Urgent ophthalmology referrals for non-Diabetic Retinopathy conditions from Diabetic Eye Screening Programme into Southend University Hospital Eye Department

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Introduction

- Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (DESP) has not been scoped to identify incidental findings (non-diabetic retinopathy/non-DR conditions); however, it is acknowledged that local screening services may have existing direct referral processes in place.
- Essex DESP sends urgent referrals to hospital eye services and notifies non-urgent findings to GP.
- In our analysis, we would like to identify the accuracy of urgent non-DR referrals from DESP to Southend University Hospital Eye Department.

Method

- A retrospective electronic case records analysis was carried out on 139 urgent non-DR referrals.
- Diagnosis made by ophthalmologist and DESP diagnosis were compared by two independent ophthalmologists.
- OCTs and fundus photos were reviewed.

Results

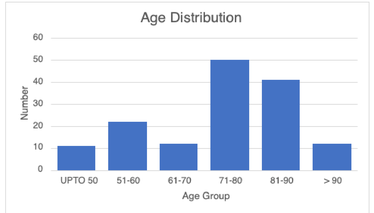
- Referrals were received within 7 months till the end of July 2022 with the average of 19.86 cases per month.
- Male:Female was 1:1 and 50% were within the age group of 71 to 80.
- 3.59% was DNA.

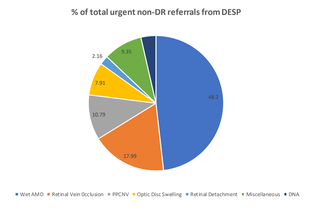
Acknowledgements

- This poster was possible because DESP, InHealth Intelligence provided with a list of non-DR referrals.
- **Disclosure:** Mya Ohn is Clinical Lead/DESP, Essex

- DESP referral accuracy was noted in 53.24% of all 139 cases and 27.34% required treatment.
- 48.20% of referrals were received for the suspicious of nAMD in which 49.25% accuracy was noted, followed by Retinal Vein Occlusion 17.99% with accuracy 68%, PPCNV 10.79% with accuracy 46.67%, Optic Disc Swelling 7.91% with accuracy 18.18%, Retinal Detachment 2.16% with 33.33% accuracy and miscellaneous conditions 9.35% in which no urgent referable condition was noted.

Referral diagnosis	% of total urgent non-DR referrals	% of diagnosis accuracy urgent non-DR referrals
Neovascular Wet AMD	48.20	49.25
Retinal Vein 0cclusion	17.99	68.00
PPCNV	10.79	46.67
Optic Disc Swelling	7.91	18.18
Retinal Detachment	2.16	33.33
Miscellaneous	9.35	0
DNA	3.59	NA





Conclusion

- This analysis identified the accuracy of urgent DESP referrals for incidental finding was 53.24%.
- The retinal screening was unable to perform any additional test such as OCT scan and the referrals were based on fundus photos.
- In view of limited tests available, urgent non-DR referrals received from DESP were noted as comparable accuracy with the other primary care referrals[1,2].
- Virtual triaging by using appropriate diagnostic tests for non-DR referrals might be a useful option for referral refining process.

References

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