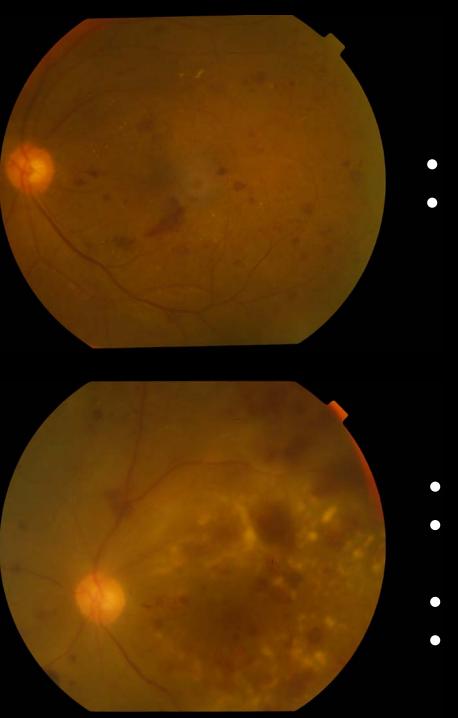






Diabetic Macular Oedema



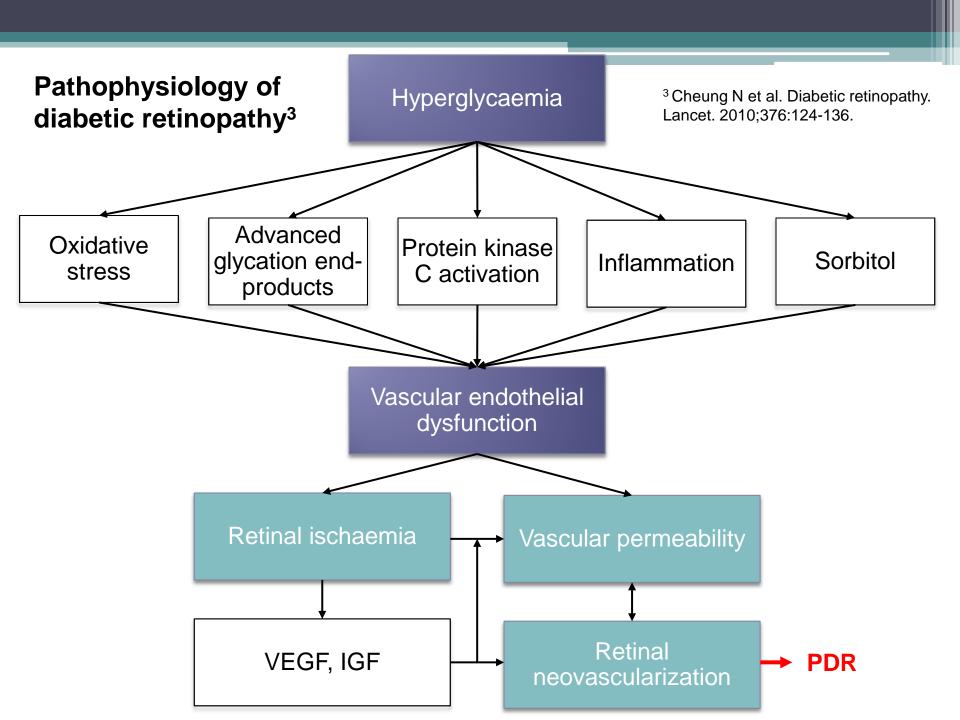


- Year 2015
- Visual acuity: 20/40

Poor glycaemic control (HbA1c 8.3%)

- Year 2017
- Visual acuity: Count-finger
- HbA1c 10.8%
 - Fasting glucose 27.1 mmol/L

