Photography, Fluorescein Angiography, Indocyanine-Green Angiography

Description:

The retinal fundus is the interior lining of the eyeball and is the area that can be seen through the pupil during an eye examination. Fundus photography uses a retinal camera to photograph the vitreous, retina, choroid, and optic nerve. Fundus photography is used to document abnormalities of the eye or disease progression and may be used for conditions such as macular degeneration, glaucoma, neoplasms of the retina and choroid (benign and malignant), retinal hemorrhages, ischemia, retinal detachment, choroid disturbances, and diabetic retinopathy. It may also be used for assessment of recently performed retinal laser surgery.

Fluorescein and indocyanine-green angiography utilize fluorescent dyes that are injected in a vein in a patient's arm. The dye circulates in the blood vessels of the eye and a series of photographs of the retina are taken to analyze the blood circulation of the retina and choroid. The pattern of the blood vessels indicate if there are circulation problems, swelling, leaking, or abnormal blood vessels. Fluorescein angiography is used in the diagnosis of macular degeneration, retinal detachment, diabetic retinopathy, blocked retinal blood vessels, microaneurysms, padilledema (swelling of the optic disc), and cancer. Indocyanine-green angiography is often used following fluorescein angiography as it provides greater illumination of the choroid vessels. Indocyanine-green angiography is used in evaluating retinal and choroidal neovascularization, serous and hemorrhagic detachment of retinal pigment epithelium, and retinal hemorrhage.

Fundus Photography

Fundus photography is covered for the evaluation of neoplasms of the retina and choroid (benign and malignant), retinal hemorrhages, ischemia, exudative detachment, and retinal defects without detachment. They are also covered for other ocular disorders, including intraocular foreign bodies, diabetic retinopathy, background retinopathy with retinal vascular changes and also glaucoma.

Fundus photography is typically used as a method of documentation and also in determining the progression and treatment for any of the following ICD-9 diagnoses codes:

115.02 Retinitis, infection by histoplasma capsulatum
115.92 Unspecified histoplasmosis; retinitis
130.2 Chorioretinitis due to toxoplasmosis
190.5 Malignant neoplasm of retina
190.6 Malignant neoplasm of choroid
224.5 Benign neoplasm of retina
224.6 Benign neoplasm of choroid
228.03 Hemangioma of retina
228.09 Hemangioma of other sites
360.00 Purulent endophthalmitis, unspecified
360.21 Progressive high (degenerative) myopia
360.54 Foreign body, magnetic, in vitreous
360.55 Foreign body, magnetic, in posterior wall
360.64 Foreign body, in vitreous
360.65 Foreign body, in posterior wall
361.00-361.07 Retinal detachment with retinal defect
361.10-361.19 Retinoschisis and retinal cysts
361.2 Serous retinal detachment
361.30-361.33 Retinal defects without detachment
361.81 Traction detachment of retina
362.01-362.02 Diabetic retinopathy
362.03 Nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy NOS
362.04 Mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy
362.05 Moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy
Fluorescein Angiography

Fluorescein angiography is covered as an adjunct to the diagnosis of chorioretinal vascular abnormalities especially relating to choroid neovascularization, non-infective vasculitis and age related macular degeneration.
It is also covered for in the evaluation of intraocular tumors, visual loss in systemic disease, and optic disc edema.

Fluorescein angiography is typically used as an adjunct in the diagnosis, treatment, evaluation, and monitoring for any of the following ICD-9 diagnoses codes:

