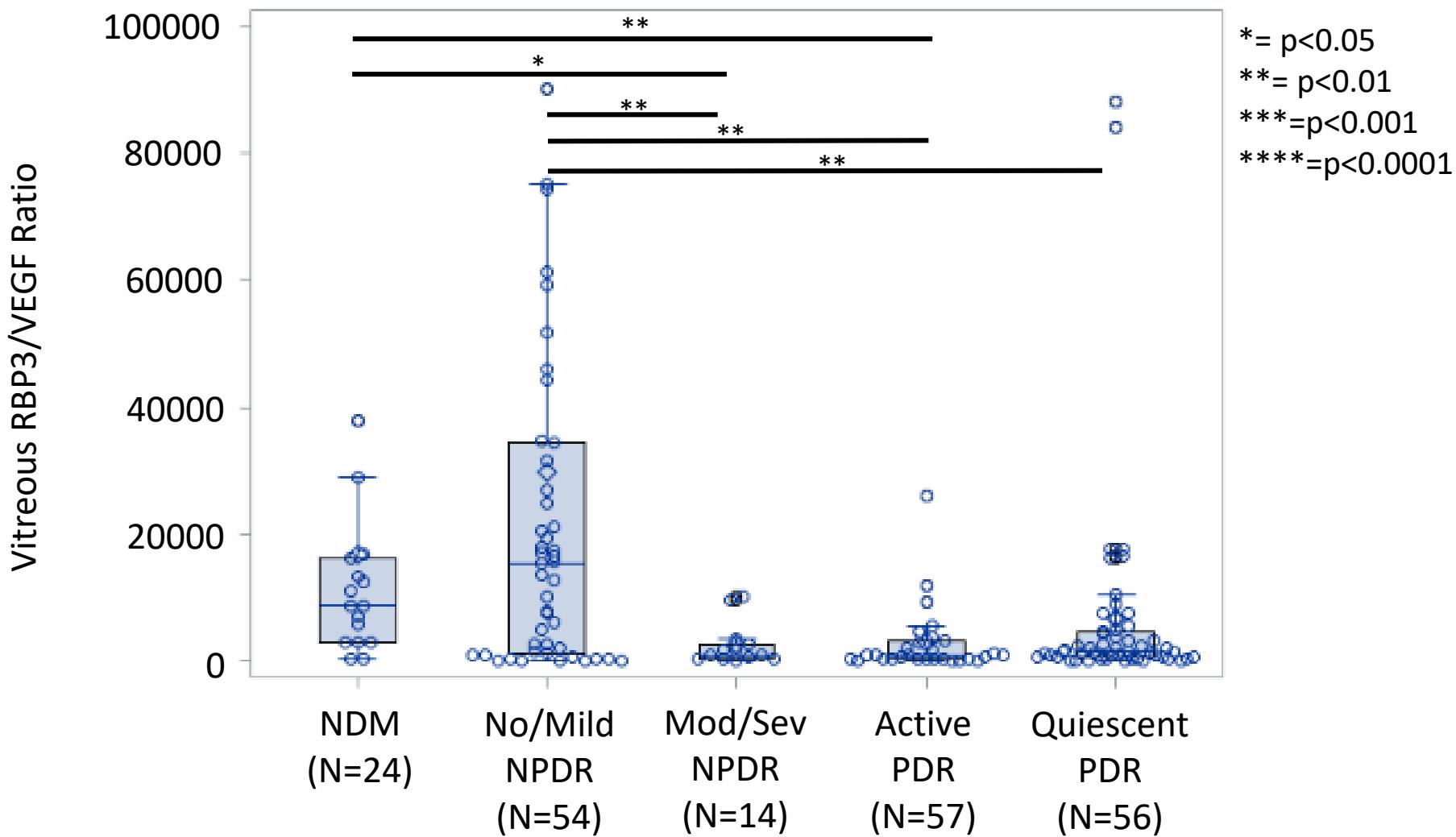


**Supplementary Table 1: Patient and Eye Characteristics for 205 Vitreous Samples without Diabetes, with Type 1 Diabetes, and with Type 2 Diabetes**

