



**35th EAsDEC Annual Meeting, 5th – 7th June 2025, Liverpool, UK**  
**Concert Room, St George's Hall, Liverpool, L1 1JJ**

**THURSDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025 - ALLIED EVENTS**

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**10:30 Diabetic Retinopathy Screening in Europe – Building on 20 years of Progress**  
**6th National Representatives Meeting**

*This event is allied to but not part of the EAsDEC Annual Meeting. It has been supported in part by the EAsDEC.*

This meeting will review progress and lessons learnt in diabetic retinopathy screening across Europe over the last 20 years and develop practical steps to address key current challenges. Delegates are invited representatives of national professional organisations of diabetes and endocrinology, ophthalmology, and public health, and policy makers and commissioners.

A limited number of delegates registered for EAsDEC are welcome to attend. Registration (no cost) at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diabetic-retinopathy-screening-in-europe-meeting-tickets-1302917083069>.

**10.00 Registration opens**      *Tea and coffee served*

**10.30 Diabetic retinopathy screening in Europe – 20 years of progress**  
*Simon Harding, Chair Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology, University of Liverpool, UK*

**10.50 The diabetic retinopathy screening pathway**  
*Caroline Styles, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dunfermline, Fife, UK*

**11.05 Session 1 - Equipment and new technology**  
*Facilitator: Helen Kavanagh, Manager, Irish Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Programme, Ireland*  
This session will cover current and new types of cameras, OCT and AI.

**12.05 Improving diabetic retinopathy screening in middle income countries**  
*Dr Jill Farrington, Regional Medical Officer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes, NCD Management Unit, WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark*

**12.30 Group photo followed by lunch, visit sponsors and networking**

**13.30 Session 2 - Current situation in Europe - responses from national representatives**  
*Dr Katie Curran, Research Fellow, Queen's University Belfast, UK*  
This session will include a general discussion about key messages from the surveys.

**14.15 Session 3 - Training and quality assurance**  
*Facilitated by Caroline Styles, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dunfermline, Fife, UK*  
This session will include a presentation by Dr Sue Cohen, Consultant in Public Health on quality assurance in the DR screening pathway and a review of current training materials.

**15.15 Tea and coffee, visiting sponsors, networking**

**15.45 Session 4 - Contacting and inviting the at-risk population and connecting the pathway**

*Facilitated by Tunde Peto, Professor of Ophthalmology, Queen's University Belfast, UK*

This session will address the detection of undiagnosed diabetes, the identification of people with known diabetes, targeting high-risk groups and linking aspects of the patient pathway.

**16.45 Closing remarks**

**17.00 Close**

**Organising committee:**

Tunde Peto, Caroline Styles, Helen Kavanagh, Simon Harding, Sara Shields

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**Roche Sponsored Symposium: Advancing Management of Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO) with Faricimab**

*Chair: Professor Ian Pearce, Liverpool UK*

*This allied event is a satellite to and not an official part the EAsDEC Annual Meeting*

**17:30** Welcome and introductions

**17:33** DMO in focus: emerging biomarker data. Prof Stela Vujosevic

**17:43** From clinical trials to real-world: UK FARWIDE DMO study. Prof Tunde Peto

**17:53** Translating theory into practice: case studies. Prof Ian Pearce

**18:03** Panel Q&A

**18:13** Close

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## PROGRAMME of the 35th EAsDEC ANNUAL MEETING

### THURSDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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**17:00 Registration for EAsDEC opens**

**18:15 Official opening of EAsDEC**

*President of EAsDEC, Professor Reinier Schlingemann, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Chair of Organising Committee, Professor Simon Harding, Liverpool, United Kingdom*

**18:30 Annual Meeting Welcome Reception**

*St. George's Hall  
Drinks and canapes*

**20:00 End of day**

### FRIDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025

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*The scientific programme of the EAsDEC has been developed independently of any of the sponsors.*

**08:00 Registration opens**

**09:00 Introduction and welcome**

*President of EAsDEC, Reinier Schlingemann, Professor of Ophthalmology, Amsterdam*

**09:15 Session 1: Clinical research**

*Moderators: Stela Vujosevic, Ian Pearce  
Oral presentations (6 mins + 3 minutes questions)*

**09:15 Moderators' introduction to session**

**09:20 Tunde Peto (UK)**

*Gold standard versus. ultrawide field imaging for diabetic retinopathy severity: results from YOSEMITE/RHINE Phase 3 studies*

