

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

POSITION STATEMENT ON RETINAL PHOTOGRAPHY

1. The College supports the introduction of separate Medicare Benefit Schedule (MBS) items for the taking of retinal photographs and for the reading of the photographs.
2. Non-mydriatic photography can be utilised as an alternative to mydriatic photography because it is efficient, safe, less resource intensive and produces an acceptable result.
3. The College believes that any MBS item for retinal photography should recognise that taking the fundus photograph and its interpretation are separate processes, as is the case with other specific technical investigations such as Electrocardiogram (ECG) and Electroencephalogram (EEG) recording. It is expected that basic visual acuity results would be supplied with any fundus photograph sent for interpretation.