



\$245 billion

The total economic cost of diagnosed diabetes in the United States.¹



\$13,700

per person, per year

A person with diabetes will spend on average \$13,700 on healthcare costs and \$7,900 of that amount can be attributed to diabetes.¹



\$1 in \$5

Healthcare dollars spent in the United States goes to care for people with diabetes.¹

The Cost Of Diabetes

Health and Wellness programs play a crucial role in the overall care of your health. 22.3 million people in the United States have been diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this increasing population is a result of several factors, such as a growing number of baby boomers aging, and the obesity epidemic which is the primary cause for type 2 diabetes.

Recent research compiled by the American Diabetes Association showed that the total cost of diabetes was \$245 billion in 2012 – a 41% increase from 2007 in which \$174 billion was spent towards medical costs. By 2050, the number of Americans over 40 years old with diabetic retinopathy will triple to 16 million, as predicted by The American Optometric Association.

Diabetes can cause serious health problems such as heart disease, kidney failure and blindness. Untreated diabetes can lead to complete vision loss known as Diabetic Retinopathy, which can often occur without any warning symptoms.

One of the most effective ways to detect and prevent advanced diabetes is through an annual eye exam.

Therefore, yearly comprehensive eye exams are critical for early detection of diabetic retinopathy and can reduce the risk of blindness by 90% with timely treatment and follow-up care.

As a result, one of the most tangible ways to mitigate the cost associated with diabetic chronic disease is to integrate a health and wellness program into the overall benefit package for members. Davis Vision's Diabetic Outreach Program is aimed at promoting early detection and management of diabetes. This program offers a comprehensive eye examination with a special focus towards the client's employees who have been diagnosed with diabetes.

This unique program offers members the opportunity to receive an extra annual eye examination in order to better monitor their vision and overall health.

Davis Vision understands the importance of monitoring overall health and wellness in relation to healthy vision and conducts numerous initiatives to these specific members throughout the year to help ensure they visit their eyecare provider and receive their extra eye exam.

In 2012, 246,000 deaths were attributed to diabetes according to the American Diabetes Association's report, and as this epidemic grows it is more crucial that the spending of health dollars is applied effectively.

There is no question that addressing this disease on the front end with awareness and a proactive approach can lead to early prevention before serious complications arise, resulting in lower overall healthcare costs and a healthier workforce.

**To learn about Davis Vision's
Eye Health and Wellness services,
call 1-800-278-6673 or visit
www.davisvision.com**

¹/ American Diabetes Association