LATER STAGE DIABETIC RETINOPATHY – A PRIMARY CARE PERSPECTIVE

Richard Hom, OD,FAAO San Mateo Medical Center San Mateo, CA

Email: richardchom@gmail.com Voice +1.415.533.1530 www.geocities.com/rchom/

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Introduction - Objectives
My primary goal is to empower you to be confident and competent to care for a patient with active diabetic retinopathy.
I define the later stage diabetic as NPDR moderate or two risk factors in 4 of 4 quadrants with no risk factors within 1 disc diameter from the FAZ.
In addition, I will be focusing on physical examination skills; e.g. direct fundus view.

















What is Type 1 Diabetes? Marked inability of the pancreas to secrete insulin because of autoimmune destruction of the beta cells. It commonly occurs in children, with a fairly abrupt onset; however, newer antibody tests have allowed for the identification of more people with the new-onset adult form of type 1 diabetes mellitus called latent autoimmune diabetes of the adult (LADA). In T1DM, ketoacidosis can develop, a life threatening emergency. Ketones are in such high concentration in the blood, Itwill develop. Therefore, exogenous insulin is necessary.

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What is Type 2 Diabetes

- Type 2 DM is a heterogeneous disorder developing insulin resistance and abnormal insulin secretion.
- "...studies support the view that insulin resistance precedes insulin secretory defects..."²
- Glutamic acid decarboxylase (GAD) antibodies vs. Islet cell Antibody tests?
- Ketosis-prone T2DM (T1.5DM, atyptical diabetes) in Umpierrez et. al. (2006)





















The Problem ⁴

- The geographic variation of Type 2 DM
 - · "...highest in certain Pacific islands,
 - "...intermediate in countries such as India and the United States,
 -relatively low in Russia and China.
- This variability is likely due to both genetic and environmental factors.
- There is also considerable variation in DM prevalence among different ethnic populations within a given country..."

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The Problem The Baltimore Eye Study The prevalence of visual impairment was 2.7% in whites and 3.3% in blacks The age-adjusted relative prevalence (B/W) was 1.75 (P = 0.01). The leading causes of visual impaired eyes were cataract (35.8%), age-related macular degeneration (14.2%), diabetic retinopathy (6.6%), glaucoma (4.7%), and other retinal disorders (7.3%).

Source Rahmani B, Tielsch JM, Katz J, Gottsch J, Quigley H, Javitt J, Sommer A. The cause-specific prevalence of visual impairment in an urban population. The Baltimore Eye Survey. Ophthalmology. 1996 Nov;103(11): 721-6

⁴The Problem

- The incidence of DM is similar in men and women throughout most age ranges but is slightly greater in men >60 years.
- The prevalence of DM is approximately twofold greater in African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans than in non-Hispanic whites, and the onset of type 2 DM occurs, on average, at an earlier age in the former groups than in the non-Hispanic white population..."

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The Problem

- Los Angeles Latino Eye Study (LALES) 2004, projected that nearly half of all adult Hispanic/Latino individuals in the United States with diabetes have some type of diabetic retinopathy.
- The average age of diagnosis of diabetes are significantly lower among Latinos/Hispanics compared with other population groups.

UCSF study of nearly 1,073 patients had retinal photographs taken in an "underserved population from a mobile ophthalmology van.

- There were relative equal proportions fo each ethnicity studied with any kind of retinopathy
 - White, 14.%
 - African-American, 13.9%
 - Hispanic, 16.6%

The Problem – Lim (2008)

Asian, 16.5%

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The Problem (in Latin America 7)

- "...The incidence of type 1 diabetes in Latin America ranges from 0.4 to 8.3 cases per 100000 children under 15 years of age...."
- "...and the prevalence of type 2 diabetes ranges from 1.2% to 8%, with higher prevalence rates in urban areas..."
- "...The frequency of diabetes in Latin America is expected to increase by 38% over the next 10 years, compared with an estimated 14% increase in the total population..."

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Prevalence of DM 2 (in Asian Indians ⁸⁾

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 "...Asian Indians (people from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh) have remarkably high prevalence of type 2 diabetes compared to Caucasians. However, the incidence of obesity, an important risk factor in the development of type 2 diabetes, is significantly lower in Asian Indians compared to Caucasians...."

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Diabetic Retinopathy is Inevitable Retinopathy of some kind is inevitable, occurring as much as 95% of the patients who have had diabetes for more than 25 years.

- In 40% of the long term diabetics, it leads to significant vision loss.
- It knows no boundaries of ethnicity, social class or geographic limitation.
- It's effect are system wide. The whole body is involved.









