**DETERMINING SUITABILITY OF PATIENTS FOR DIABETIC EYE SCREENING**

 **To be successfully screened:**

**Patients will need to:**

* Be able to sit close to a table/retinal camera. This will be either by transferring to a chair, or within a wheelchair that could be manoeuvred close to the table
* Be able to safely transfer independently if their wheelchair is too large. Screeners are not trained in patient moving and handling
* Keep sitting forward, with the strength to keep their chin on the rest and forehead on the bar for up to 5 minutes. Some patients who cannot do this can overcome the problem if they have a carer to help them lean forward. Larger patients can find this difficult
* Have the mental capacity to follow simple instructions
* To look at a light in the camera, or a finger/torch outside of the camera.

**Please also consider:**

· Large wheelchairs, especially those which are electric, and those where patients are strapped in (their head, neck) means we cannot place the patient close to the camera.

**Patients who may be unsuitable for screening:**

* Patients who lack memory would need to be accompanied by a carer who could answer questions for us (simple demographic information and medical history etc). We would be unable to see a patient who came alone who did not have capacity (i.e. care home patients who get “dropped off”)
* A very excessive tremor can make imaging very difficult and also unsafe
* Mental health issues which may cause sudden anger outbursts (the camera is sensitive and if it is hit or pushed hard, it will break). We do our best to see all patients, but in this case, we would ask for a carer/relative to come along too
* Patients who need to transport/remain on stretchers or fixed horizontal wheelchairs
* Patients with photosensitive epilepsy (these patients are VERY rare, most patients with epilepsy do not have issues with the camera) however they do need to be made aware to us, so we can photograph slowly.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EACH PATIENT IS ASSESSED INDIVIDUALLY FOR SUITABILITY**

**FOR ALL QUERIES PLEASE CALL THE FAILSAFE TEAM— 0117 405 7924**