Vision-threatening condition 2: Proliferative diabetic retinopathy

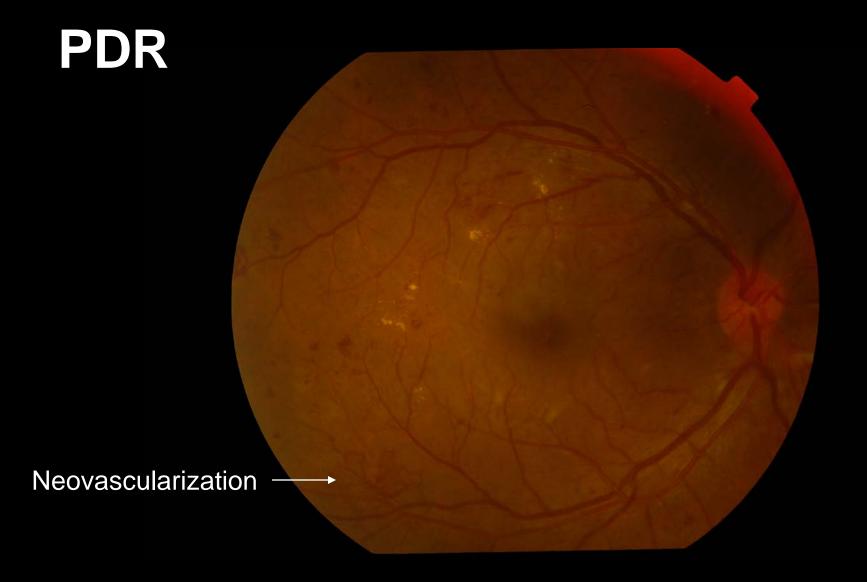


Proliferative diabetic retinopathy

Prevalence:1

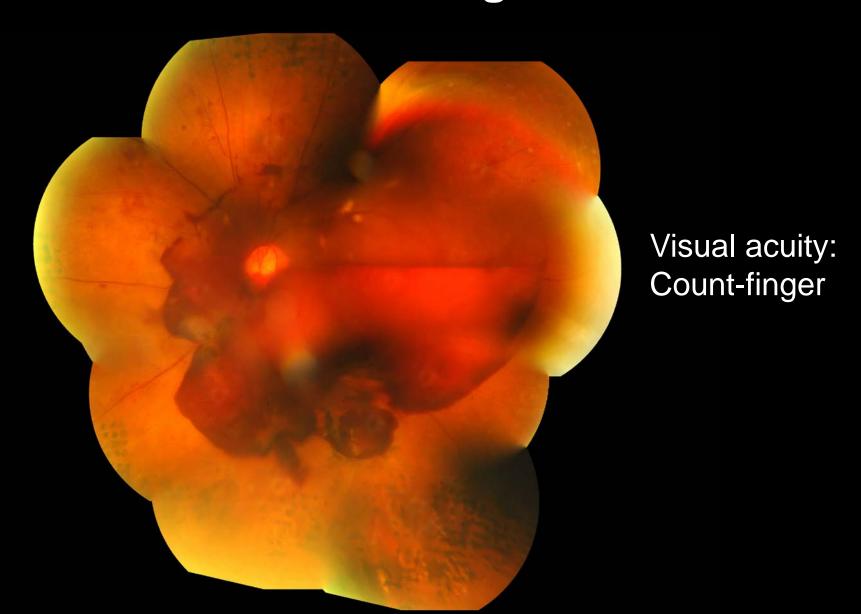
 Proliferative diabetic retinopathy has a prevalence of 7% in individuals with DM

