AUDIT OF RETINAL SCREENING OF DIABETIC PATIENTS AT A NORTH LONDON PRACTICE

Ali Istanaksai[1], Abdalla Ali[2] , Khaled Jama[3] , Eesa Siddiqui[4], Kosala Perera[5]

Aims

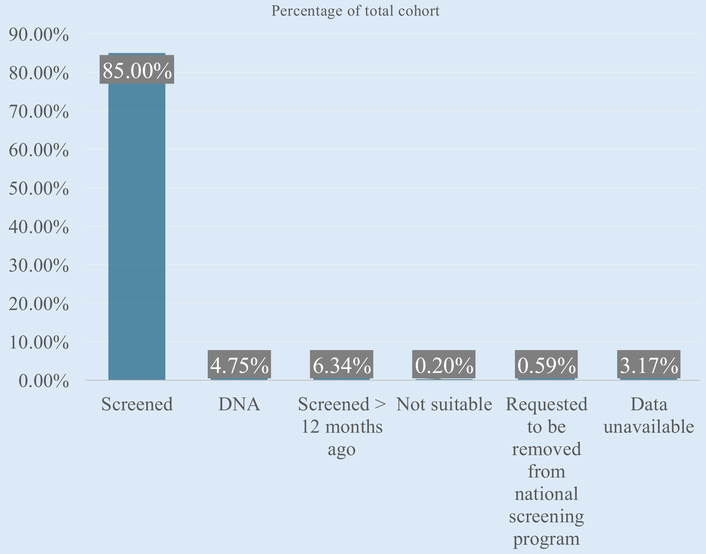
Diabetic retinopathy is the primary cause of blindness among working-age individuals in the UK. Each year, around 4,200 people in England lose their sight due to this condition. However, with timely monitoring and intervention, blindness can be prevented. Our objective is to compare Arcadian Garden Surgery's retinal screening standards with those outlined by the NICE guidelines. This audit aims to identify any deficiencies in the practice regarding this aspect of patient care.

Methods

• Target criteria: All diabetic patients aged over 17 should have at least 1 annual retinal screening.
• Standard: 100% of patients eligible for this audit should have had retinal screening in the past 12 months.

The EMIS software was used to analyse the records of 505 patients within the practice to determine whether they had their annual diabetic screening. This data was collected from June 2024 to July 2024.

Results



Number of eligible	505
Positive	429
Negative	76

Conclusion

85% of patients received screening in the past 12 months, while 15% did not. Possible reasons for the 15% non-compliance include:
•Patient-related issues (Did Not Attend (DNA), requests for removal)
•Patients deemed unsuitable for screening by their optician
•Time constraints on GPs

The lack of screening is not due to GP awareness, as they receive reminders for overdue patients. We suggest that providing additional training to all GPs on diabetic retinopathy screening and issuing more frequent reminders could improve referral rates. A re-audit is recommended in 2 years.

Correspondence to ali.istanaksai@kcl.ac.uk