**09:29 Edoardo Balduzzi (Italy)**

*Latent phenotypic diabetic macula oedema clustering and differential treatment responses to intravitreal therapies*

**09:38 Ian Pearce (UK)**

*Real-world outcomes of faricimab among diabetic macular oedema eyes in the UK: 1-Year results from the FARWIDE-DMO Study*

**09:47 Corinne Fulcher (UK)**

*Diabetic retinopathy severity after anti-VEGF treatment for diabetic macular oedema*

**09:56 Mariacristina Parravano (Italy)**

*Prognostic imaging biomarkers in diabetic macular oedema treated with anti-VEGF: an AI perspective*

- 10:05 David Wright (UK)**  
Selecting measures of visual function to classify diabetic retinopathy status
- 10:14 Ruth Hogg (UK)**  
The association between hypoglycaemia and visual function measured using a smartphone home-monitoring app in patients with diabetes
- 10:25** Session conclusions by the moderators (2 minutes)
- 10:30 Break, exhibition, networking, refreshments**
- 11:00 Session 2: Experimental and translational research**  
*Moderators: Reinhold Medina Benavente, Eleni Beli*  
Oral presentations (6 mins + 3 minutes questions)
- 11:00** Moderator's introduction to session
- 11:02 Antonio Ambrosio (Portugal)**  
Texture-based OCT analysis reveals very early retinal alterations in type 2 diabetic animals: exploring a potential approach for early diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy
- 11:11 Hugo Ramos (Spain)**  
Sitagliptin prevents diabetes-induced hyperpermeability in human retinal endothelial cells and retinal pigment epithelium: the two major constituents of the blood retinal barrier
- 11:20 Pietro Maria Bertelli (UK)**  
Accelerated cellular senescence in retinal endothelial cells exposed to a diabetic microenvironment
- 11:29 Jose Hombrebueno (UK)**  
Targeting mitochondrial hyperfusion with human-compatible medications for neuroprotection in diabetic retinopathy
- 11:38 Francisco Martín-Loro (Spain)**  
MP-004, a small molecule developed to stabilize calcium channels (RyR), as a new therapy for diabetic retinopathy
- 11:47 Eleni Beli (UK)**  
The impact of misalignment with the external light cycle on the vasculature in diabetic retinopathy
- 11:56 Varun Pathak (UK)**  
Circadian rhythms of retinal microglia in early diabetes
- 12:05** Session conclusions by the moderators (2 minutes)
- 12:10 Keynote lecture** (20 mins + 10 minutes discussion)  
**Professor David Preiss, University of Oxford (UK)**  
Fenofibrate, an efficacious and cost-effective treatment for diabetic retinopathy: results from the LENS trial
- 12:45 Lunch, exhibition, networking**  
*Poster presenters to take precedence*

### **13:15 Session 3: Poster session (West corridor, East corridor)**

*Poster presenters free to circulate after 45 mins*

*Voting slips for best poster prize*

#### **Poster Section 1: Experimental research and translational**

*Moderators: Ingeborg Klassen and Hugo Ramos*

- 1. Jasenka Guduric-Fuchs (UK)**  
Senescence and circadian rhythms in endothelial colony forming cells
- 2. Judith Lechner (UK)**  
Investigating the role of the APC/EPCR pathway in endothelial progenitor cells in diabetic retinopathy
- 3. Tetiana Zhmud (Ukraine)**  
Low-dose hydrocortisone and sodium hyaluronate improves conjunctival cytology among T2DM patients
- 4. Paola Serrano Martinez (Netherlands)**  
Use of stem cell-derived vascular organoids to study microvascular changes in diabetic retinopathy
- 5. Anna Deàs-Just (Spain)**  
Unravelling the common mediators of retinal and brain diabetes-induced neurodegeneration

