

Optometry Coding & Billing Alert

READER QUESTION ~ Diagnosing Irritated Pinguecula

Question: Which diagnosis code should I use for an irritated pinguecula?

Connecticut Subscriber

Answer: A pinguecula is degenerated conjunctival tissue that may occur on either side of the cornea; it is an anatomical defect that looks like a bump on the conjunctiva. It is the early stage of pterygium. Use 372.51 (conjunctival degenerations and deposits; pinguecula) whether the pinguecula is irritated or not.