<b>Patient and Eye Characteristics (165 participants, 205 eyes)</b>	<b>Mean (SD) or Median (Q1,Q3) or %</b>		
	<b>Type 1 Diabetes (69.5% of total)</b>	<b>Type 2 Diabetes (17.2% of total)</b>	<b>No Diabetes (13.3% of total)</b>
Age (yrs)	70.2 (11.1)	62.3 (11.8)	70.5 (12.1)
Age at DM Diagnosis (yrs)	13.8 (9.2)	38.3 (14.8)	-
DM Duration (yrs)	57.0 (51,63)	21.0 [16,32)	-
HbA1c (%)	7.3 (0.9)	8.3 (1.7)	-
No-Mild DR (%)	29.8	22.6	-
Moderate-Severe DR (%)	7.8	9.7	-
Active Proliferative DR (%)	31.5	61.3	-
Quiescent PDR (%)	30.9	6.4	-
Macular Edema (%)	16.0	20.2	-
Focal Laser Treatment (%)	6.7	7.7	-
PRP treatment (%)	47.1	38.5	-

Abbreviations: SD: standard deviation; DM: diabetes mellitus; DR: diabetic retinopathy; PRP: panretinal photocoagulation

# Supplementary Figure 1: Association of Vitreous RBP3 to VEGF Ratio with Diabetic Retinopathy Severity in Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes



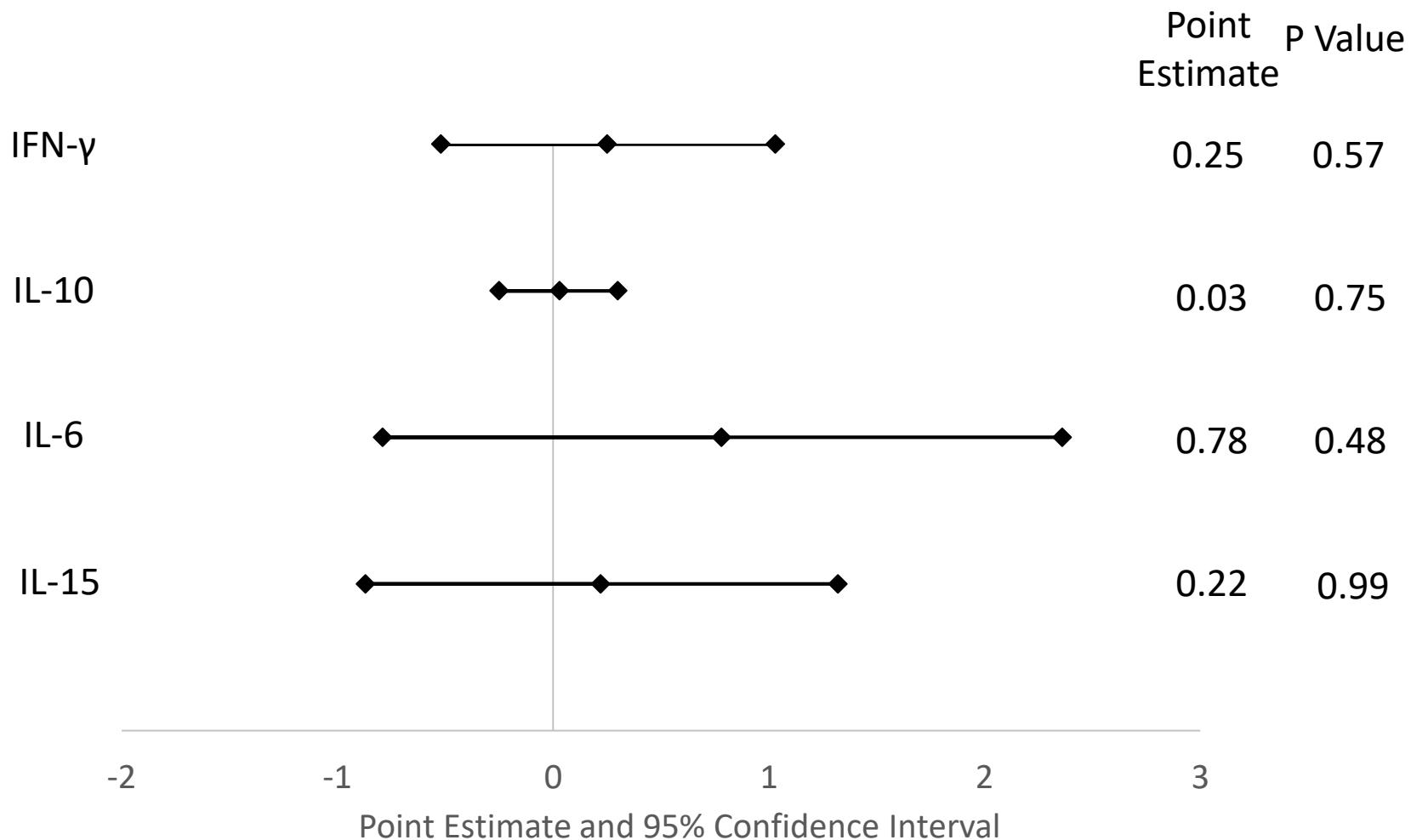
Abbreviations: RBP3: retinol binding protein 3. NDM: non diabetes mellitus; NPDR: non proliferative diabetic retinopathy; DR: diabetic retinopathy; PDR: proliferative diabetic retinopathy

