

## Ophthalmic Procedures

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**Member-specific benefits take precedence over medical policy and benefits may vary across plans. Refer to the individual's benefit plan for details \*.**

### Purpose:

This policy addresses Ophthalmic Procedures.

- Canaloplasty (**ab interno**) - OMNI, iTrack, Ellex, ABiC is covered upon request

### Description & Definitions:

**Cataracts** – clouding of the eyes natural lens causing blurry vision or glaring of light.

- **Cataract surgery** is the removal of the lens of your eye and replacing it with an artificial device similar to a lens. (Intraocular Lenses (IOLs), cataract extraction (lens extraction)
- **Capsulotomy** - laser or small incision into the capsule to remove the opaque lens material. Yttrium Aluminum Garnet (YAG) Capsulotomy
- **Phaco-Emulsification Procedure** - a minimally invasive cataract surgery where the lens is broken up by ultrasound, irrigated, and suctioned out from the eye.

**Glaucoma** - a medical condition where there is increased pressure in the eyeball causing optic nerve damage. There are several procedures to alleviate this condition.

- **Canaloplasty** - a less invasive surgery to insert a micro-catheter to open the natural eye canal to drain fluid, reducing intraocular pressure (IOP).
- **Aqueous Shunt** is a device inserted to promote drainage of fluid reducing intraocular pressure. (Ahmed glaucoma implant, Baerveldt seton, Glaucoma pressure regulator, Ex-PRESS Mini Glaucoma Shunt, Krupin-Denver valve implant, Molteno implant, Schocket shunt)
- **Micro-Invasive Glaucoma Surgery (MIGS)** - a micro stent placed into the eyes to help open and enlarge drainage for IOP. (Hydrus, iStent, or iStent inject device, XEN45 device)
- **Trabeculectomy** the creation of a new channel for drain the buildup of fluid from the eye causing IOP.

### Other Ophthalmic Procedures:

- **Iris and Retinal prosthesis** – replacement of iris or retina.
- **Intracanalicular plugs** are small, absorbable polyethylene glycol hydrogel plugs that are used to deliver a sustained, therapeutic level of medication to targeted ocular tissue. The intracanalicular plug is designed to be absorbed and exit the nasolacrimal system without need for removal. The plugs contain a visualization agent for retention monitoring throughout the treatment period.

## Criteria:

**Ophthalmic surgical procedures** are considered medically necessary for **1 or more** of the following:

- **Initial eye or second eye cataract removal** with or without intraocular lens implant for individual with a cataract and **1 or more** of the following:
  - Adult, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
    - Cataract and **ALL** of the following:
      - Eye symptoms that interfere with activities of daily living, work, or eye function, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
        - Clinically significant glare disability
        - Monocular diplopia
        - Visual disparity between 2 eyes
      - Vision cannot be corrected nonoperatively to satisfactory function.
      - Visual symptoms are expected to improve with cataract removal.
    - Cataract-induced disease (eg, phacomorphic glaucoma, lens-induced uveitis)
    - Inability to visualize fundus behind cataract for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes in eye at risk
  - Infant or child, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
    - Inability to visualize fundus behind cataract
    - Obstructed retinoscopic reflex[C] preventing refraction
    - Cataract, and eye symptoms interfere with activities of daily living, work, or eye function, as indicated by 1 or more of the following:
      - Significant glare disability
      - Size or location of cataract likely to cause amblyopia
      - Visual impairment
- **YAG Laser or knife capsulotomy** may be indicated when **ALL** of the following are present:
  - Posterior capsule opacification
  - Need for additional treatment, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
    - Eye symptoms that interfere with activities of daily living, work, or eye function, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
      - Clinically significant glare disability
      - Clinically significant stereoacuity disability
      - Clinically significant vision impairment
    - Inability to visualize fundus behind cataract for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes in eye at risk
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved **aqueous drainage/shunt implants** with an extraocular reservoir for refractory glaucoma (including but not limited to: (Ahmed glaucoma implant, Baerveldt seton, Glaucoma pressure regulator, Ex-PRESS Mini Glaucoma Shunt, Krupin-Denver valve implant, Molteno implant, Schocket shunt) for **ALL** of the following:
  - Individual with refractory primary open-angle glaucoma
  - At least one of first-line drugs have failed to control intra-ocular pressure
  - At least one of second-line drugs have failed to control intra-ocular pressure
- **Micro-Invasive Glaucoma Surgery (MIGS)** may be covered for **1 or more** of the following:
  - Hydrus®, iStent®, or iStent inject® device (one per eye) for **ALL of the following**:
    - Adult with mild or moderate open-angle glaucoma and a cataract
    - Individual's current treatment plan includes ocular hypotensive medication
    - Procedure is being performed with cataract surgery
  - XEN45® device (one per eye) for **ALL** of the following:
    - Management of refractory glaucoma, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
      - Previous surgery has surgical treatment has failed
      - Primary open glaucoma
      - Unresponsive to medical therapy

