

HC4 Obtain images of the retina

About this workforce competence

This workforce competence covers how to obtain images of the eye using fundus photography within a screening programme for diabetic retinopathy

Links

This workforce competence links with the following dimensions and levels within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004)

Dimension HWB6: Assessment and treatment planning

Level: 3

Origin

This workforce competence has been developed by Skills for Health.

It is based on competence *OVS13 Obtain images of eye and supporting structures using light or lasers* developed by the Health Care Science Project 2002

Scope

Other abnormalities in the eye

Other abnormalities in the eye include:

a) lesions other than diabetic retinopathy as defined by local protocols

Individuals/patients

patients of 12 years of age or older

Performance criteria

You need to:

1. limit risks of infection by using appropriate infection control procedures
2. confirm the **patient** identity and ensure the patient data is entered correctly onto digital imaging systems
3. select the appropriate modality for fundus photography
4. where required by local protocols, document anterior segment abnormalities which may prevent adequate fundus photography
5. make sure that the patient is sitting as comfortably as possible and is suitably positioned and aligned for each image capture
6. make sure that you are sitting comfortably and are correctly positioned to obtain images of the patient's eyes in accordance with Health and Safety protocols
7. obtain images of suitable clarity and in sufficient quantity according to your national and local protocol
8. take extra images where necessary, in accordance with your local screening programme guidelines
9. record why images of suitable clarity or field position cannot be obtained if known
10. record and store images in accordance with relevant protocols and procedures
11. record any adverse event or critical incident

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to apply:

National guidelines

- K1 A basic awareness of national guidelines on eye screening and on diabetes monitoring, management and education

Working in partnership with patients and carers

- K2 A working understanding of the social, cultural and economic background of the patient/carer group

Specialist knowledge for eye screening

- K3 A working understanding of contra-indications, risks and reactions to this procedure
- K4 A working understanding of National Screening Programme protocols for taking images
- K5 A working understanding of how to change the ambient lighting/ environment according to need
- K6 A working understanding of reason/s for selection of imaging modality according to clinical condition
- K7 A working understanding of how to identify and minimise artefacts and poor quality images due to ocular conditions, operator error and patient compliance
- K8 A factual knowledge of the relationship between normal and **abnormal findings** and diseases and conditions of eye and supporting structures
- K9 A working understanding of your local infection control procedures
- K10 A working understanding of how to manage and how to record adverse events and critical incidents, as relates to this activity
- K11 A working understanding of the use of internal and external fixation targets

Diabetes

- K12 A factual knowledge of causes, signs and symptoms of diabetes
- K13 A factual knowledge of the development of complications of diabetes
- K14 A factual knowledge of the effects of diabetes on a person's eyes

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Organisational and legal issues

- K15 An in-depth understanding of your role in the healthcare team and the role of others
- K16 A working understanding of the law and good practice guidelines on consent
- K17 A basic awareness of local guidelines on diabetes healthcare
- K18 A working understanding of local referral pathways
- K19 A working understanding of local systems for recording patient information
- K20 A factual knowledge of the Data Protection Act and local patient information protection protocols
- K21 A factual knowledge of quality assurance systems
- K22 A working understanding of the complaints system and how to handle complaints