

Clinical Policy: Destruction of Localized Lesion of the Retina

Reference Number: CP.VP.21

Last Review Date: 12/2020

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description:

This policy describes the medical necessity requirements for destruction of localized lesion(s) of the retina.

Policy/Criteria

- I. It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation[®] (Centene) that the destruction of a localized lesion of the retina is **medically necessary** for the following indications:
 - A. Retinal inflammation and/or edema secondary to systemic conditions: histoplasmosis, sarcoidosis, or sickle-cell disease;
 - B. Vascular occlusion or vasculitis;
 - C. Central serous chorioretinopathy.

Background

Photocoagulation is the destruction of a lesion of the retina using a laser or xenon arc. After the patient's eye has been dilated, the physician places a contact lens on the eye of the patient. Photocoagulation is performed without entering the posterior chamber; the destructive light beam is guided through the contact and to the retinal lesion, which is destroyed in one session or in a series of sessions. A topical antibiotic or pressure patch may be applied to aid postoperative healing.

Coding Implications

This clinical policy references Current Procedural Terminology (CPT[®]). CPT[®] is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. All CPT codes and descriptions are copyrighted 2020, American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT codes and CPT descriptions are from the current manuals and those included herein are not intended to be all-inclusive and are included for informational purposes only. Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

CPT [®] Codes	Description
67210	Destruction of localized lesion of retina (e.g., macular edema, tumors), 1 or more sessions; photocoagulation

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ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes that Support Coverage Criteria

+ Indicates a code requiring an additional character

ICD-10 Codes	ICD-10 Code Description
B39.9	Histoplasmosis, unspecified
D57.1	Sickle-cell disease without crisis
D86.0	Sarcoidosis of lung
D86.1	Sarcoidosis of lymph nodes
D86.2	Sarcoidosis of lung with sarcoidosis of lymph nodes
D86.3	Sarcoidosis of skin
D86.81	Sarcoid meningitis
D86.82	Multiple cranial nerve palsies in sarcoidosis
D86.83	Sarcoid iridocyclitis
D86.84	Sarcoid pyelonephritis
D86.85	Sarcoid myocarditis
D86.86	Sarcoid arthropathy
D86.87	Sarcoid myositis
D86.89	Sarcoidosis of other sites
D86.9	Sarcoidosis, unspecified
E08.3511	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E08.3512	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E08.3513	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E08.3521	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, right eye
E08.3522	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, left eye
E08.3523	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, bilateral
E08.3531	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, right eye
E08.3532	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, left eye
E08.3533	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, bilateral
E08.3541	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, right eye
E08.3542	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, left eye
E08.3543	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, bilateral

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ICD-10 Codes	ICD-10 Code Description
E08.3551	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, right eye
E08.3552	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, left eye
E08.3553	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, bilateral
E08.3591	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, right eye
E08.3592	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, left eye
E08.3593	Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, bilateral
E09.3511	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E09.3512	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E09.3513	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E09.3521	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, right eye
E09.3522	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, left eye
E09.3523	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, bilateral
E09.3531	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, right eye
E09.3532	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, left eye
E09.3533	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, bilateral
E09.3541	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, right eye
E09.3542	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, left eye
E09.3543	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, bilateral
E09.3551	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, right eye
E09.3552	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, left eye
E09.3553	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, bilateral
E09.3591	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, right eye

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ICD-10 Codes	ICD-10 Code Description
E09.3592	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, left eye
E09.3593	Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, bilateral
E10.3511	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E10.3512	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E10.3513	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E10.3521	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, right eye
E10.3522	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, left eye
E10.3523	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, bilateral
E10.3531	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, right eye
E10.3532	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, left eye
E10.3533	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, bilateral
E10.3541	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, right eye
E10.3542	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, left eye
E10.3543	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, bilateral
E10.3551	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, right eye
E10.3552	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, left eye
E10.3553	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, bilateral
E10.3591	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, right eye
E10.3592	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, left eye
E10.3593	Type 1 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, bilateral
E11.3511	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E11.3512	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E11.3513	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral

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ICD-10 Codes	ICD-10 Code Description
E11.3521	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, right eye
E11.3522	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, left eye
E11.3523	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, bilateral
E11.3531	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, right eye
E11.3532	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, left eye
E11.3533	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, bilateral
E11.3541	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, right eye
E11.3542	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, left eye
E11.3543	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, bilateral
E11.3551	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, right eye
E11.3552	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, left eye
E11.3553	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, bilateral
E11.3591	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, right eye
E11.3592	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, left eye
E11.3593	Type 2 diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, bilateral
E13.3511	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, right eye
E13.3512	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, left eye
E13.3513	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema, bilateral
E13.3521	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, right eye
E13.3522	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, left eye
E13.3523	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment involving the macula, bilateral
E13.3531	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, right eye
E13.3532	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, left eye

