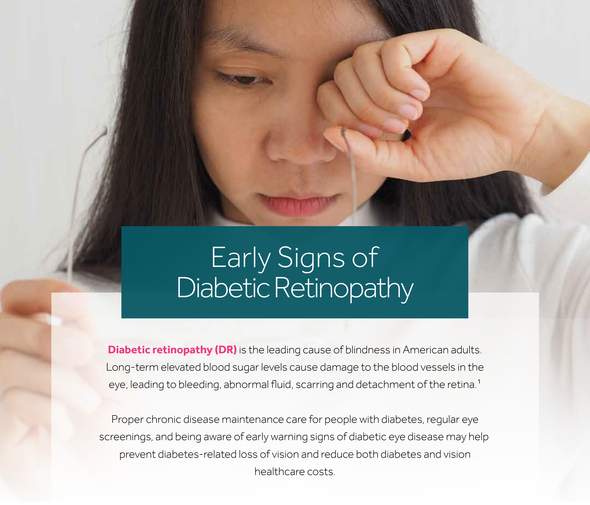


Early Signs of Diabetic Retinopathy

Diabetic retinopathy (DR) is the leading cause of blindness in American adults. Long-term elevated blood sugar levels cause damage to the blood vessels in the eye, leading to bleeding, abnormal fluid, scarring and detachment of the retina.[1]

Proper chronic disease maintenance care for people with diabetes, regular eye screenings, and being aware of early warning signs of diabetic eye disease may help prevent diabetes-related loss of vision and reduce both diabetes and vision healthcare costs.

Millions of Americans Are at Risk From Diabetic Eye Disease[1]



50% of people with diabetes end up with diabetic retinopathy.[2]

An estimated **8 million American adults** have been diagnosed with DR.[2]

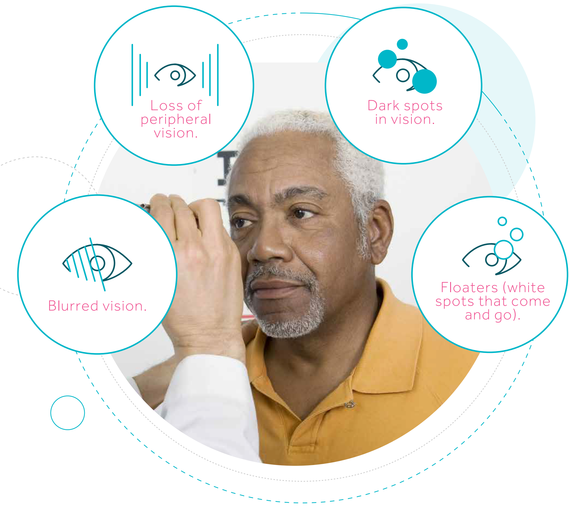




Nearly 1 million Americans have vision-threatening diabetic retinopathy (VTDR).[1]

Early Signs of Diabetic Retinopathy

In its earliest stages, DR may not cause symptoms but can still be recognized during a comprehensive eye exam. As the disease progresses, victims may notice[3]:



Regular vision screenings and eye exams can potentially spot diabetic retinopathy before irreversible damage is done.[2]

Versant Health is dedicated to improving vision for Americans by providing increased access to vision care benefits and education around health conditions that impact eyesight.

To learn more about Versant Health's offerings, visit versanthealth.com.

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1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (Dec. 19, 2022). Common Eye Disorders and Diseases. Retrieved from https://bit.ly/3LVG0gb

2. Medical News Today. (Apr. 25, 2023). Diabetic retinopathy: Prevalence and prevention. https://bit.ly/41h9Hj

3. Mayo Clinic. (Feb. 21, 2023). Diabetic retinopathy - Symptoms and causes. https://bit.ly/3HFr6wry