



American Academy of Ophthalmic Executives®

Fact Sheet: Coding for Meibomian Gland Dysfunction (MGD) and Dry Eye Disease (DED)

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Definitions*

Meibomian gland dysfunction (MGD) is an abnormality in composition of the secretions from the meibomian glands in the tarsus of the eyelids.

Dry eye disease (DED) is identified by corneal and conjunctival dryness due to deficient or abnormal (dysfunctional) quality of tear production.

Overview of Coding for MGD

Ophthalmologists' manual expression is a component of the E/M or Eye visit code and not separately billable to the payer or the patient.

Category III codes are a set of temporary codes for emerging technology and are not assigned a value by the Relative Update Committee (RUC).

Coverage is determined by each individual payer and carrier priced.

For the Medicare Part B patient, it is advisable to obtain an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN) and append modifier -GA to the Category III code until such time an allowable is published.

When the payer assigns payment, balance billing the patient is a violation of your payer agreement.

Category III Codes and Billing Guidelines for MGD

0207T Evacuation of meibomian glands, automated, using heat and intermittent pressure, unilateral

- Sunset January 2025
- Billable per eye with modifier -50 or -RT/-LT depending on the payer requirement
- Bundled in CCI with: 67500, 67800, 67801, 67805, 67808, 67840, 67850
- LipiFlow

0330T Tear film imaging, unilateral or bilateral, with interpretation and report

- Sunset January 2024
- No current CCI edits
- LipiView II

0563T Evacuation of meibomian glands, using heat delivered through wearable, open-eye eyelid treatment devices and manual gland expression, bilateral

- Sunset January 2025
- Billable once whether one or both eyelids are treated
- Bundled in CCI with: 67500, 67800, 67801, 67805, 67808, 67840, 67850
- TearCare

67999 Unlisted procedure, eyelids

- Blephex
- iLux
- MIBOThermoFlo

ICD-10 Linkages for MGD

Depending on the payer, covered diagnoses may include but are not limited to:

- H02.881 Meibomian gland dysfunction right upper eyelid
- H02.882 Meibomian gland dysfunction right lower eyelid
- H02.884 Meibomian gland dysfunction left upper eyelid
- H02.885 Meibomian gland dysfunction left lower eyelid
- H02.88A Meibomian gland dysfunction right eye, upper and lower eyelids
- H02.88B Meibomian gland dysfunction left eye, upper and lower eyelids

Overview of Lab Test Coding for DED

Practices must apply for a CLIA Certificate of Waiver when the following lab tests are performed in the office. The waiver is available at [cms.gov/clia](https://www.cms.gov/clia). There is a fee for processing the waiver request. Append modifier -QW indicating this is a CLIA waived test. Include the CLIA number in box 23 on the claim form.

Allowables are found in the CMS lab fee schedule, not the physician fee schedule. Commercial coverage is at the payers' discretion.

83516 Immunoassay for analyte other than infectious agent antibody or infectious agent antigen; qualitative or semiquantitative, multiple-step method

- The Medically Unlikely Edit (MUE) is 4 indicating up to 4 lids are billable during the encounter
- Inflammadry

83861 Microfluidic analysis utilizing an integrated collection and analysis device, tear osmolarity

- The Medically Unlikely Edit (MUE) is 2 indicating up to 2 eyes are billable during the encounter.
- Tear Osmolarity

ICD-10 Linkages for DED

Depending on the payer, covered diagnoses may include but are not limited to:

- H04.121 Dry eye syndrome of right lacrimal gland (Tear film insufficiency, NOS)
- H04.122 Dry eye syndrome of left lacrimal gland (Tear film insufficiency, NOS)
- H04.123 Dry eye syndrome of bilateral lacrimal glands (Tear film insufficiency, NOS)
- H11.141 Conjunctival xerosis, unspecified, right eye
- H11.142 Conjunctival xerosis, unspecified, left eye
- H11.143 Conjunctival xerosis, unspecified, bilateral
- H16.221 Keratoconjunctivitis sicca, not specified as Sjögren's, right eye
- H16.222 Keratoconjunctivitis sicca, not specified as Sjögren's, left eye
- H16.223 Keratoconjunctivitis sicca, not specified as Sjögren's, bilateral
- H57.11 Ocular pain, right eye
- H57.12 Ocular pain, left eye
- H57.13 Ocular pain, bilateral
- M35.01 Sicca syndrome [Sjogren] with keratoconjunctivitis