

Outpatient Facility Coding Alert

Reader Questions: Clear Calcific Band Keratopathy With 371.43

Question: I have a patient with extreme calcific band keratopathy. Is there a more specific ICD-9 code than 371.43 to use?

Texas Subscriber

Answer: Code 371.43 (Band-shaped keratopathy) is the best ICD-9 code to use in this case; there is no more specific code to describe extreme calcific band keratopathy.

Band keratopathy is a corneal disease marked by the appearance of a band of calcium on the central cornea, an example of metastatic calcification.

ICD-10 update: Unsurprisingly, ICD-10 does add some specifics to the band-shaped keratopathy diagnosis, but does not include a code to describe the "extreme" condition. Beginning Oct. 1, 2015, you should report one of the following ICD-10 codes:

- H18.421 ☐ Band keratopathy, right eye
- H18.422 ☐ ... left eye
- H18.423 ☐ ... bilateral
- H18.429 ☐ ... unspecified eye.