- **Canaloplasty (ab externo)** for **All** of the following:
  - Individual with diagnosis of primary open-angle glaucoma
- **Endoscopic or Transscleral Cyclophotocoagulation** for the treatment of glaucoma for **ALL** of the following:
  - As a last resort when all other treatments have failed.
- **Laser trabeculoplasty or laser trabeculectomy** (including Fistulization) may be indicated for **1 or more** of the following:
  - Adult open-angle glaucoma (primary, secondary, or suspect) and **1 or more** of the following:
    - Need for primary surgical intervention
    - Optic nerve damage continues despite reaching intraocular pressure goals.
    - Individual is intolerant of, or unable to adhere to, medical therapy.
    - Target intraocular pressure cannot be reached medically.
  - Pediatric glaucoma, and **1 or more** of the following:
    - Need for primary surgical intervention (ie, congenital aniridia without cataract, primary childhood glaucoma)
    - Target intraocular pressure cannot be reached medically.
- **Dexamethasone Intracanalicular Ophthalmic Insert** (Dextenza) may be covered for **1 or more** of the following:
  - Treatment of ocular inflammation and pain following ophthalmic surgery

**Ophthalmic procedures** are considered **not medically necessary** for any use other than those indicated in clinical criteria, to include but not limited to:

- Ab interno trabeculectomy (trabectome)
- Anterior segment aqueous drainage devices with/without extra-ocular reservoir inserted by an internal approach and other shunts that have not been approved by the FDA.
- Beta Radiation
- Clear lens extraction
- Computer-aided animation and analysis of time series retinal images for the monitoring of disease progression, unilateral or bilateral, with interpretation and report
- CyPass Micro-Stent
- Evacuation of Meibomian Glands
- Fistulization of sclera for glaucoma, through ciliary body
- Insertion of iris prosthesis
- iStent G3 Supra
- Laser trabeculotomy, ab interno
- Measurement of ocular blood flow by repetitive intraocular pressure sampling, with interpretation and report
- Micro Shunt EyePass
- Monitoring of intraocular pressure for 24 hours or longer, unilateral or bilateral
- Near-infrared dual imaging of meibomian glands
- Placement of a subconjunctival retinal prosthesis receiver and pulse generator, and implantation of intra-ocular retinal electrode array, with vitrectomy
- Retinal prosthesis/ARGUS
- SOLX® Gold Shunt
- Suprachoroidal injection of a pharmacologic agent
- Suprachoroidal shunt
- Tear film imaging
- Transciliary Filtration (e.g., Fugo Blade transciliary filtration, Singh filtration) (66999)
- Upgrades to any basic or standard lens or premium intraocular lenses or Intraocular lens implant (i.e., monofocal IOL, multifocal IOL, or accommodating IOL) for the correction of refractive error including but not limited to:
  - Accommodating posterior chamber IOLs (e.g., Crystalens);
  - Multi-focal posterior chamber IOLs (Array Model SA40, ReZoom, AcrySof ReSTOR, Tecnis ZM900 and ZMAOO, AcrySof ReSTOR, Acrysof Restor SA60D3 multifocal, Acrysof Natural

- ReSTOR SN60D3, AcrySof ReSTOR Aspheric IOL model SN6AD1, AcrySof ReSTOR Aspheric IOL model SN6AD3;
- Astigmatism-correcting (toric) posterior chamber IOLs-- Staar Toric IOL, Staar Elastic Toric Lens Model AA4203TL, AcrySof Toric IOL, AcrySof Aspheric Toric IOL SN6AT3, SN6AT4 and SN6AT5, AcrySof Toric Models SA60T3, SA60T4 and SA60T5, AcrySof Toric Model SA60T, and Acrysof IQ Toric Model SN6ATT)., Tecnis Toric intraocular lens.
- Viscocanalostomy
- Visual evoked potential, testing for glaucoma
- YAG laser capsulotomy is considered not medically necessary in any of the following situations (see criteria below)
  - If performed prophylactically;
  - If scheduled routinely after cataract surgery without regard to whether there is clinically significant opacification of the posterior capsule.