**Supplementary Table 2 : Bivariate Analysis for Vitreous RBP3 Concentrations with Clinical Parameters**

Parameter	Point Estimate	Lower 95% CI	Higher 95% CI	P Value
Age (yrs)	0.028	0.008	0.048	P=0.01
DM Duration (yrs)	0.025	0.013	0.038	P<0.0001
Sex (female)	-0.076	-0.796	0.644	P=0.84
DM Diagnosis Age (yrs)	-0.021	-0.038	-0.004	P=0.02
Type of DM (Type 1 or Type 2)	-0.943	-2.520	0.633	P=0.24
HbA1c (%)	-0.149	-0.372	0.075	P=0.19
Total Cholesterol (mg/dL)	-0.005	-0.017	0.007	P=0.41
HDLc (mg/dL)	0.004	-0.017	0.024	P=0.72
LDLc (mg/dL)	-0.006	-0.024	0.012	P=0.52
Triglycerides (mg/dL)	-0.003	-0.012	0.006	P=0.51
CRP (mg/dL)	-0.026	-0.161	0.110	P=0.71
Systolic Blood Pressure (mmHg)	0.012	-0.012	0.036	P=0.33
Diastolic Blood Pressure (mmHg)	0.004	-0.047	0.056	P=0.87
Body Mass Index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	-0.030	-0.113	0.052	P=0.47
Albumin to Creatinine Ratio (ug/mg)	-0.003	-0.005	-0.001	P=0.01
eGFR ( mL/min per 1.73 m <sup>2</sup> )	0.006	-0.011	0.024	P=0.49
Nephropathy	-0.366	-1.242	0.511	P=0.41
Neuropathy	0.083	-0.746	0.911	P=0.85
CVD	-0.169	-0.958	0.620	P=0.67
PDR	-1.911	-2.521	-1.301	P<0.0001
Macular Edema	-0.083	-0.212	0.046	P=0.21
PRP	-0.985	-1.511	-0.459	P=0.0002

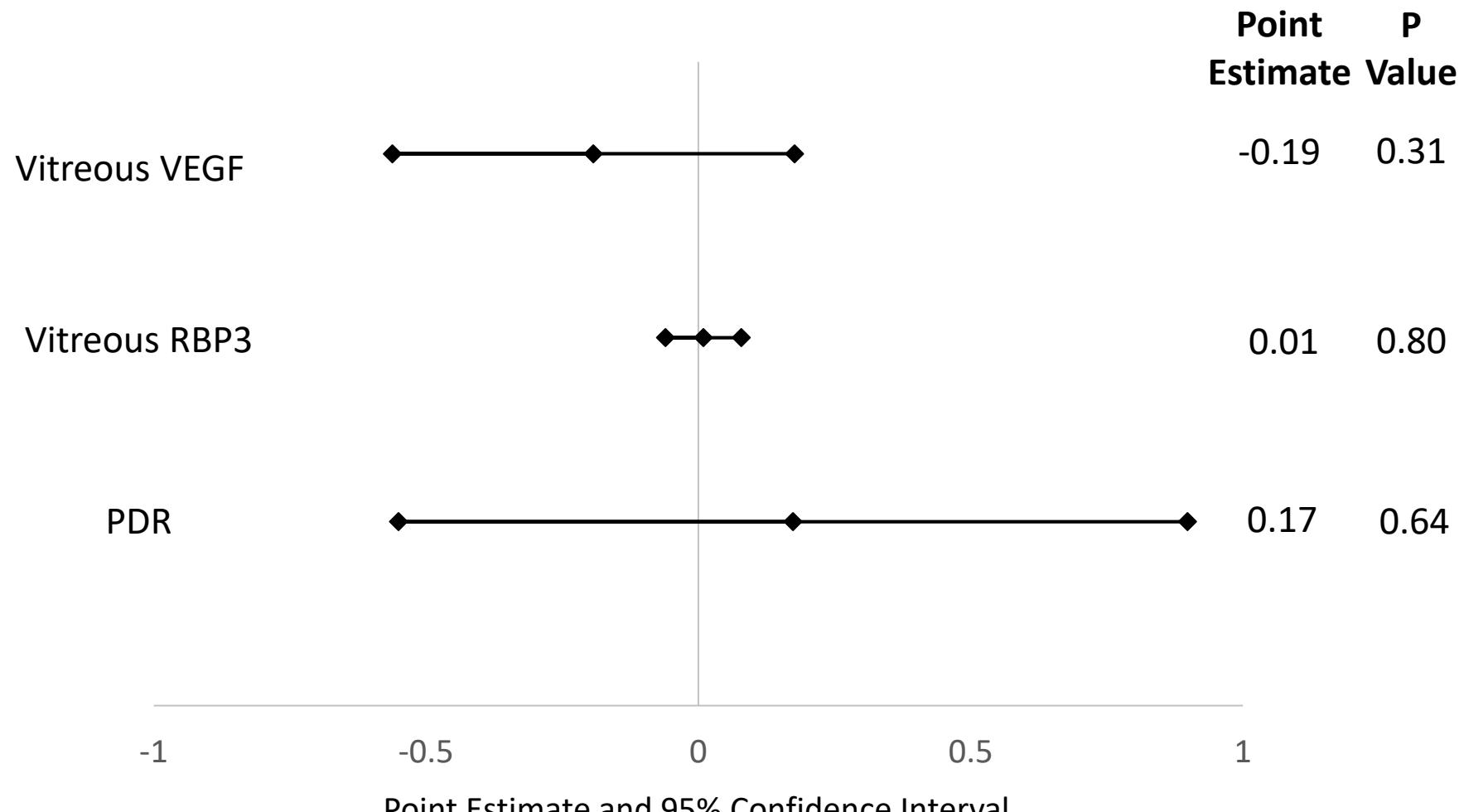
Abbreviations: CI: confidence interval; BMI: body mass index; DM=diabetes mellitus; HDLc: high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDLc: low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; CRP: c-reactive protein; eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate; CVD: cardiovascular disease; PDR: proliferative diabetic retinopathy; PRP: panretinal photocoagulation

