

R1  R2  R3  PG0  PG1  Estagiário  Tecnólogo   
PIBIC Last Name - Morales First Name - Paulo Middle - Henrique

Service (sector) Retina and Vitreous N° CEP

### **DIABETIC RETINOPATHY – THE EXPERIENCE OF MASSIVE PUBLIC MANAGEMENT IN BRAZIL**

Morales, P.H. **Purpose:** To elaborate a public health project for ophthalmic assistance in diabetic patients in Brazil. **Methods:** We defined a structure for ophthalmologic assistance for diabetic population. A monthly periodic eye examination was performed in pre-established (scheduled) dates. In order to use a affordable and feasible technique for most ophthalmologists we performed eye fundus examination with the indirect ophthalmoscope. The diabetic retinopathy was classified according to the ETDRS to identify high risk groups and to offer immediate treatment. The single location repetition with basic structural characteristics and personnel was used to establish the needs for a single event accomplishment. **Results:** A total of 14.656 patients were examined, varying from 277 to 2.368 patients per project depending of the media announcement. Fifth per cent of patients had diabetes for more than ten years, 51, 85% had never been previously examined by indirect ophthalmoscope and 17, 22% had never been previously submitted to an eye fundus examination. In the 22,68% percent had high risk characteristics for blindness and 6,03% already presented total vitreous hemorrhage or retinal detachment; patients with high risk of blindness varied from 3,68 to 51,08% in all single tested project location. Clinically significant cataract was detected in 15,83% of the patients. **Conclusion:** The frequency of diabetic patients that do not prevent blindness is high in our population. The project model tested demonstrated to be reproducible, predictable and of low technical complexity. Campaign aimed on blindness prevention and early treatment of diabetic retinopathy in our community should be stressed.