#### **Poster Section 2: Diabetic retinopathy screening A**

*Moderators: Tici Criddle and Christine Kiire*

- 6. Paul Coker (UK)**  
The impact of cessation of screening for diabetic retinopathy during Covid-19 on people living with diabetes in Wales and England
- 7. Rebecca Thomas (UK)**  
The impact of cessation of screening for diabetic retinopathy during Covid-19 on ophthalmology services
- 8. David Owens (UK)**  
Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the progress of diabetic retinopathy in Wales, UK
- 9. Linda Ilavská (Slovakia)**  
Artificial Intelligence-based screening for diabetic retinopathy in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus using non-mydriatic fundus imaging
- 10. Paula Summanen (Finland)**  
Screening of diabetic retinopathy in Uusimaa, Finland: University Clinic service to communities in 2016-2019
- 11. Karin Krogh (Norway)**  
Diabetic Retinal Screening in Finnmark
- 12. Roger Brint (UK)**  
The Positive impact of the Hospital Eye Service (HES) recall initiative on patient care
- 13. Jozef Lacka (Slovakia)**  
Factors affecting diabetic retinopathy screening: reality and the influence of patient education

### **Poster Section 3: Diabetic retinopathy screening B**

*Moderators: Peter Scanlon and Jae Ku*

- 14. Richard Hancock (UK)**  
Usefulness of OCT in diabetic eye screening
- 15. Daniel Broderick (Ireland)**  
Incidental ocular pathologies in the Irish Diabetic RetinaScreen Programme
- 16. Lars Skollerud (Denmark)**  
Training and validation of an automated algorithm to classify more than mild diabetic retinopathy in ultrawide-field images
- 17. Lazaros Konstantinidis (Switzerland)**  
Accuracy of autonomous artificial intelligence-based diabetic retinopathy screening of early stages of diabetic retinopathy
- 18. Jelena Cuk (Serbia)**  
First steps in diabetic retinopathy screening in Serbia
- 19. Jelena Cuk (Serbia) [Withdrawn]**  
Diabetic screening program in the North Backa District (Serbia): an observational study in cooperation with the Subotica Institute for Public Health
- 20. Alberto Piatti (Italy)**  
Diabetic retinopathy screening telemedicine-based compared to standard of care: an economic analysis in a pilot experience of Italian healthcare
- 21. Laura Cushley (UK)**  
Evaluating progression and outcomes following the integration of Diabetic Eye Screening Programme into haemodialysis units in Northern Ireland
- 22. Shweta Pandey (UK)**  
A new service initiative of opportunistic retinal screening of inpatients with diabetes in Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

### **Poster Section 4: Systemic and epidemiology**

*Moderators: Tina Herold and Matt Anson*

- 23. Bénédicte Dupas (France)**  
Florid diabetic retinopathy in young patients with uncontrolled diabetes: a long-term follow-up
- 24. Olga Simó-Servat (Spain)**  
Diabetic retinopathy is a major and independent predictor of cardiovascular disease in subjects with type 2 diabetes
- 25. Lika Tsutskiridze (Georgia)**  
Promotion of rights of children with diabetes - our first summer camp for children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes
- 26. Ayesha Malik (UK)**  
Corneal confocal microscopy: a marker of neurodegeneration in Parkinson's Disease
- 27. Sarah Meredith (UK)**  
Prevalence of people eligible for diabetic eye screening and the rate of detection of R3 proliferative features in a large English population 2018 - 2024

## Poster Section 5: Clinical studies

*Moderators: Mariacristina Parravano and Christiana Dinah*

- 28. Katie Curran (UK)**  
Outcomes after pan-retinal photocoagulation laser treatment in people with proliferative diabetic retinopathy
- 29. Rosalind Creer (UK)**  
The evolution of the enhanced diabetes assessment clinic
- 30. Maria Grazia Pignataro (Italy)**  
Long-term impact of diabetic retinopathy on response to anti-VEGF treatment in neovascular AMD
- 31. Charles O'Donovan (UK)**  
Transforming FFA consent: the impact of concentric at Moorfields Croydon
- 32. George Zelhof (UK)**  
Real-world outcomes of intravitreal faricimab in diabetic macular oedema: adherence to a personalised treatment regime protocol is challenging
- 33. Blazej Staniszewski (UK)**  
Biosimilar ranibizumab for diabetic macular oedema: A retrospective study of visual and anatomical outcomes in treatment-naive patients