## Supplementary Figure 2: Bivariate Analysis for PDR and Inflammatory Markers in the Peripheral Blood



Abbreviations: IFN- $\gamma$ : interferon-gamma; IL: interleukin; PDR: proliferative diabetic retinopathy

Supplementary Figure 3: Bivariate Analysis for Plasma VEGF versus Vitreous VEGF, RBP3, or Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy



Abbreviations: PDR: proliferative diabetic retinopathy; VEGF: vascular endothelial growth factor; RBP3: Retinol Binding Protein 3

**Supplementary Table 3: Inflammatory Markers and PDR (p values are shown)**

Marker	Vitreous				Peripheral Blood				
	No-Mild vs APDR	No-Mild vs QPDR	RBP3	VEGF	Blood Concentration Same Marker	No-Mild vs APDR	No Mild vs QPDR	Blood Marker vs RBP3	Blood Marker vs VEGF
IFN- $\gamma$	0.001	0.54	0.14	0.34	0.87	N/A	0.57	0.99	0.95
IL-10	0.72	0.01	0.09	0.79	0.08	0.47	0.75	0.99	0.99
IL-12	0.15	0.47	0.03	0.82	0.32	0.68	0.99	0.99	0.99
IL-13	0.45	0.68	0.27	0.94	0.06	0.87	0.97	0.99	0.99
IL-15	0.01	0.63	0.07	0.89	0.90	0.99	0.73	0.99	0.99
IL-17	0.63	0.95	0.96	0.47	0.22	0.58	0.07	0.98	0.99
IL-1a	0.63	0.96	0.89	0.64	0.56	0.42	0.13	0.98	0.98
IL-1b	0.64	0.21	0.99	0.80	0.63	0.99	0.95	0.99	0.99
IL-23	0.82	0.46	0.92	0.73	0.91	0.99	0.76	0.99	0.99
IL-2	0.11	0.40	0.80	0.86	0.15	0.50	0.03	0.98	0.98
IL-4	0.29	0.55	0.68	0.69	0.17	0.65	0.28	0.98	0.97
IL-5	0.83	0.31	0.94	0.67	0.64	0.57	0.15	0.97	0.99
IL-6	0.02	0.94	0.27	0.40	0.35	0.48	0.53	0.99	0.99
TNF-b	0.13	0.94	0.04	0.45	0.80	0.99	0.83	0.99	0.95
TNF-a	0.32	0.69	0.02	0.66	0.06	0.34	0.99	0.99	0.99

Abbreviations: IFN- $\gamma$ : interferon-gamma; IL: interleukin; PDR: proliferative diabetic retinopathy; APDR: active proliferative diabetic retinopathy; QDPR: quiescent proliferative diabetic retinopathy