

# Access and Analysis of Provincial Administrative Data for Cohort Disclosure to Guide Community-Based Diabetic Retinopathy Screening

JAMES M. BOWEN<sup>1,2,3</sup>, CONRAD POW<sup>3,4</sup>, RUTH CROXFORD<sup>5</sup>, JENNIFER RAYNER<sup>6</sup>, OLIVERA SUTAKOVIC<sup>3,7</sup>, DEBBIE SISSMORE<sup>3,9</sup>, MALCOLM SISSMORE<sup>3,9</sup>, ALEKSANDRA STANIMIROVIC<sup>1,2,3</sup>, SARA BHATTI<sup>6</sup>, REBECCA MERRITT<sup>3,10</sup>, MICHAEL H. BRENT<sup>3,7,8</sup>, BAIJU R. SHAH<sup>2,3,5,11</sup>, VALERIA E. RAC<sup>1,2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Program for Health System and Technology Evaluation, Toronto General Hospital Research Institute, UHN, <sup>2</sup>IHPME, University of Toronto, <sup>3</sup>Diabetes Action Canada SPOR Network <sup>4</sup>North York General Hospital, <sup>5</sup>ICES, <sup>6</sup>Alliance for Healthier Communities <sup>7</sup>Donald K Johnson Eye Institute, Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network (UHN), <sup>8</sup>Dept. of Ophthalmology & Vision Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, <sup>9</sup>Patient Partner, <sup>10</sup>South Riverdale Community Health Centre, <sup>11</sup>Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

## Background

- Guidelines recommend annual retina screening for individuals living with diabetes.
- Screening rates across Canada remain low, especially in vulnerable populations, despite availability of services, including tele-ophthalmology.

## Methodology

- Linked provincial administrative datasets, including community health centre (CHCs) records.
- Identification of individuals living with diabetes who have not had their eyes screened for retinopathy in the past 425 days. (Figure 1)
- Cohort disclosure list provided directly to CHCs to permit contact information to be used to call about recommended diabetic retinopathy screening.

## Methodology

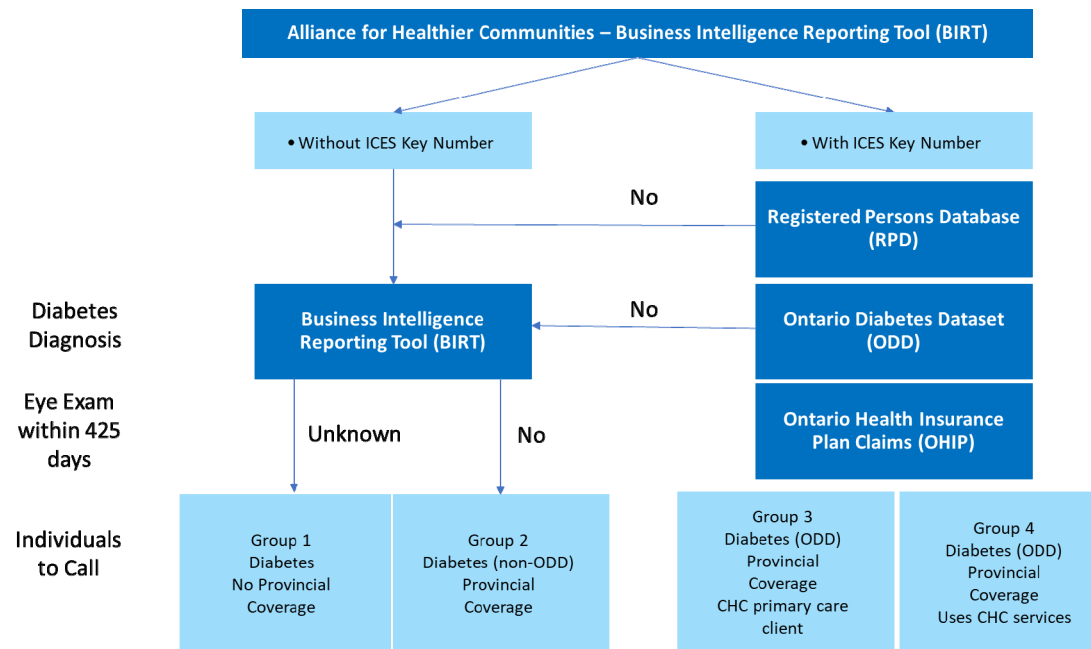


Figure 1. Schematic of identification of individuals to contact about diabetic retinopathy screening

## Results

- Initial assessment across 3 CHCs identified 6032 individuals living with diabetes.
- At least 1 eye exam in 69.5% (3568/5131) for those with OHIP coverage.

## Conclusions

- Both provincial and community-based data are needed to those in need of diabetic retinopathy screening especially for vulnerable population not enrolled in provincial health programs.

## Acknowledgement

This study is supported through a generous private donation, Fighting Blindness Canada and by Diabetes Action Canada through funds provided by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) Networks. ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT05074342.