## Poster Section 6: Imaging

*Moderators: Steve Aldington and Line Peterson*

- 34. Ana Catarina Almeida (Portugal)**  
Retinal neurodegeneration in eyes with mild to severe non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy: one year analysis of CHART study
- 35. Kim Lien Huber (Austria)**  
Reduced ellipsoid zone reflectivity in advanced diabetic retinopathy as assessed by high-resolution optical coherence tomography
- 36. Nina Hautala (Finland)**  
Efficacy of diabetic macular oedema detection in fundus images using iCare DRSplus and Zeiss Visucam
- 37. Sema Tamer Kaderli (Turkey)**  
Analysis of the Henle fibre layer thickness and area in patients with non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy
- 38. Paul Widmann-Sedlnitzky (Austria)**  
Volumetric changes in hyperreflective foci and hard exudates in diabetic macula oedema managed with faricimab
- 39. Fu Wang (UK)**  
AI-driven segmentation of Langerhans-cells in corneal confocal microscopy images
- 40. Ayça Küpeli Çınar (Turkey)**  
Demographic data and fundus fluorescein angiography findings of treatment-naive patients with diabetic maculopathy: 1-year single-centre real-life data
- 41. Kim Gooding (UK)**  
Preliminary study exploring whether retinal and sublingual microvascular densities are associated in individuals with type 2 diabetes

**14:30** *Tea/coffee served at exhibition and poster sessions*

- 14:50 Session 4: Systemic management and eye complications**  
*Chairs: Uazman Alam, Ali Erginay*  
 Oral presentations of 5 minutes (discussion and questions at end of session)
- 14:50** Moderators' introduction to session
- 14:52 The winner of the Anne Katrin Sjolie best student abstract prize: Matthew Anson (UK)**  
 The rapidly increasing incidence of diabetic retinopathy disproportionately affects younger age groups: a decade of evidence from an international federated database
- 14:57 Philip Burgess (UK)**  
 Incidence and determinants of early worsening of diabetic retinopathy in the Individualised Screening for Diabetic Retinopathy Cohort Study
- 15:02 Ali Erginay**  
 Effect of new non-insulin antidiabetic drugs on retinal capillary perfusion assessed in OCT-A
- 15:07 David Riley (UK)**  
 Is liver fibrosis associated with retinal health in prediabetes and type 2 diabetes? Findings from IDENTIFY Complications T2D
- 15:12 Stela Vujosevic (Italy)**  
 Diabetic retinopathy and macular microvascular differences between eyes: the impact of cerebrovascular comorbidities  
*[Withdrawn presentation: Jakob Grauslund. Once-weekly semaglutide doubles the five-year risk of non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy in a Danish cohort of 424,152 persons with type 2 diabetes]*
- 15:17** Session discussion (10 minutes)
- 15:27** Session conclusions by the moderators (2 minutes)
- 15:29 Mini-lecture (15 minutes)**  
**Tom Gardner (USA)**  
 It is time to restore vision in persons with diabetic retinal disease
- 15:45 Keynote lecture (20 mins + 10 minutes discussion)**  
**Rayaz Malik, Professor of Ophthalmology, Dept. of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar**  
*Introduction: Uazman Alam, Reader in Cardiovascular & Metabolic Medicine, Liverpool, UK*  
 The eye: the window to the sole and beyond
- 16:15 Eva Kohner Lecture**  
**Jennifer K. Sun, Professor of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School,**  
**Chief, Center for Clinical Eye Research and Trials, Joslin Diabetes Center, Boston, USA**  
*Introduction: Reinier Schlingemann,*  
 Past, present and future of evidence-based care for diabetic retinal disease
- 17:00 Annual General Meeting**
- 17:30 End of day**



**19:00 Conference dinner at Museum of Liverpool**

Pier Head, Mann Island, Liverpool L3 1DG

*Dress code cocktail/business attire*

*19:00 Reception*

*19:45 Dinner*

*22:00 Dancing to "The Pocket Squares"*

*24:00 Carriages*

**SATURDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025**

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**08:30 Registration**

**09:00 Session 5: Screening**

*Moderators: Tunde Peto, Andreas Pollreisz*

**09:00** Moderators' introduction to session

**09:02 Caroline Styles (UK)** (10 minutes)

Diabetic Retinopathy Screening in Europe – Building on 20 years of Progress. Summary of meeting, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

**09:12** Rapid fire oral presentations (4 minutes; title slide + 2 slides; group discussion)

**09:12 Andreas Pollreisz (Austria)**

Multiethnic diabetic retinopathy prediction model using AI-based risk-scoring in Singapore

