

## Optometry Coding & Billing Alert

### You Be the Expert: Post-Op YAG Management

**Question:** We're having trouble filing for postoperative care for a YAG. How should we code this?

Texas Subscriber

**Answer:** Report 66821 (Discission of secondary membranous cataract [opacified posterior lens capsule and/or anterior hyaloid]; laser surgery [e.g., YAG laser] [one or more stages]) and append modifier 55 (Postoperative management only). This tells the carrier that you are seeking payment only for the postoperative management of the surgery, not the entire global procedure (which includes pre-, intra- and postoperative components).

**Watch for:** For a successful modifier 55 claim, the surgeon who performed the YAG must append modifier 54 (Surgical care only) to his claim. If the surgeon submits an unmodified claim, the carrier will assume that he performed the entire global service, including the postoperative management.