ASHA for people living with diabetes

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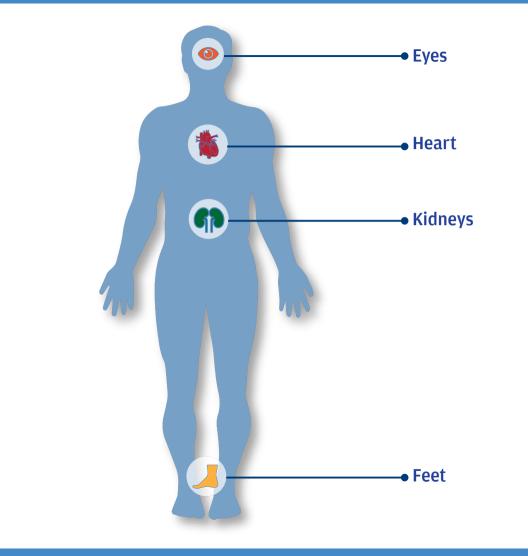
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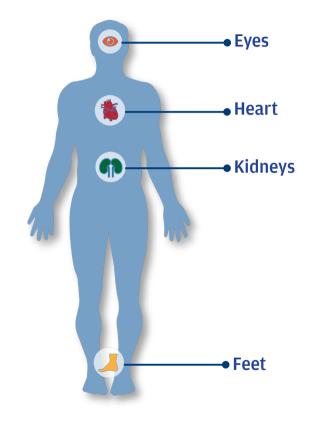


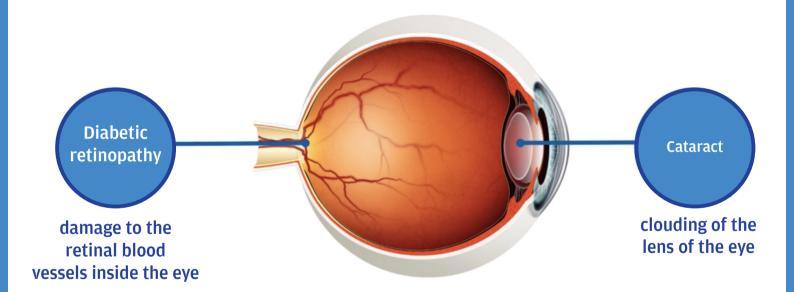
Diabetes is diagnosed by measuring the amount of sugar in the blood or urine which tells us whether there is too much sugar in the body





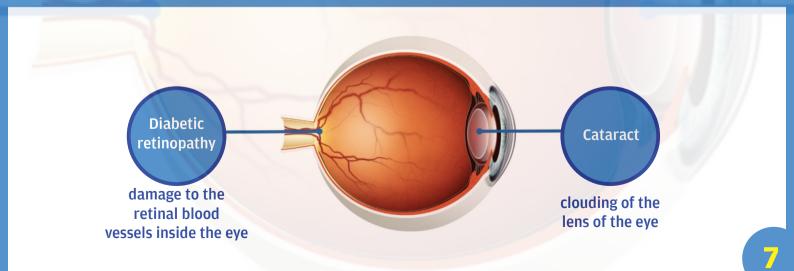
Too much sugar in the body can damage different parts of the body such as the eyes, heart, kidney and feet

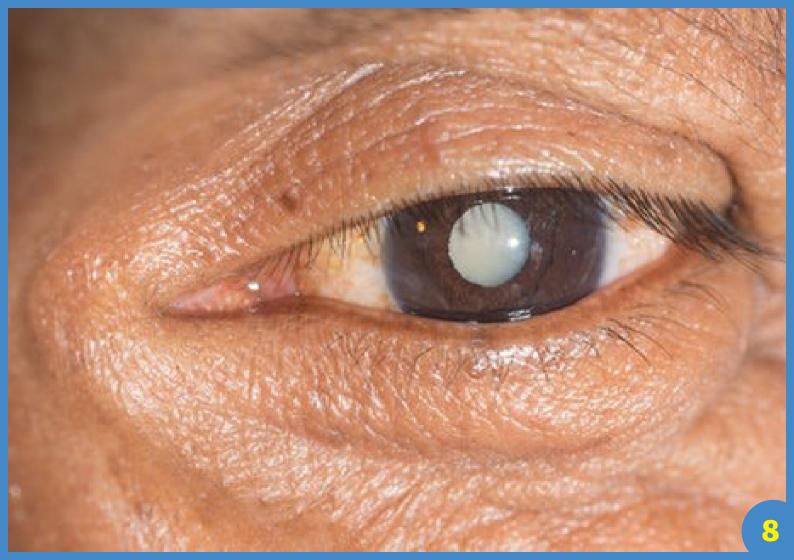




Cataract leads to gradual clouding of the vision

Diabetic Retinopathy damages the blood vessels inside the eyes





Cataract can be treated by surgery which improves the vision and is quick and affordable





In diabetic retinopathy the outside of the eyes look entirely normal









Normal retina

This is what the inside of a healthy eye looks like









Bad Diabetic Retinopathy

In this eye there is some bleeding (red spots) and some white patches

The bleeding and white patches can block the vision







What you can do to prevent loss of vision from diabetic retinopathy? The most important thing you can do is to keep the blood sugar in your body normal by: Taking your prescribed medicines on time





Eating your normal diet, but taking smaller portions





Get blood sugar tests done every few months





If you have high blood pressure take your prescribed medication every day





Take regular exercise -5 days a week for 30 minutes - which helps to reduce blood sugar and high blood pressure







Get a special examination of the inside of your eye every year





What happens during the eye examination? A special camera is used to take photographs of the inside of your eye





Eye drops may be needed to take a good picture





- You will be told whether you have any diabetic retinopathy or if your eyes are healthy
- It is very important that you follow the instructions you are given
- For example, you may be told to go to the nearest eye hospital for more tests, or you may be told that that your eyes are healthy, and you need to come back next year for another examination
- If you are told to come back in one year, choose an important festival or family birthday to help you remember when you should go for another eye examination

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Look after your diabetes and your eyes and enjoy your family







PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION OF INDIA