С	riteria for the Diagno	osis of DM
30	Random / Fastin	g Blood Glucose
	From 70 to 99 mg/dL (3.9 to 5.5 mmol/L)	Normal glucose tolerance
	From 100 to 125 mg/dL (5.6 to 6.9 mmol/L)	Impaired fasting glucose (pre- diabetes)
	126 mg/dL (7.0 mmol/L) and above on more than one testing occasion	Diabetes



The	HgbA1c Test		
38			
Gly	cated hemoglobin by the	HbgA1c Measurement N	Method(%)
	Average Blood	Glucose Level (mg/dl)	
			1
	4	60	
	5	90	
	6	120	
	7	150	
	8	180	
	9	210	
	10	240	
	11	270	
	12	300	
	13	330	2009-01-17

What is wrong with the HgbA1c Test? First is that the test is only a measure of average blood sugars. Second, elevated blood sugars may take 24 hours to have any long-term effect on HgbA1C, and if blood sugar is elevated for only part of each day and is normalized or too low the rest of the time, your HgbA1C results may appear deceptively low. Thus, if your blood sugars are only elevated for a few hours after meals, your HgbA1C may not be affected, but many tissues and organs throughout your body will be injured.

What is wrong with the HgbA1c Test? The other drawback is that the upper and lower ranges of "normal" values reported by most labs are usually erroneously high and low, respectively. In other words, the ranges are usually much too wide. Thus, it's up to your physician to decide, based upon his experience, what the proper normal range for his lab should be.

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Some Dru Hemolysis	igs that cause s = ?A1c	e Antibody	
42			
Antibody to RH Antigens	Stable Hapten	Unstable Hapten or unknown Mechanism	
Cephalosporins	Cephalosporins	Amphotericin B etc.	
Diclofenac	Fluorescein	Antazoline	
Ibuprofen	Penicillin	Cephalosporins	
Interferon a	Tetracycline	Chlorpropamide	
Levodopa	Tolbutamide	DIABINESE	
Methyldopa		Doxepine	
Procainamide		Hydrochlorothiazide	
Teniposide		INH	
Thioridazine		Probenecid	
Tolmetin		Rifampin 2009-01-17	

What is wrong with the HgbA1c Test? Many doctors have their own formulas for estimating average four-month blood sugar levels from HgbA1C. A normal value should correspond to blood sugars of about 85–95 mg/dl. HbA1c values can vary by 0.4% from laboratory to laboratory An individual's rate of glycosylation may be associated with likelihood of developing the microvascular complications associated with diabetes independent of the overall level of glycemic control 2009-01-17















Co Morbidities Matter!

- Renal Insufficiency/ Chronic Kidney Disease/ Diabetic nephropathy
- Hypertension
- Serum Lipids
- Smoking
- Pregnancy

Studies such as DCCT, WEDS and the UKPDS report that there are significant association between co morbidities and worsening diabetes and retinopathy

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DCCT: T1DM Findings

- Continuous relationship between A1C and microvascular complication rate:
- $\hfill\square$ 10% reduction in A1C \rightarrow ~35% risk reduction for retinopathy
- $\hfill\square$ 10% reduction in A1C \rightarrow ~25%-44% risk reduction for nephropathy
- □ 10% reduction in A1C → ~30% risk reduction for neuropathy
- No adverse QoL or cognitive changes with intensive treatment

"Backets Control and Complications Trial (DCC)" The DCCT is a clicical study conducted from 1983 to 1983 by the bitmoni Institute of Databates and Dappresention of App. Mathy, and new diseases: Caused by diabetes. In fact, it demonstrated that any sustained lowering of blood glucose height, even if the personal has a heldboy of poor control.

SI Continuous relationship between A1C and microvascular complication rate No A1C "threshold" (applies to all A1C levels) Lowering BP to 144/82 mm Hg → reduced diabetes-related death, stroke, heart failure, visual loss, microvascular complications Continuous relationship with systolic BP (no "threshold")

























Cł	nronic Renal Disease	
69	Stages of Chronic Renal Disea	ase CRD
Stage	Description	GFR, mL/min per 1.73 m ²
	At increased risk	90 (with CRD risk
1	Kidney damage with normal or increased GFR	90
2	Kidney damage with mildly decreased	60–89
3	Moderately decreased GFR	30–59
4	Severely decreased GFR	15–29
5	Renal failure	<15 (or dialysis)
Soi http	irce: ://www.merckmedicus.com/pp/us/hcp/frame_textbooks.jsp?pg=http://www.accessm	2009-01-17 edicine.com/resourceTOC.aspx?resourceID=4



Laboratory Study of Renal Function

- An assessment of the BUN is used as a gross index of glomerular function.
- Because the BUN is affected by the patient's hydration status, it is a less sensitive indicator of declining renal function than a creatinine clearance test.
- A BUN of over 100 mg/dl is a panic value.

