

Cataracts - Referral Management

RMG: R-0024 (AC)

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Clinical Indications for Referral

- Referral for cataracts may be indicated for **1 or more** of the following(1)(2)(3):
 - Endocrinology referral for evaluation or management of underlying endocrine condition associated with cataract (eg, diabetes, hypoparathyroidism)(4)
 - Genetic medicine referral for evaluation or management of genetic disorder associated with congenital cataract (eg, Alport syndrome, Down syndrome, galactosemia, Lowe syndrome, myotonic dystrophy)(5)(6)(7)(8)
 - Nutrition referral for dietary counseling (eg, galactosemia causing cataract in child)(8)
 - ◻ Ophthalmology referral for evaluation or management of **1 or more** of the following(6):
 - Cataract in child or infant[A](5)(9)(10)
 - Changes in refraction due to cataract
 - Clinically significant difference in acuity between eyes (ie, anisometropia) in presence of cataract[B]
 - Coincident eye pain, red eye, or photophobia with cataract[C](12)
 - High-risk patient, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(6):
 - Diabetes mellitus(13)
 - Down syndrome(14)
 - Drug-induced lens changes (eg, prednisone, phenothiazine)
 - Exposure to ionizing radiation(15)
 - Hypocalcemia
 - Myotonic dystrophy
 - Ocular trauma
 - Wilson disease
 - Lens-induced angle closure (eg, phacomorphic glaucoma)[C](16)(17)
 - Lens-induced uveitis(18)(19)
 - Lens caused inflammation (eg, phacolysis, phacoanaphylactic endophthalmitis).[C](17)
 - Lens opacity interferes with optimal diagnosis or treatment of other eye conditions (eg, diabetic retinopathy).
 - Visual symptoms due to lens opacity impairing adult patient's quality of life, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(18)(20)(21):
 - Decreased night vision
 - Difficulty seeing fine details (eg, reading, driving)(22)
 - Glare sensitivity
 - Halos

References

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Footnotes

[A] Early surgical intervention for cataracts in an infant or child can prevent irreversible amblyopia.(5) [A in Context Link 1]

[B] Significant difference in acuity between eyes, anisometropia, creates inhibition of binocular vision. This may occur iatrogenically after performing cataract surgery in only one eye; therefore, cataract surgery may be appropriate at an earlier stage of development in the second eye.(1) [B in Context Link 1]

[C] Patients with hypermature cataracts can develop an immune reaction to cataract protein (phacoanaphylactic endophthalmitis) or glaucoma.(1)(11) [C in Context Link 1, 2, 3]

Codes

ICD-10 Diagnosis: E08.36, E09.36, E10.36, E11.36, E13.36, H25.011, H25.012, H25.013, H25.019, H25.031, H25.032, H25.033, H25.039, H25.041, H25.042, H25.043, H25.049, H25.091, H25.092, H25.093, H25.099, H25.10, H25.11, H25.12, H25.13, H25.20, H25.21, H25.22, H25.23, H25.811, H25.812, H25.813, H25.819, H25.89, H25.9, H26.001, H26.002, H26.003, H26.009, H26.011, H26.012, H26.013, H26.019, H26.031, H26.032, H26.033, H26.039, H26.041, H26.042, H26.043, H26.049, H26.051, H26.052, H26.053, H26.059, H26.061, H26.062, H26.063, H26.069, H26.09, H26.101, H26.102, H26.103, H26.109, H26.111, H26.112, H26.113, H26.119, H26.121, H26.122, H26.123, H26.129, H26.131, H26.132, H26.133, H26.139, H26.20, H26.211, H26.212, H26.213, H26.219, H26.221, H26.222, H26.223, H26.229, H26.231, H26.232, H26.233, H26.239, H26.30, H26.31, H26.32, H26.33, H26.40, H26.411, H26.412, H26.413, H26.419, H26.491, H26.492, H26.493, H26.499, H26.8, H26.9, H28, H44.19, H59.021, H59.022, H59.023, H59.029, Q12.0, T85.21XA, T85.21XD, T85.21XS, T85.22XA, T85.22XD, T85.22XS, T85.29XA, T85.29XD, T85.29XS, Z13.5, Z98.41, Z98.42, Z98.49 [Hide]

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