All of the following **do not count** as diabetic retinopathy, but also do not make the exam negative:

* Ocular Hypertension
* Macular degeneration
* Arterial/vessel occlusion or BRVO
* Retinal detachment
* Posterior Vitreous Detachment
* Epiretinal membrane
* Retinal Atrophy
* Drusen
* Floaters or Weiss Ring
* RPE mottling
* Macular Pucker
* Glaucoma or POAG

**Macular Edema** \*

Letter or note from ophthalmologist (M.D.) or optometrist (O.D.) stating that exam was normal and there was no evidence of diabetic retinopathy

\*Would indicate a positive exam, **unless** the physician explicitly states **“no evidence of diabetic retinopathy”**. In this case, the exam would have a **negative result**.

**Hard exudates \***

**Inactive BDR and BDR resolved**

A medical record or photograph of retinal abnormalities w/ documentation of retinopathy

**Foveal thickening** \*

**Soft exudates or “cotton wool spots”** \*

**Vessel damage or attenuation \***

**Hypertensive retinopathy**

**Dot/blot hemorrhages**, “**heme**”, **neovascularization**, or **micro aneurysms \***

Dilated or retinal exam that shows normal fundus or posterior exam where the vitreous, macula, retinal vessels & periphery are **WNL/Normal or Clear**

NIDDM/DM = Non-Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus

DR = Diabetic retinopathy

BDR = Background Diabetic Retinopathy

PDR/NPDR = Proliferative/Non-proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy

CSME/ME = Clinically Significant MacularEdema

WNL = Within Normal Limits

NVD = Neovascularization of the optic disc

NVE = Neovascularization elsewhere

PVD = Posterior Vitreous Detachment

RD = Retinal detachment

ERM = Epiretinal membrane

BRVO = Branch Retinal Vein Occlusion

MA = Micro aneurysm

A = Anterior Chamber

P = Posterior Chamber

M = Macula

V= Vessels

OD = right eye

OS = left eye

OU= both eyes

= with

= without

# Relevant terminology:

Drawing/diagram of the retina that shows NO areas of damage w/ documentation of a normal exam with no evidence of retinopathy

Notation of the following: : (**No, Ø, , or w/o)**,“DR” , “BDR”, “PDR”, or “NPDR”

Notation of the following: : ( **or w/** ) “Diabetic retinopathy”, “DR” , “BDR”, “PDR”, “Pre-proliferative diabetic retinopathy” or “NPDR”

A drawing of the retina that shows damage w/ documentation of retinopathy

### negative Result

### positive Result

BCBSM Retinal Eye Exam Job Aid

BCBSM Retinal Eye Exam Job Aid

Chart for terms and abbreviations used in an eye exam medical record

|  |
| --- |
| **Positive Diabetic Retinopathy:** |
| BDR or BDR or DM BDR |
| DR or DR or DM DR |
| Pre-proliferative BDR / DR |
| Non-proliferative BDR /DR (NPDR) |
| Proliferative BDR/DR (PDR) |

|  |
| --- |
| **Negative Diabetic Retinopathy:** |
| No BDR or Ø BDR or BDR or w/o BDR |
| No DR or Ø DR or DR or w/o DR |
| No Ocular Complications |
| Fundus or Posterior exam WNL/Normal or Clear |
| Ø NPDR OU |