



SCREEN
FOR LIFE

CHARTER

We live in the midst of an unprecedented epidemic of diabetes. Unfortunately, signs of disease may not manifest until late in the disease process. Treatment at this late stage is less effective and more expensive than early intervention.

People affected by complications often complain that they wish that they had known of their risk before the complications happened. This would have given them a chance to change their lifestyle on time to prevent further damage.

A technology is available to predict risk of heart attack, stroke, kidney failure, amputation and blindness many years before these happen. This can be done by taking a photo of the retina. The eye is literally a window to health.

THE SCREEN FOR LIFE CHARTER has been launched to provide a common unifying cause for a national screening programme that will significantly reduce the impact of the diabetic epidemic on the people of our beloved country.

THE FOUNDING STATEMENT FOR THE CHARTER IS:

“We believe that nobody should lose life, limb or go blind without being afforded the opportunity of prior warning available by photo-screening.”

A number of parties are represented in the charter. Each has responsibilities.

SCREENERS have a responsibility to use the #redflag system to:

- Inform about life and limb risk - screen for life
- Inform about sight risk - screen for sight
- Detect disease progression and identify aggressive disease
- Communicate the findings on a patient held record

PROVIDERS of medical care have a responsibility to:

- Request Screen for Life records and give due consideration to the findings
- Manage the disease progression with the necessary attention and diligence

FUNDERS, CORPORATES AND NGO'S have a responsibility to:

- Develop innovative ways of increasing access to screening services and management of the disease

PEOPLE WITH DIABETES and their families have a responsibility to:

- Request screening and consent to completion of the Patient Held Record and database
- Share the findings on their Patient Held Record with their care providers
- Take their recommendations to heart
- Adhere to the treatment plan

Photo-screening has been a factor contributing to better health world-wide. It provides an early warning system on time to prevent suffering and costly complications. We wish to make this available to all.



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We have responded to the call to support this cause. We endorse this programme as one of the means of making South Africa a healthy nation.



Bonitas



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