General Information

- All punctal occlusion is billed the same, regardless if permanent silicone plugs or temporary synthetic/collagen inserts are used.
- Allow at least 10 days (post-op period) following the insertion of collagen plugs before inserting permanent plugs.
- When occluding more than one punctum at the same time, the first procedure is allowed at 100% and each additional procedure is allowed at 50%.

Documentation

In addition to proper coding, be sure the procedure is properly and sufficiently documented.

- Document the patient’s dry eye complaint. Be sure to note the patient’s pertinent history, symptoms and affect on daily activities.
- Document unsuccessful alternative treatments. This should include the use of artificial tear supplements with continued dry eye symptoms.
- Document examination and evaluation of tear production to confirm Dry Eye Syndrome. This may include ZoneQuick, Schirmer, Rose Bengal Staining, and/or Tear Break-Up Time tests. Some tests may not be separately billable.
- Document that you have clearly explained to the patient the potential risks and benefits of punctal occlusion.

Sample Medicare & Private Insurance Claim Form

The information in this guide is believed to be accurate but is not intended to serve as an authority or to comprehensively address proper billing procedures. Always refer to official documentation provided by Medicare and/or private insurance carriers.