Laboratory Study of Renal Function

- Creatinine is a protein produced by muscle and released into the blood.
- The amount produced is relatively stable in a given person.
- The creatinine level in the serum is therefore determined by the rate it is being removed, which is roughly a measure of kidney function.
- If kidney function falls (say a kidney is removed to donate to a relative), the creatinine level will rise.
- Normal is about 1 for an average adult. Infants that have little muscle will have lower normal levels (0.2). Muscle bound weight lifters may have a higher normal creatinine. 2009-01-17

Laboratory Study of Renal Function

- Serum creatinine only reflects renal function in a steady state.
- After removing a kidney, if the donor's blood is checked right away the serum creatinine will still be 1. In the next day the creatinine will rise to a new steady state (usually about 1.8). If both kidneys were removed (say for cancer) the creatinine would continue to rise daily until dialysis is begun.
- How fast it rises depends on creatinine production, which is again related to how much muscle one has. A baby may need dialysis when the creatinine reaches 2, whereas a normal adult may be able to hold off until 10, or higher

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Blood Glucose Control and Diabetic Nephropathy

- "...the risk of a rapid decline of glomerular function abruptly increases when glycated hemoglobin is steadily higher than 7.5% and postprandial blood glucose is >200 mg/dl....'
- '...One word of caveat, however, needs to be raised concerning one of the results of the ALLHAT study: the higher risk of developing new-onset diabetes among hypertensive patients who are not treated with lisinopril..."

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Nephropathy and Retinopathy In conclusion, the incidence and progression of diabetic retinopathy and the progression of nephropathy at early stages are clearly associated with long-term glycaemic control. However, the incidence and progression of retinopathy and the progression of nephropathy at later stages are also associated with the long-term blood pressure levels, indicating that tight blood glucose control is not enough to prevent the development of these late diabetic complications, but has to be comple mented with other therapeutic strategies, such as antihypertensive treatment.

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CKD and Retinopathy (Bain, 2008)

- Relative incidence of retinopathy in patients with CKD per 1000 person - years
 - ✓ A1c <= 6.0, 15.11</p>
 - A1c 6-7, 17.87
 - A1c 7-8, 29.78
 - A1c > 8, 35.51

Proteinuria and Retinopathy

- Strong association between the two complications
- Proteinuria or microalbuminuria predict proliferative retinopathy
- Possible mechanism include hypertension and increased plasma fibrinogen







ACE Inhibitors and Angiotensin Antagonists

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- By the mid-1980's, ACE inhibitors were found to be superior to other antihypertensive medications in protecting the kidney from damage.
- "...Patients with type 1 or type 2 diabetes and microalbuminuria should be treated early with ACE inhibitors because these drugs can prevent, or at least delay, the occurrence of overt nephropathy..."

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ACE Inhibitors and Angiotensin Antagonists

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- The main common action of ACE inhibitors and AT1 antagonists is the reduction of the stimulation of the AT1 receptor by its ligand angiotensin II (AngII) (Figure 1).
- ACE inhibitors achieve this effect by blocking ACE, thus limiting the amount of AngII available for binding to the AT1 receptor, whereas AT1 antagonists directly inhibit the binding of AngII to AT1

Pregnancy and Retinopathy

- Of those without retinopathy, 12% develop during pregnancy
- Of those with retinopathy, 47% develop increased NPDR and 5% PDR during pregnancy.
- PDR can progress in pregnancy and require laser treatment.

ipid Parameter	T2DM w/o DR	Mild NPDR	Moderate NPDR	Severe NPDR	PDR
Serum Cholesterol	201	201	201	212	216
Serum Friglycerides	150	185	177	141	132

Serum Lipids and the Risk of Macular Edema

- "There was a twofold increased risk of CSME in the highest versus lowest quintile of LDL cholesterol
- "...a fourfold increased risk of CSME in the highest versus lowest quintile of total-to-HDL cholesterol ratio.
- "...the risk of hard exudate increased more than twofold for subjects in the highest quintile of total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, or total-to-HDL cholesterol ratio and more than threefold for subjects in the highest quintile of triglycerides. other risk factors.
- Source B, Miljanovic et. Al. "A Prospective Study of Serum Lipids and Risk of Diabetic Macular Edema in Type 1 Diabetes" 2009-01-17 Diabetes 53:2883-2892, 2004



Laboratory Study of Serum Lipids – HDL, LDL, Triglycerides

- The HDL cholesterol is a test that measures the amount of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol in serum. It is mainly used to assess coronary risk factors
- LDL cholesterol is a lipoprotein that has a much higher proportion of fat to protein than LDL.

