6. Ocular and Systemic Health Assessment

- Evaluation of the anterior and posterior segments
- Measurement of intraocular pressure
- Visual field testing
- Blood pressure measurement

Clinical note: *The presence of retinopathy, regardless of the person's diabetes status, may also indicate other underlying subclinical vascular disease.*[239] *The clinician should consider other etiologies, especially cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and smoking status.*[240]

CONSENSUS-BASED ACTION STATEMENT: Retinal examinations for diabetic retinopathy should be performed through a dilated pupil.
Evidence Quality: There is a lack of published research to support or refute the use of this recommendation.
Benefit and Harm Assessment: Implementation of this recommendation is likely to provide more thorough examination for diabetes-related retinal disease. The benefits of this recommendation were established by expert consensus opinion.

Proper documentation of retinal status, including retinal imaging and/or the use of drawings is valuable for determining any progression or stability of the retinopathy at future examinations. Use of the standard protocol for color coding retinal drawings is recommended. A protocol for color coding retinal drawings can be accessed at: *http://www.eophtha.com/Must%20Know/drawing.html*

CONSENSUS-BASED ACTION STATEMENT: The initial ocular examination of a person with diabetes should include all aspects of a comprehensive eye and vision examination, with ancillary testing, as indicated to diagnose and thoroughly evaluate ocular complications of diabetes.
Evidence Quality: There is a lack of published research to support or refute the use of this recommendation.
Benefit and Harm Assessment: Implementation of this recommendation is likely to result in more effective diagnosis of diabetes-related ocular complications. The benefits of this recommendation were established by expert consensus opinion.

7. Ancillary Testing

Additional procedures in diagnosing and evaluating diabetic retinopathy may be indicated. Such procedures include, but are not limited to:

a. Fundus Photography or Retinal Imaging

Stereoscopic photography is useful for identifying lesions of diabetic retinopathy and for documenting diabetic retinopathy severity. Mydriatic ETDRS 7-field stereo 35 mm fundus photography has been considered the standard for evaluating the presence and severity of diabetic retinopathy and DME; however, the results of digital and film evaluations of diabetic retinopathy have been shown to be comparable for ETDRS severity levels and DCCT/EDIC