

CORRECTION – 0192T – Insertion Anterior Segment Aqueous Drainage Device

By Joy Newby, LPN, CPC, PCS

Newby Consulting, Inc.

My February 3, 2011 presentation for the 2011 Joint Conference of the Illinois Association of Ophthalmology and Chicago Ophthalmological Society included the following slide.

- ♦ 0191T Revised - Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir; internal approach, into the trabecular meshwork
- ♦ 0253T New - Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir; internal approach, into the suprachoroidal space
Note 0253T is out of sequence
- ♦ 0192T No Change - Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir; external approach

The information on the slide is correct. Unfortunately during my verbal presentation, I incorrectly stated that Wisconsin Physician Services (WPS), Title XVIII Contractor for Illinois, considers the “external” approach used for the insertion of an anterior segment aqueous drainage device as experimental and investigational. This statement was **incorrect**. The correct information is as follows:

0192T insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir; external approach is **covered by WPS**. The “internal” approach is considered experimental and investigational.

The actual WPS position was published in the December 2009 *Communiqué*.

http://www.wpsmedicare.com/part_b/publications/1209comm.pdf

Category III CPT code 0192T Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, external approach, is currently covered for ICD-9 codes 365.10-365.15, Open-angle glaucoma. Effective December 1, 2009, coverage will be expanded to cover three subcategories of open angle glaucoma: ICD-9 codes 365.13 Pigmentary glaucoma, 365.52 Pseudoexfoliation glaucoma, and 365.61 Glaucoma associated with pupillary block (pseudophakic glaucoma). The device used must be FDA approved, such as the Ex-PRESS™ mini shunt (Optonol).

Another similar procedure, Category III CPT code 0191T Insertion of anterior segment aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir; internal approach is currently undergoing clinical trials and is considered experimental/investigative, and therefore, not covered by Medicare.

My personal thanks to Valerie Ditterline, Alcon Laboratories, Inc., for bringing this mistake to my attention. I also want to apologize for any inconvenience this mistake created for the physicians attending the meeting, Alcon Laboratories, the Illinois Association of Ophthalmology and the Chicago Ophthalmological Society.