



Join the AUCH Teleophthalmology Network

Who:

The Association for Utah Community Health (AUCH) runs a teleophthalmology program for diabetic patients at federally qualified community health centers (FQCHC). These clinics serve an underserved population, offer a sliding fee schedule, provide comprehensive services, have an ongoing quality assurance program, and have a governing board of directors with at least 51% made up of by their patients.

Why:

Diabetes is the leading preventable cause of blindness (retinopathy) in adults aged 20-74. Many of the patients served by Utah's FQCHCs go without the recommended annual dilated eye exam. AUCH's Teleophthalmology Program provides a low-cost option by providing remote retinal screening exams to patients who otherwise would go without.

What:

AUCH staff collect patient information (visual acuity, diabetes history, last HbA1C, medications, etc.) and take 2-3 non-myriad images of each patient's retina. The patient's information and images are sent to a specialist for interpretation, to diagnose and recommend follow-up care. The images, patient information and diagnosis are returned to the originating CHC to include in the patient's chart and to facilitate referrals as needed.

Get Involved:

AUCH is building a network of providers to provide follow-up care to patients that have positively screened for retinopathy or other eye diseases and need a full examination. You can decide how to participate. You can provide follow-up care to one patient/week, one/month or simply state a predetermined number of patients per year. But all contributions will help improve eye care in Utah.

How does reimbursement work?:

Insured patients: Bill the patient's insurance company and cover the appropriate co-pay.

Uninsured: Patient's will pay on a sliding-fee-schedule based on their income. (~ minimum is \$20)

Contact Information

AUCH Telehealth Coordinator, 801-716-4603 or telehealth@auch



Association for
Utah Community Health
Supporting Health Care for the Underserved