**Dexamethasone Intracanalicular Ophthalmic Insert (Dextenza)** for any use other than those indicated in clinical criteria, to include but not limited to:

- Individual with active corneal, conjunctival, or canalicular infection (including epithelial herpes simplex keratitis (dendritic keratitis), vaccinia, or varicella)
- Individual with mycobacterial infection of eye
- Individual with fungal disease of eye
- Individual with dacryocystitis

## Coding:

Medically necessary with criteria:

Coding	Description
65855	Trabeculoplasty by laser surgery
66150	Fistulization of sclera for glaucoma; trephination with iridectomy
66155	Fistulization of sclera for glaucoma; thermocauterization with iridectomy
66160	Fistulization of sclera for glaucoma; sclerectomy with punch or scissors, with iridectomy
66170	Fistulization of sclera for glaucoma; trabeculectomy ab externo in absence of previous surgery
66172	Fistulization of sclera for glaucoma; trabeculectomy ab externo with scarring from previous ocular surgery or trauma (includes injection of antifibrotic agents)
66174	Transluminal dilation of aqueous outflow canal; without retention of device or stent
66175	Transluminal dilation of aqueous outflow canal; with retention of device or stent
66179	Aqueous shunt to extraocular equatorial plate reservoir, external approach; without graft
66180	Aqueous shunt to extraocular equatorial plate reservoir, external approach; with graft
66183	Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, external approach
66184	Revision of aqueous shunt to extraocular equatorial plate reservoir; without graft
66185	Revision of aqueous shunt to extraocular equatorial plate reservoir; with graft
66710	Ciliary body destruction; cyclophotocoagulation, transscleral

66711	Ciliary body destruction; cyclophotocoagulation, endoscopic, without concomitant removal of crystalline lens
66820	Discission of secondary membranous cataract (opacified posterior lens capsule and/or anterior hyaloid); stab incision technique (Ziegler or Wheeler knife)
66821	Discission of secondary membranous cataract (opacified posterior lens capsule and/or anterior hyaloid); laser surgery (eg, YAG laser) (1 or more stages)
66825	Repositioning of intraocular lens prosthesis, requiring an incision (separate procedure)
66830	Removal of secondary membranous cataract (opacified posterior lens capsule and/or anterior hyaloid) with corneo-scleral section, with or without iridectomy (iridocapsulotomy, iridocapsulectomy)
66840	Removal of lens material; aspiration technique, 1 or more stages
66850	Removal of lens material; phacofragmentation technique (mechanical or ultrasonic) (eg, phacoemulsification), with aspiration
66852	Removal of lens material; pars plana approach, with or without vitrectomy
66920	Removal of lens material; intracapsular
66930	Removal of lens material; intracapsular, for dislocated lens
66940	Removal of lens material; extracapsular (other than 66840, 66850, 66852)
66982	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1-stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification), complex, requiring devices or techniques not generally used in routine cataract surgery (eg, iris expansion device, suture support for intraocular lens, or primary posterior capsulorrhexis) or performed on patients in the amblyogenic developmental stage; without endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation
66983	Intracapsular cataract extraction with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1 stage procedure)
66984	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1 stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification); without endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation
66987	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1-stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification), complex, requiring devices or techniques not generally used in routine cataract surgery (eg, iris expansion device, suture support for intraocular lens, or primary posterior capsulorrhexis) or performed on patients in the amblyogenic developmental stage; with endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation
66988	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1 stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification); with endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation

66989	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1-stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification), complex, requiring devices or techniques not generally used in routine cataract surgery (eg, iris expansion device, suture support for intraocular lens, or primary posterior capsulorrhexis) or performed on patients in the amblyogenic developmental stage; with insertion of intraocular (eg, trabecular meshwork, supraciliary, suprachoroidal) anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, internal approach, one or more
66991	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1 stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification); with insertion of intraocular (eg, trabecular meshwork, supraciliary, suprachoroidal) anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, internal approach, one or more
68841	Insertion of drug-eluting implant, including punctal dilation when performed, into lacrimal canaliculus, each
0308T	Insertion of ocular telescope prosthesis including removal of crystalline lens or intraocular lens prosthesis
0449T	Insertion of aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, internal approach, into the subconjunctival space; initial device
0450T	Insertion of aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, internal approach, into the subconjunctival space; each additional device (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
0671T	Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device into the trabecular meshwork, without external reservoir, and without concomitant cataract removal, one or more