Neovascularization PDR Neovascularization



PDR Neovascularization

Pre-retinal haemorrhage



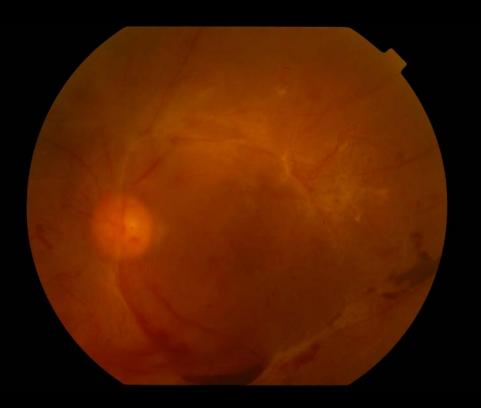
Vitreous haemorrhage

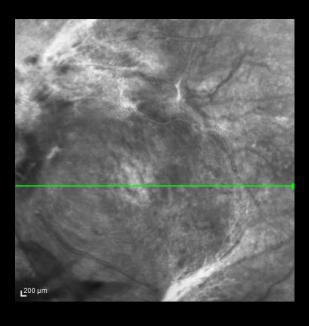


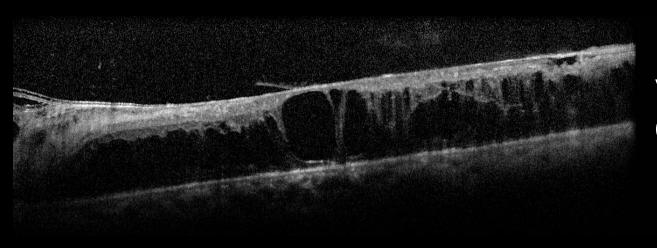
Fibrovascular proliferation



Visual acuity: Count-finger



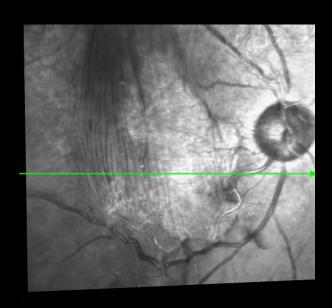


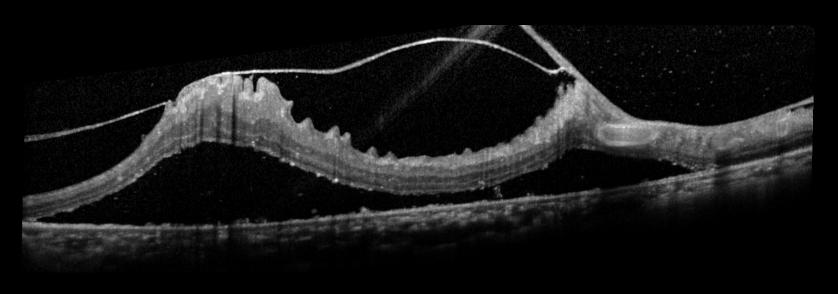


Visual acuity: Count-finger

Tractional retinal detachment

Visual acuity: Count-finger





Other than diabetic retinopathy...

⁵ Pollreisz A et al. Diabetic cataract – pathogenesis, epidemiology and treatment. J Ophthalmol. 2010;2010:608751.

Diabetic cataract

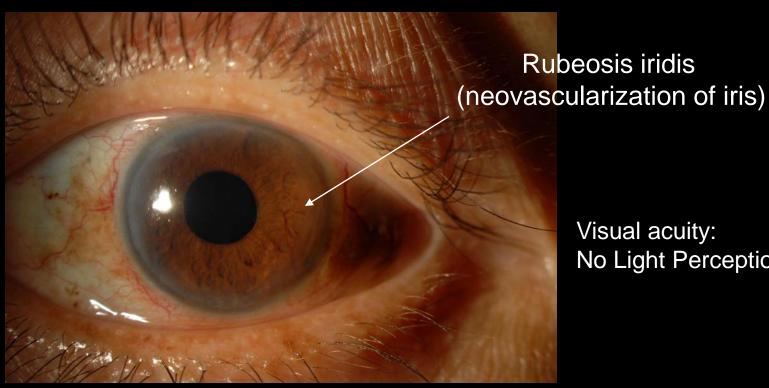
Prevalence:5

- 3 to 4-fold increased prevalence of cataract in diabetics under age 65
- 2-fold increased prevalence of cataract in diabetics above age 65

2 forms:

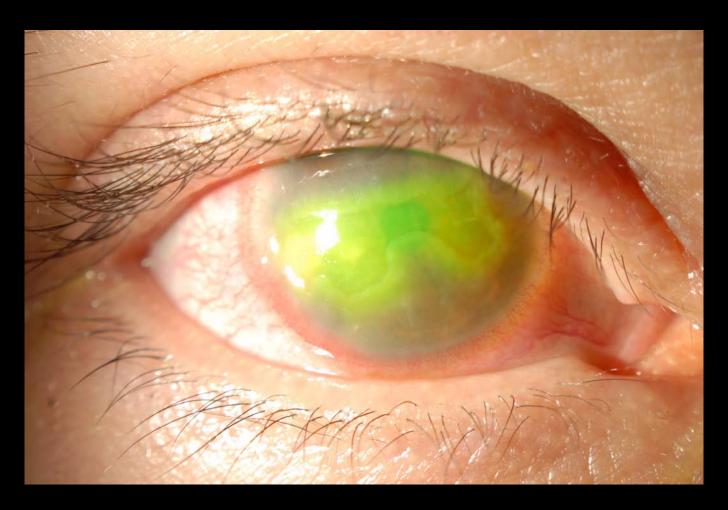
- Diabetic snowflake cataract
- Age-related senile cataract

Neovascular Glaucoma



Visual acuity: No Light Perception

Corneal persistent epithelial defect



Corneal infection (keratitis)



Corneal abscess



Summary

- Diabetes affects different parts of the eyes
- Diabetic retinopathy is a common and important cause for visual impairment
- Diabetic macular oedema and proliferative diabetic retinopathy are two major visionthreatening conditions related to diabetes
- Regular eye screening, good glycaemic control, and prompt and effective interventions are keys to successful management

Thank you