International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness
Diabetic Retinopathy Working Group
20 September 2014

World Council of Optometry
Bina Patel, O.D.
Success of Diabetes management involves a multi-disciplinary team effort
Optometry being one part of the team effort, playing an important role
Working closely with Ophthalmology and other health related professions

Relating this
- to country and regional needs
- distribution of eye care workers – rural versus urban
Summary

- Organizational Prospective
  - Early Intervention versus Late Intervention
  - Screening
  - Training – Telehealth imaging
  - Set up
  - Example of Success

- Awareness and Education
  - Awareness and Education
  - Preparation
  - Survey
  - Advocacy
  - Proposals
Organizational Prospective

- Awareness and Education
  - World Council of Optometry is facilitating access to knowledge on DR and its management in its own conferences and those of its regional bodies.
Organizational Prospective

- Preparation
  - Diabetic Retinopathy workshops, lectures and a stream for educators to develop a program on DR at universities
  - CET programs for Optometrists
  - 14-16 August 2015 at the 1st World Congress of Optometry in Medellin, Colombia.
Organizational Prospective

- **Survey**
  - Using the WCO scope of practice questionnaire to map out the work of Optometrists in various countries with DR. Work with WCO and its standing committees to design the questions (from public health and education perspectives) and work across the regions to obtain information.
Organizational Prospective

- **Advocacy**
  - Use the World Diabetes Day for November 14, 2014 for advocacy and feature the role of optometry in WCO’s e-newsletter
  - At educators and optometry meetings – working with WCO national associations
Proposals

- Educators work together and put forth on line tools/learning platform with experts.
- Have the educational institutions implement and to train students and practicing Optometrists
- Use this as a public health initiative and aid in screenings with other health care providers.

- Share models of success. Share best practices
- Statistics and registry of information