Looking Ahead: Improving Our Vision for the Future

Vision & Eye Problems Are Increasing as America Ages

90 Million
Americans over 40 have vision and eye problems

That's more than 3 in 5

By 2050, without effective interventions:
- Diabetic retinopathy ↑72%
- Cataracts ↑87%
- Glaucoma ↑100%
- Age-related macular degeneration ↑100%
- Vision impairment & blindness ↑150%

Cost of Vision Problems
↑157% to $373 Billion
People with vision loss are more likely to have:

- Type 2 diabetes
- Depression
- Stroke
- Hearing loss
- Chronic kidney disease

Vision loss is also related to:

- Isolation
- Balance problems
- Falls & fall-related injuries
- Risk of early death

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ACCESS TO EYE CARE + EARLY DETECTION = IMPROVED VISION HEALTH + LOWER COSTS

**CDC’s Vision Health Initiative**

- **ASSESSES** the impact of vision loss and identifies populations at risk
- **Uses** applied public health research to develop evidence-based interventions and understand the costs of vision loss
- **AIMS** to increase awareness of vision and eye health, improve access to vision care, and promote the health of people with vision loss
- **ADVANCES** vision and eye health as a public health priority through support of state and territorial health department activities

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REFERENCES