**09:16 Maria Sole Polito (Italy)**

Performance of DRSplus ophthalmic camera in patients with diabetes mellitus: a comparison study of human consensus grading, reading centre and artificial intelligence grading results

**09:20 Toke Bek (Denmark)**

Individualised screening for diabetic retinopathy with proliferative diabetic retinopathy and diabetic macular oedema as separate end points

**09:24 Philip Burgess (UK)**

Five-year treatment rates following referral for sight threatening diabetic retinopathy from a systematic screening programme

**09:28** Discussion (6 minutes)

**09:34 Bridget Moran (Ireland)**

Evaluation of biennial screening outcomes in RetinaScreen, Ireland's national diabetic retinopathy programme

**09:38 Rebecca Thomas (UK)**

The recovery of diabetic eye screening in Wales following the Covid-19 pandemic

**09:42 Catherine Jamison (UK)**

Combined diabetic eye and foot screening in a remote region of Tanzania

***[Withdrawn Presentation Sebastian Dinesen (Denmark)]***

*Automatic segmentation-assisted classification of active proliferative diabetic retinopathy using deep learning]*

- 09:46** Discussion (10 minutes)
- 09:56** Session conclusions by the moderators (2 minutes)
- 10:00 Keynote lecture** (20 mins; 10 minutes questions)  
**Alexander Doney, Clinical Reader and Honorary Consultant Physician, Dundee, UK**  
*Introduction: Reinhold Medina, Professor of Vascular Biology, Liverpool, UK*  
 AI-based precision prediction of future cardiometabolic complications beyond diabetic retinopathy using Scottish diabetes retinal screening photographs and clinical data
- 10:30 Break, exhibition, networking, refreshments**  
 Posters available for discussion
- 11:00 Session 6: Translational session**  
*Moderators: Ingeborg Klaassen, Tom Gardner*  
 Oral presentations (5 minutes + 2 minutes questions)
- 11:00** Moderators' introduction to session
- 11:00 Tunde Peto (UK)**  
 Descriptive analysis of anatomic outcomes after anti-VEGF treatment in a UK Diabetic Macula Oedema cohort using automated OCT segmentation
- 11:07 Lasse Jørgensen Cehofski (Denmark)**  
 Protein changes associated with incomplete response to anti-VEGF therapy in diabetic macular oedema: integration of proteomics and artificial intelligence
- 11:14 Ingeborg Klaassen (Netherlands)**  
 Exploring the use of aqueous taps to monitor vitreous protein levels in proliferative diabetic retinopathy and their associations with clinical parameters
- 11:21 Patrice Fort (USA)**  
 The Mary Tyler Moore Vision Initiative Biorepository and Resource Centre: from fundus to cellular analysis of retinal organization in diabetic retinal disease
- 11:28** Session conclusions by the moderators (2 minutes)
- 11:30 Session 7: Novel imaging and pathophysiology**  
*Moderators: Savita Madhusudhan, Ines Pereira Marques*  
 Oral presentations (5 minutes + 2 minutes questions)
- 11:30** Moderators' introduction to session
- 11:32 Ines Pereira Marques (Portugal)**  
 Progression of capillary perfusion in advanced stages of NPDR: 1-year analysis of the RICHARD study
- 11:39 Laura Kunze (Austria)**  
 Adaptive optics OCT reveals distinct changes of microstructures relevant for diabetic retinopathy in humans
- 11:46 Caterina Toma (Italy)**  
 OCT-angiography and colour fundus autofluorescence in type 1 diabetes mellitus and pre-clinical diabetic retinopathy
- 11:53 Line Peterson (Denmark)**  
 Increased amplitude of ultra-high frequency (UHF) vasomotion in retinal arterioles from patients with vision-threatening diabetic retinopathy

**12:00 Flavia Chiosi (Italy)**

The impact of hypertension on choroidal vascular parameters in type 2 diabetes: a correlative study of retrobulbar haemodynamics and OCT angiography

**12:07** Session conclusions by the moderators (2 minutes)

**12:10 Debate. 'Adjuvant macular laser is indicated when response to anti-VEGF treatment for DMO is suboptimal'**

For: Reinier Schlingemann, Professor of Ophthalmology, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Against: Richard Gale, Professor of Ophthalmology, York, UK

**12:45 Best poster prize ceremony and closing remarks**

*President of EAsDEC, Reinier Schlingemann*

**13:00 Conference close**