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Serum Lipids and the Risk of Macular Edema

- Milianovic et. Al, (2004) studied 1,441 Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT) participants to examine the relationship of the cumulative average of lipid levels (total, LDL, and HDL cholesterol, total-to-HDL cholesterol ratio, and triglycerides) with development of CSME, hard exudate, DR progression, and development of proliferative DR (PDR).
 "Both total-to-HDL cholesterol ratio and LDL
- predicted development of CSME"
- "Higher serum lipids are associated with increased risk of CSME and retinal hard exudate."

Source B, Miljanovic et. Al. "A Prospective Study of Serum Lipids and Risk of Diabetic Macular Edema in Type 1 Diabetes" 2009-01-17 Diabetes 53:2883-2892, 2004









Necessary elements for Effective Evaluation.

Essential Skills; familiarity with....

- ✓ ...Slit Lamp and at lease one fundus lens
- ✓ ...when does your referral eye surgeon first treat
- Essential patient environment
 - ✓ A 7 mm pupil from Tropicamide, 1%, and Phenylephrine, 2.5%, 1 drop each eye, repeat after 10 minutes as needed
 - Light tolerant

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Necessary elements for Effective Evaluation (con't)

Essential Equipment

- Slit lamp and binocular indirect ophthalmoscope
 Fundus lenses (my favorite, 78D/60D), 14/15D,
- 20D/2.2x, 90/Superfield/SuperVitreouslFundus

Essential documentation

- $\checkmark\,$ Divide up the fundus into four quadrants with the center being the fovea.
- Standardized notation or terminology.

Case Studies – Quick Guide to Risk Assessment

- A1c and number of years since first diagnosis
- Presence of hypertension, renal insufficiency and elevated serum lipids
- The number and kind of diabetic medications.
 Maximum medical therapy is Metformin 1000mg, #1, BID to TID; Avandia ('glitiazones) 4mg, once or twice a day; and Glyburide 10mg twice a day.
- 2 risk factors in 4/4 quadrants

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Visual acuity less than 20/40 not explained by other causes.

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Case Study #1

M.H. 48 y/o male. DM 2 x 8yr. +high cholesterol, absent left kidney, borderline hypertension

Meds: Glyburide, 5mg, 2#, BID; Metformin, 1gm, 1#, BID; Avandia, 4mg, 1#, BID

PE: 177#, BP 148/80; Resp 18; pulse 67, T98.6; RBS 254

lotal Cholesterol	209 H	
Triglycerides	248 H	
HgbA1c	9.2 H	
Creatinine	1.0	
BUN	17	
FPG	164	

































Case Study #3

WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT? PDR, (1
pre-retinal hemorrhage) in the presence of adequately
controlled diabetes, normal renal function,
normotensive and normal lipids

UHAT IS YOUR MANAGEMENT ? Return in 2 months for further proliferative changes that may require additional focal laser.

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Who are the the PCP's

- The Primary Care Provider/Physician (PCP) BC Family Practice, Internal Medicine; PA; FNP/NP – The mantra is to maintain the morbidity of the patient.
- The Specialist BC Internal Medicine and frequently fellowship trained sub specialist in endocrinology – aggressively manages diabetes when conventional paradigms are no longer effective. Usually intervenes when insulin and oral agents are contemplated.

What does an optometrist do in a hospital setting?

- Limited scope practice that is rigidly defined and constrained by ophthalmology.
- Wider scope practice with responsibilities port of entry for eye problems.
- Optometric participation are cost effective
- Success depends not only upon clinical skill but team work with PCP (whether physicians or nurses), understanding the medical model and paradigm of hospital services.

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The OD and the Treating Physician The consultation vs referral. Private vs institutional (hospital practice) The direct or explicit vs indirect or implicit consultation. Medical Panels Medicare

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The Referral Letter

I had the pleasure of seeing Mr/Ms ** for a diabetic eye examination today upon your advice/referral. The patient is under your active medical management and denies any problems with his vision His last diabetic eye disease evaluation was about *yrs/months ago.

The retinal exam was unremarkable with no visible or obvious vascular abnormalities. The retina should be stable for another year and would recommend another evaluation then.

Kind Regards

2009-01-17

The Referral Letter #2

I had the pleasure of seeing Mr/Ms ** for a diabetic eye examination today upon your advice/referral. The patient is under your active medical management and reports some recent vision problems.

The retinal exam was noteworthy for mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy in either eye but is insufficient for specific surgical intervention at this time. The retinopathy is likely to progress within a year especially if there is chronic hyperglycemia (A1c over 8.0); elevated serum lipids and continuously elevated blood pressures. I would like to see Mr/Ms * again in one year/3months and will keep you appraised of his/her retinopathy