115.02 Infection by histoplasma capsulatum, retinitis
115.90 Histoplasmosis, unspecified without mention of manifestation
115.92 Histoplasmosis, retinitis, unspecified
135 Sarcoïdosis
190.5 Malignant neoplasm of retina
190.6 Malignant neoplasm of choroid
224.5 Benign neoplasm of retina
224.6 Benign neoplasm of choroid
28.03 Hemangioma of retina
228.09 Hemangioma of other sites
340 Multiple sclerosis
360.12 Panuveitis
360.21 Progressive (degenerative) myopia
360.30-360.34 Hypotony of eye
361.10-361.19 Retinoschisis and retinal cysts
361.2 Serous retinal detachment
362.01-362.02 Diabetic retinopathy
362.03 Nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy NOS
362.04 Mild nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy
362.05 Moderate nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy
362.06 Severe nonproliferative diabetic retinopathy
362.07 Diabetic macular edema
362.12 Exudative retinopathy
362.13 Changes in vascular appearance
362.14 Retinal microaneurysms NOS
362.15 Retinal telangiectasia
362.16 Retinal neovascularization NOS
362.17 Other intraretinal microvascular abnormalities
362.18 Retinal vasculitis
362.29* Other nondiabetic proliferative retinopathy
362.30 Retinal vascular occlusion, unspecified
362.31 Central retinal artery occlusion
362.32 Arterial branch occlusion
362.34 Transient arterial occlusion
362.35 Central retinal vein occlusion
362.36 Venous tributary (branch) occlusion
362.37 Venous engorgement
362.41 Central serous retinopathy
362.42 Serous detachment of retinal pigment epithelium
362.43 Hemorrhagic detachment of retinal pigment epithelium
362.50 Macular degeneration (senile), unspecified
362.51 Nonexudative senile macular degeneration
362.52 Exudative senile macular degeneration
362.53 Cystoid macular degeneration
362.54 Macular cyst, hole, or pseudohole
362.55 Toxic maculopathy
362.56 Macular puckering
362.57 Drusen (degenerative)
362.60-362.66 Peripheral retinal degenerations
362.70 Hereditary retinal dystrophy
362.73 Vitreoretinal dystrophies
362.74 Pigmentary retinal dystrophy
362.75 Other dystrophies primarily involving the sensory retina
362.76 Dystrophies primarily involving the retinal pigment epithelium
362.77 Dystrophies primarily involving Bruch's membrane
362.81 Retinal hemorrhage
362.83 Retinal edema
362.84 Retinal ischemia
363.00-363.08 Focal chorioretinitis and focal retinochoroiditis
363.10 Disseminated chorioretinitis, unspecified
363.15 Disseminated retinitis and retinochoroiditis, pigment epitheliopathy
Indocyanine-Green Angiography

Indocyanine-Green Angiography is covered for the diagnosis and treatment of ill-defined choroidal neovascularization (e.g., associated with age-related macular degeneration). Indocyanine Green Angiography is also covered as a diagnostic adjunct to fluorescein angiography in evaluating sub-retinal neovascularization; serous detachment of retinal pigment epithelium; hemorrhagic detachment of retinal pigment epithelium; and sub-retinal hemorrhage.

Indocyanine-green angiography is typically used in diagnosis and treatment and also as a diagnostic adjunct to fluorescein angiography in evaluating the following ICD-9 Diagnoses codes:

362.16 Retinal neovascularization NOS
362.42 Serous detachment of retinal pigment epithelium
362.43 Hemorrhagic detachment of retinal pigment epithelium
362.52 Exudative senile macular degeneration
362.81 Retinal hemorrhage
363.20 Chorioretinitis, unspecified
363.61 Choroidal hemorrhage, unspecified
363.62 Expulsive choroidal hemorrhage
363.72 Hemorrhagic choroidal detachment
364.00 Acute and subacute iridocyclitis, unspecified
364.10 Chronic iridocyclitis, unspecified

Medical Criteria:

Not applicable as this is a reimbursement policy.

Policy:

Fundus photography, fluorescein angiography, and indocyanine-green angiography are covered services.

Coverage:

Benefits may vary between groups and contracts. Please refer to the appropriate benefit booklet, subscriber agreement, or Rite Care contract for the applicable "Diagnostic Imaging, Lab, and Machine Tests" benefits/coverage.
Also Known As:
Not applicable.

Related Topics:
Not applicable.

Published:

*Professionally Speaking*, January 1996
*Focus on Policy*, April 16, 1993 (Vol 2, Issue 2)
*Policy Update*, April 2007
BCBSRI.com, April 2007
*Provider Update*, 2008

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