



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 11|01|2002  
**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 02|20|2018

## OVERVIEW

External ocular photography can be used to document the progress or deterioration of certain conditions of the external structures of the eye.

## MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not applicable

## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not applicable

## POLICY STATEMENT

### BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products

External photography, including but not limited to Close-Up Photography, Slit Lamp Photography, Goniophotography, Stereo-Photography are not separately reimbursed.

## COVERAGE

Benefits may vary between groups and contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Benefit Booklet, Evidence of Coverage, or Subscriber Agreement for applicable Vision Care Services benefits/coverage.

## BACKGROUND

External ocular photography can be used to document the progress or deterioration of certain conditions of the external structures of the eye including the eyelids, lashes, sclerae, conjunctiva, and cornea. It may also be used to document progress and deterioration of structures of the anterior chamber including the iris and filtration angle. These photographs are commonly made using slit lamp photography, goniophotography, stereophotography, or close-up photography. Regardless of the technique used for the picture taking, the pictures may be stored as prints, slides, videotape, or digital medium.

External ocular photography is clinically useful for tracking slowly progressive conditions over prolonged periods of time, where it may be impractical to document progression with hand drawings due to the need to document fine detail, especially where there is a lack of anatomic landmarks.

## CODING

### BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products

The following CPT code is not separately reimbursed.

**92285** External ocular photography with interpretation and report for documentation of medical progress (e.g., close-up photography, slit lamp photography, goniophotography, stereo-photography)

## RELATED POLICIES

Not applicable

## PUBLISHED

Provider Update, May 2018

Provider Update, January 2017

Provider Update, February 2016

## REFERENCES

1. Saine PJ. Tutorial: External ocular photography. J Ophthalmic Photography. 2006;28(1):820.
2. HealthNow UMD. Ocular photography, external. Contractor's Determination No. OP016E00. February 20, 2006.
3. Farrow A. Clinical ocular photography. Br J Ophthalmol. 2000;84(8):363G.

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