American Academy of Ophthalmic Executives®
Fact Sheet: 0449T XEN Gel Stent

Updated May 18, 2021

Visit [aao.org/migs](http://aao.org/migs) for ongoing updates. For local coverage determination updates, visit [aao.org/lcds](http://aao.org/lcds).

<table>
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<th>0449T XEN Gel Stent</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CODING CLUES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Category III code 0449T</td>
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<td>• Published January 1, 2017.</td>
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<td>• Sunset date extended to 2022.</td>
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<td>• As a Category III code for newer technology, the service has not been valued by the Relative Update Committee (RUC). Payment is at each payer’s discretion.</td>
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<td>• FDA approved in conjunction with or without cataract surgery.</td>
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<td>• When preauthorizing, ask for allowable.</td>
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**XEN-EX: EXTERNAL APPROACH**

- The XEN 45 is typically placed through an ab interno approach where it is inserted through the cornea into the angle and then through the sclera and it emerges underneath the conjunctiva.
- Some surgeons are going the opposite direction and inserting the device through the conjunctiva first then through the sclera and then through the angle into the anterior chamber.
- CPT code 66183 Insertion of aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, external approach

**CODING TIPS FOR WHEN IT IS USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH CATARACT SURGERY**

- 66984 -RT/-LT or 66982 -RT/-LT if indications for complex cataract surgery are met.
- 0449T -RT/-LT
- Depending on the payer allowable, 0449T may be listed first before cataract surgery.
- Do not append modifier -51 indicating multiple procedures performed during the same operative period.

**MODIFIERS**

- RT and -LT
- Typically, Category III codes do not recognize modifiers -54, -55, -79.
- Never append modifier -51 to a category III code or to add-on codes.
### TO REMOVE

- Report 65920 Removal of implanted material, anterior segment of eye.
- If removed within the global period of the cataract surgery, append modifier -78 Unplanned return to the operating/procedure room by the same physician following initial procedure for a related procedure during the global period.
- Do not begin a new global period.
- Continue the 90 day postop from the original cataract surgery.
- Payment will be 80 percent of the allowable.

### TO REPOSITION

Report 66999 Unlisted procedure, anterior segment of eye.

### TO REVISE

- When revising XEN Gel Stent, one of the following CPT codes may be applicable:
  - 66250 Bleb revision
  - 66999 Unlisted procedure, anterior segment (for non-bleb related revisions, eg, repositioning, trimming)

+0450T each additional device (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

### CODING CLUES

- To be reported when more than one XEN Gel Stent device is inserted at the same time as the initial device.
- No RVUs are assigned. Payment is at the payer’s discretion.
- No payment is made to facility as it is bundled with the primary stent.
- Sunsets January 2022.