

Advanced Practice Summary Report

Project title	Orthoptic Led Diabetic Screening Clinic.
Health service	Alfred Health.
Project aim	Providing increased access to diabetic retinal screening through advanced practice Orthoptic staff and non-mydratic camera.
Key outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased patient throughput from 6-8 per clinic to 24-30 per clinic. Significant professional development opportunity for Orthoptists. Upskilling staff resulted in higher level/performing staff. Orthoptic staff were trained and educated in Diabetic Screening by Ophthalmologists, and Ophthalmology Registrars, and using the new camera. This resulted in orthoptic staff becoming more efficient and confident in their findings and management, enabling a reduction in oversight from the Ophthalmology department, removing the need for visual communication assistance and increasing patient throughput. • Ability to appropriately triage and better manage patients enabled appropriate and effective triaging to occur in around 28% of cases which otherwise would have been missed. • Patient numbers have increased by 200% via adapted scheduling processes. • Increased throughput in diabetic screening has freed up 2-3 general clinic appointments per week and Failing to Attend have been reduced from 84 patients to 26 patients (21% to 5%). • Wait list reduced from 5-6 months to zero. Currently there is no wait list. • Appointment times reduced by 50%. Patient time spent at the clinic reduced from 1-1.5hrs to 40-45 mins. • Increased knowledge and education of the clinician resulting in more succinct explanation and education of ocular issues and symptoms associated with diabetes, increasing patients knowledge and value of visit. • Using specialist Orthoptic practices it is expected that although the service is generally directed at Diabetic Eye Disease, during examination the Orthoptist is able to note other ocular anomalies, investigate them and provide more efficient cost effective clinical outcomes.
Total investment	<p>Funding provided plus in-kind support: \$69,814</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding costs included: Staffing, operational costs, equipment, capital costs • In-kind support costs included: Support staffing <p>Total FTE to provide service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 3 Orthoptist and new graduate Grade 1 Orthoptist
Resources available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None