

PEOPLE OF ALL AGES have trusted their eye health to Vision Care for over 30 years. Two Springfield locations serve long-standing patients and those who've been referred by other satisfied customers.



Diabetes and your eyes

Diabetes is a leading cause of blindness in the United States. It is important to schedule annual diabetic eye exams to ensure your eyes are healthy.

Mon - Thurs 7am - 6pm
Fri 9am - 5pm
Sat 8am - 1pm

SPRINGFIELD LOCATIONS

2741 Prairie Crossing Dr. • 121 N. Grand Ave. W.
217-528-3233 • vision-care.com • 



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DIABETIC RETINOPATHY



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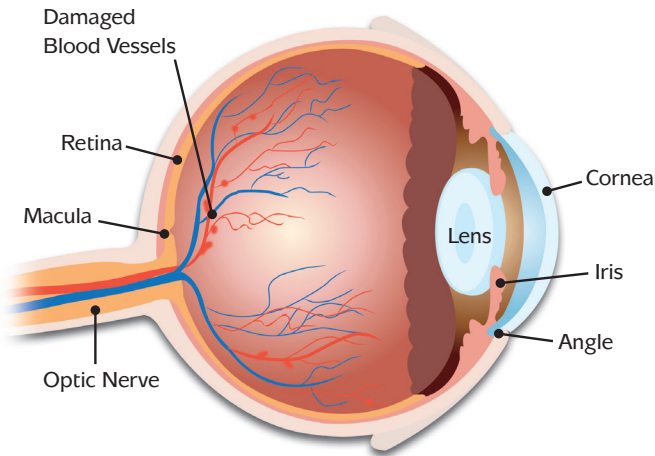
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What is diabetes?

Diabetes is a disease that prevents your body from properly using sugar from your blood stream. It is caused by an inability to make or use insulin. The result is high levels of sugar in the blood.

How does diabetes affect the eye?

Diabetes and its complications can affect many parts of the eye. Diabetes can cause nearsightedness, early cataracts, and glaucoma to name a few. The most serious eye problem from diabetes is diabetic retinopathy.



What is diabetic retinopathy?

Diabetic retinopathy occurs when there is a weakening or swelling of the tiny blood vessels in the retina or back of the eye. This damages the retina, and if left untreated, blindness can occur.



Normal: Everything appears clear and in focus.



Diabetic retinopathy: Symptoms generally affect both eyes and may include floaters; blurred, fluctuating, or impaired color vision; dark areas; and vision loss.

Treatment

With a dilated eye exam, your Vision Care doctor will carefully examine your retina for early signs of diabetic retinopathy. These changes are usually detected in an eye exam before any negative effect on vision occurs. Sometimes laser treatment, injections of medications in to the eye, or surgery are necessary to prevent worsening of the diabetic retinopathy.

Prevention

Monitoring and maintaining control of your diabetes can lower your risk of developing diabetic retinopathy by as much as 76%. See your physician regularly and follow instructions about diet, exercise and medication. Have a dilated eye exam yearly, or more frequently if recommended by your Vision Care doctor.

