

Optometry Coding & Billing Alert

Clarification: Append LT and RT to Post-Op Code

A Reader Question in the July 2005 Optometry Coding & Billing Alert, "Use 54 to Unlock Post-Op Pay," advises to report 66821-55 (Discussion of secondary membranous cataract [opacified posterior lens capsule and/or anterior hyaloid]; laser surgery [e.g., YAG laser] [one or more stages]; postoperative management only) for an optometrist's postoperative care of a YAG laser patient. While this is correct, we neglected to advise that you should also append modifier LT (Left side) or RT (Right side) to note that you are caring for the same eye that was originally operated on.

Additionally, the headline should have read, "Use 55 to Unlock Post-Op Pay." We apologize for any confusion.