

MODULE 3.0

Introduction to Diabetic Eye Disease

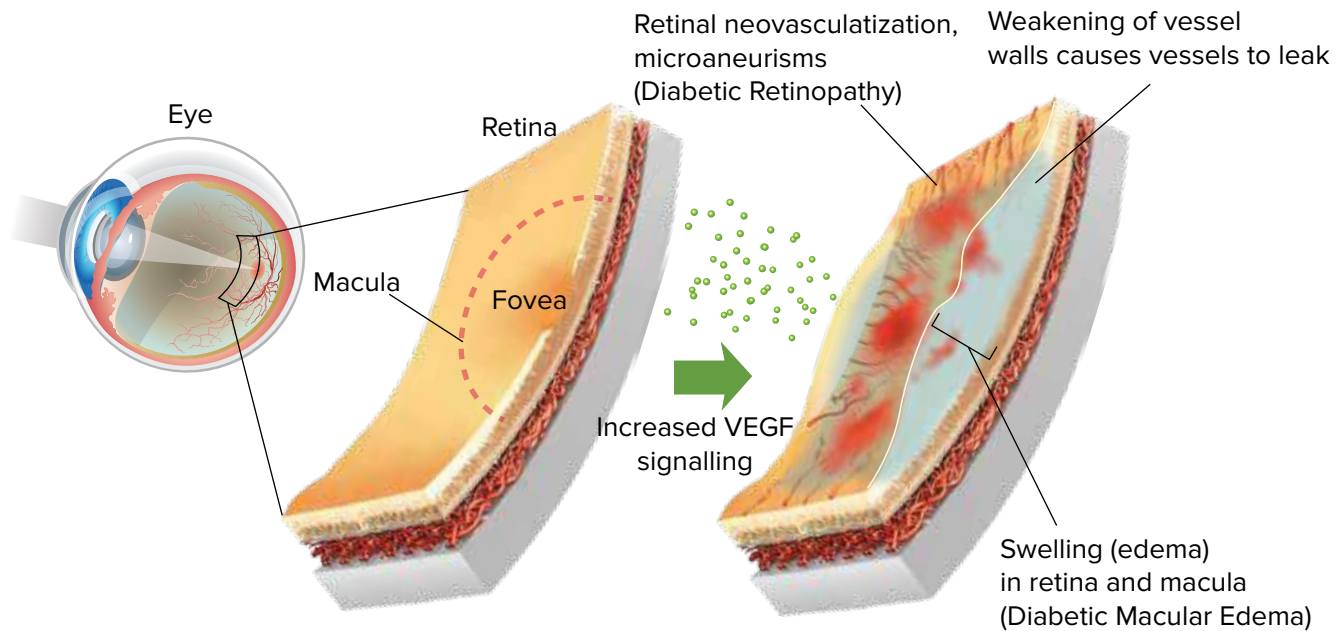
Diabetic retinopathy (DR) is the most common diabetic eye disease and the leading cause of blindness among working adults around the world.¹ Anyone with type 1 or type 2 diabetes is at risk and should get a dilated eye exam every year to test for DR. Diabetic macular edema (DME) can occur at any point in the progression of DR.² In this module, you will learn:

- Epidemiology of Diabetic Eye Disease
- DR/DME Risk Factors

Introduction

DR is a disorder of the retina that occurs when complications of diabetes damage retinal blood vessels. According to the American Diabetes Association, most people with diabetes will develop some form of retinopathy.³

DME is a form of DR and a leading cause of vision loss in patients with DR.⁴ It is characterized by swelling or thickening of the retina and the leaking of fluid, specifically in the macula,⁵ a small area in the back of the eye that focuses and sharpens vision.²



VEGF: Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor

References

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