

Optometry Coding & Billing Alert

Reader Questions: Code Gonioscopy Separately From Eye Exam

Question: Can we bill Medicare for both an intermediate established patient exam and a gonioscopy? Also, is gonioscopy a bilateral procedure?

New York Subscriber

Answer: Yes, you can report 92012 (Ophthalmological services: medical examination and evaluation, with initiation or continuation of diagnostic and treatment program; intermediate, established patient) along with 92020 (Gonioscopy [separate procedure]). The two codes were once bundled, but that bundle was deleted in 1999.

Gonioscopy is inherently bilateral - the Physician Fee Schedule has valued the procedure based on the work involved for both eyes. If you perform gonioscopy on only one eye, append modifier -52 (Reduced services) to 92020.