

## Join Our Focus Groups and Help Shape the Future of Services at MDFA!

The Macular Disease Foundation Australia (MDFA) is excited to announce the expansion of our Eye Connect service to support people living with diabetic retinopathy (DR) and diabetic macular oedema (DMO). We are inviting healthcare professionals, including optometrists, orthoptists, diabetes educators, ophthalmologists, GPs and endocrinologists, to participate in our upcoming focus groups.

### Why Participate?

Your insights and experiences are crucial in helping us understand the unique challenges faced by DR and DMO patients. By participating, you will contribute to the development of a patient-centred service that addresses the emotional, practical, and informational needs of those affected by these conditions. We currently offer a similar service called Eye Connect to people with age-related macular disease. Your input will directly inform the service's expansion to people with DR and DMO, ensuring the new design and implementation effectively supports patients and improves their quality of life.

### Focus Group Details:

- **Dates:** Early April
- **Commitment:** 1 x 1 hour session
- **Format:** Online sessions

### About Eye Connect:

Eye Connect is a comprehensive service developed collaboratively with patients, carers, and eye care professionals to provide continuous support between optometrist or ophthalmologist visits. Initially launched in early 2024 for individuals with age-related macular degeneration (AMD), Eye Connect focuses on health information, practical advice, and emotional support. We are now expanding this service to include support for those living with diabetes related eye conditions.

### How to Participate:

To express your interest, please email us at [info@mdfoundation.com.au](mailto:info@mdfoundation.com.au) or call our helpline at **1800 111 709**. Join us in shaping the future of services for people living with diabetes related eye conditions. Your expertise and insights are invaluable to us!