

Optometry Coding & Billing Alert

You Be the Coder: Blepharitis Type Drives Diagnosis Coding

Question: What is the proper ICD-9 code for patients with blepharitis?

Tennessee Subscriber

Answer: It depends on the type of blepharitis. For these patients, choose from one of the following diagnoses depending on the encounter notes:

373.00 -- Blepharitis, unspecified

373.01 -- Ulcerative blepharitis

373.02-- Squamous blepharitis.

Also: When selecting one of the above diagnoses, be sure your optometrist is treating a patient with blepharitis, not blepharoconjunctivitis.

If notes indicate the patient had blepharoconjunctivitis, choose one of the following ICD-9 codes:

372.20 -- Blepharoconjunctivitis, unspecified

372.21 -- Angular blepharoconjunctivitis

372.22 -- Contact blepharoconjunctivitis.