#### Considered Not Medically Necessary:

Coding	Description
66999	Unlisted procedure, anterior segment of eye
92499	Unlisted ophthalmological service or procedure
0100T	Placement of a subconjunctival retinal prosthesis receiver and pulse generator, and implantation of intra-ocular retinal electrode array, with vitrectomy
0198T	Measurement of ocular blood flow by repetitive intraocular pressure sampling, with interpretation and report
0207T	Evacuation of meibomian glands, automated, using heat and intermittent pressure, unilateral
0253T	Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, internal approach, into the suprachoroidal space
0329T	Monitoring of intraocular pressure for 24 hours or longer, unilateral or bilateral, with interpretation and report
0330T	Tear film imaging, unilateral or bilateral, with interpretation and report
0464T	Visual evoked potential, testing for glaucoma, with interpretation and report
0465T	Suprachoroidal injection of a pharmacologic agent (does not include supply of medication)
0472T	Device evaluation, interrogation, and initial programming of intraocular retinal electrode array (eg, retinal prosthesis), in person, with iterative adjustment of the implantable device to test functionality, select optimal permanent programmed values with analysis, including visual training, with review and report by a qualified health care professional

0473T	Device evaluation and interrogation of intraocular retinal electrode array (eg, retinal prosthesis), in person, including reprogramming and visual training, when performed, with review and report by a qualified health care professional
0474T	Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, with creation of intraocular reservoir, internal approach, into the supraciliary space
0507T	Near-infrared dual imaging (ie, simultaneous reflective and trans-illuminated light) of meibomian glands, unilateral or bilateral, with interpretation and report
0563T	Evacuation of meibomian glands, using heat delivered through wearable, open-eye eyelid treatment devices and manual gland expression, bilateral
0616T	Insertion of iris prosthesis, including suture fixation and repair or removal of iris, when performed; without removal of crystalline lens or intraocular lens, without insertion of intraocular lens
0617T	Insertion of iris prosthesis, including suture fixation and repair or removal of iris, when performed; with removal of crystalline lens and insertion of intraocular lens
0618T	Insertion of iris prosthesis, including suture fixation and repair or removal of iris, when performed; with secondary intraocular lens placement or intraocular lens exchange
0621T	Trabeculostomy ab interno by laser
0622T	Trabeculostomy ab interno by laser; with use of ophthalmic endoscope
0671T	Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device into the trabecular meshwork, without external reservoir, and without concomitant cataract removal, one or more
0730T	Trabeculotomy by laser, including optical coherence tomography (OCT) guidance

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) - approved only products only.

## Document History:

### Revised Dates:

- 2022: March, July, September
- 2021: February, June
- 2020: June, October
- 2016: February
- 2015: January, April, September, October, November
- 2014: January, March, July, August, November
- 2013: January, February, April, November
- 2012: January, May
- 2011: November
- 2010: June, September
- 2009: May
- 2008: May

### Reviewed Dates:

- 2023: February
- 2019: August
- 2017: March, November
- 2016: March, September
- 2011: May
- 2010: May
- 2007: October
- 2001: December
- 2000: December
- 1999: November

- 1998: November
- 1996: August

Effective Date:

- February 1994

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### Special Notes: \*

Medical policies can be highly technical and complex and are provided here for informational purposes. These medical policies are intended for use by health care professionals. The medical policies do not constitute medical advice or medical care. Treating health care professionals are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment, and medical advice. Sentara Health Plan members should discuss the information in the medical policies with their treating health care professionals. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and these medical policies are subject to change without notice, although Sentara Health Plan will notify providers as required in advance of changes that could have a negative impact on benefits.

Services mean both medical and behavioral health (mental health) services and supplies unless We specifically tell You otherwise. We do not cover any services that are not listed in the Covered Services section unless required to be covered under state or federal laws and regulations. We do not cover any services that are not Medically Necessary. We sometimes give examples of specific services that are not covered but that does not mean that other similar services are covered. Some services are covered only if We authorize them. When We say You or Your We mean You and any of Your family members covered under the Plan. Call Member Services if You have questions.

### Keywords:

Cataract Procedures, SHP Surgical 60, cataract, ophthalmic, ocular, implant, intracapsular, extracapsular, lens, laser, SHP Glaucoma Procedures, Ophthalmic Procedures, Aqueous shunt, aqueous drainage devices, Microstent Bypass, Canaloplasty, Endoscopic Cyclophotocoagulation, Transscleral Cyclophotocoagulation, open-angle glaucoma, glaucoma, trabeculectomy, tube shunt procedures, intra-ocular pressure, Xen, Ahmed glaucoma implant, Baerveldt seton, Glaucoma pressure regulator, Ex-PRESS Mini Glaucoma Shunt, Krupin-Denver valve implant, Molteno implant, Schocket shunt, Laser trabeculotomy, ab interno