

LMY Diabetic Eye Screening Programme

Mobilisation Bulletin - March 2023

Welcome to the **third bulletin** from InHealth Intelligence for all stakeholders of the Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (DESP) in Leeds and Mid Yorkshire (LMY)

What is Failsafe?

The Failsafe Team provide a back-up mechanism, in addition to usual care, to ensure that if something goes wrong in the screening pathway, processes are in place to (a) identify what is going wrong and (b) take action to ensure a safe outcome.

Working with Hospitals

The new LMY DESP will continue to refer people with Routine & Urgent Diabetic Retinopathy and some other Urgent conditions to the following hospital eye services (HES):

- Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust
- Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Dedicated Failsafe Officers will continue working with each hospital to track referrals, support the Eye Units to appoint patients within breach dates, and ensure patients seen for Diabetic Retinopathy in HES are suspended from screening. Patients are only offered diabetic eye screening once discharged from HES.

Managing referrals to HES will be in line with national guidance. For further information, please click on this link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/diabetic-eye-screening-programme-failsafe-procedures/diabetic-eye-screening-managing-referrals-to-hospital-eye-services>

All routine non-diabetic conditions will be highlighted to the patient's GP via the Results Reports, downloaded directly from our screening software, Spectra. Training on this new software will be offered to all users in GP Practices and Hospitals (including Ophthalmology, Maternity, Diabetology, & Paediatric Departments).

Patients often call DESP to inform us they are seen in the Hospital Eye Clinic. The Failsafe team will check with the relevant HES to ensure this is for Diabetic Retinopathy (or they had a retinal check where grades were provided) and request the latest clinic letter. If patients are not being seen for Diabetic Retinopathy, we will continue to see them in the screening programme.

Failsafe Contact Details - LMY DESP

Secure LMY Failsafe NHS.net Email -
Failsafe.LMYDESP@nhs.net

Telephone number from 4th April 2023 - 0113 867 2233

Pregnant Patients

The new LMY DESP will follow all national guidance in relation to screening people with diabetes during pregnancy including:

- Offering all pregnant people with diabetes (not gestational) a screening within 6 weeks of notification of pregnancy (unless the patient had been screened within the previous 89 days of notification)
- Ensure patients presenting for screening later than 10 weeks are given an appointment for digital screening as soon as possible

Pregnant people with diabetes will be offered an appointment every trimester. The risk of serious eye problems is greater when pregnant, and we want to provide every opportunity to encourage attendance.

InHealth Intelligence DESP's have an excellent track record of engagement with pregnant people with diabetes. Social Media, Newsletters to GP's, extra training within the Failsafe & Bookings Teams, and regular liaison with Diabetes Specialist Nurses and Maternity Departments are some of the methods used to encourage attendance for screening.

Exclusions

On commencement of the new LMY DESP, all people with diabetes in the programme who are currently not part of active recall (excluded as 'Medically Unfit', 'Ineligible due to No Perception of Light in Both Eyes', Postponed, Opted out, and 'Suspended under care of HES') will be audited to ensure they meet the national guidance for these categories. Where discrepancies are highlighted, checks will be made with the patients GP or Hospital to confirm patients are in the correct status.

Failsafe will provide GP Practices with a flow chart to help them decide on the suitability of their patients for community screening, and other options, to ensure every eligible person with diabetes is given the opportunity to have a diabetic eye check.

After reading this bulletin, if you have any queries,
please contact Rayne Corkett:
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Key Contacts

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Telephone Numbers and Email contacts

There will be new telephone numbers to contact the Programme:

Bookings Office: 0113 867 2500 (*live from 1st March 2023*)

Failsafe Team: 0113 867 2233 (*staffed from 4th April 2023*)

Main Office: 0113 867 2244 (*staffed from 4th April 2023*)

Enquiries email: Enquiries.LMYDESP@nhs.net