

## Optometry Coding & Billing Alert

### Reader Question: Just One Dx Code for Diabetic Retinopathy

**Question:** For a diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy with ICD-10 codes, do we still have to use another diagnosis code for the ophthalmic manifestation, like we did with ICD-9?

Florida Subscriber

**Answer:** Not unless the ophthalmic manifestation is not already covered in the "Diabetes with Ophthalmic Manifestations" ICD-10 codes. The good news is that ICD-10 introduced a number of new codes that described both the underlying condition (diabetes) and the ophthalmic manifestation (e.g., macular edema). The E11.3 (Type 2 diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications) range of codes specifies type II diabetes mellitus, with specific codes detailing the type and severity of ophthalmic complication:

- E11.311 □ Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy; with macular edema
- E11.319 □ ...without macular edema
- E11.321 □ Type 2 diabetes mellitus with mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy; with macular edema
- E11.329 □ ...without macular edema
- E11.331 □ Type 2 diabetes mellitus with moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy; with macular edema
- E11.339 □ ...without macular edema
- E11.341 □ Type 2 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy; with macular edema
- E11.349 □ ...without macular edema
- E11.351 □ Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy; with macular edema
- E11.359 □ ...without macular edema
- E11.36 □ Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic cataract
- E11.39 □ Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other diabetic ophthalmic complication.

The E10.3 (Type 1 diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications) series is similarly broken down with specific ophthalmic manifestations.

**However:** Not all ophthalmic manifestations are covered in the E10.3 and E11.3 series. For example, E10.39 (Type 1 diabetes mellitus with other diabetic ophthalmic complication) contains an instruction to "use additional code to identify manifestation, such as: diabetic glaucoma (H40-H42).