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ICD-10 Codes	ICD-10 Code Description
E13.3533	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with traction retinal detachment not involving the macula, bilateral
E13.3541	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, right eye
E13.3542	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, left eye
E13.3543	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy with combined traction retinal detachment and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment, bilateral
E13.3551	Other specified diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, right eye
E13.3552	Other specified diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, left eye
E13.3553	Other specified diabetes mellitus with stable proliferative diabetic retinopathy, bilateral
E13.3591	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, right eye
E13.3592	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, left eye
E13.3593	Other specified diabetes mellitus with proliferative diabetic retinopathy without macular edema, bilateral
H34.01	Transient retinal artery occlusion, right eye
H34.02	Transient retinal artery occlusion, left eye
H34.03	Transient retinal artery occlusion, bilateral
H34.11	Central retinal artery occlusion, right eye
H34.12	Central retinal artery occlusion, left eye
H34.13	Central retinal artery occlusion, bilateral
H34.211	Partial retinal artery occlusion, right eye
H34.212	Partial retinal artery occlusion, left eye
H34.213	Partial retinal artery occlusion, bilateral
H34.231	Retinal artery branch occlusion, right eye
H34.232	Retinal artery branch occlusion, left eye
H34.233	Retinal artery branch occlusion, bilateral
H34.8110	Central retinal vein occlusion, right eye, with macular edema
H34.8111	Central retinal vein occlusion, right eye, with retinal neovascularization
H34.8112	Central retinal vein occlusion, right eye, stable
H34.8120	Central retinal vein occlusion, left eye, with macular edema
H34.8121	Central retinal vein occlusion, left eye with retinal neovascularization
H34.8122	Central retinal vein occlusion, left eye, stable
H34.8130	Central retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, with macular edema
H34.8131	Central retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, with retinal neovascularization
H34.8132	Central retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, stable
H34.8310	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, right eye, with macular edema
H34.8311	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, right eye, with retinal neovascularization
H34.8312	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, right eye, stable
H34.8320	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, left eye, with macular edema
H34.8321	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, left eye, with retinal neovascularization

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ICD-10 Codes	ICD-10 Code Description
H34.8322	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, left eye, stable
H34.8330	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, with macular edema
H34.8331	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, with retinal neovascularization
H34.8332	Tributary (branch) retinal vein occlusion, bilateral, stable
H35.061	Retinal vasculitis, right eye
H35.062	Retinal vasculitis, left eye
H35.063	Retinal vasculitis, bilateral
H35.071	Retinal telangiectasis, right eye
H35.072	Retinal telangiectasis, left eye
H35.073	Retinal telangiectasis, bilateral
H35.21	Other non-diabetic proliferative retinopathy, right eye
H35.22	Other non-diabetic proliferative retinopathy, left eye
H35.23	Other non-diabetic proliferative retinopathy, bilateral
H35.351	Cystoid macular degeneration, right eye
H35.352	Cystoid macular degeneration, left eye
H35.353	Cystoid macular degeneration, bilateral
H35.711	Central serous chorioretinopathy, right eye
H35.712	Central serous chorioretinopathy, left eye
H35.713	Central serous chorioretinopathy, bilateral
H35.81	Retinal edema

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
Annual Review	12/2019	12/2019
Converted to new template	04/2020	06/2020
Annual Review; Revised indications; Updated references.	12/2020	01/2021

References

1. Manayath GJ, Ranjan R, Karandikar SS, Shah VS, Saravanan VR, Narendran V. Central serous chorioretinopathy: Current update on management. *Oman J Ophthalmol.* 2018;11(3):200-206.
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3. Maltsev DS, Kulikov AN, Uplanchiwar B, Lima LH, Chhablani J. Direct navigated laser photocoagulation as primary treatment for retinal arterial macroaneurysms. *Int J Retina Vitreous.* 2018;4:28. Published 2018 Aug 22.
4. American Academy of Ophthalmology Retina Panel. Preferred Practice Pattern® Guidelines. Diabetic Retinopathy PPP 2019. San Francisco, CA: American Academy of Ophthalmology; 2019, <https://www.aao.org/preferred-practice-pattern/diabetic-retinopathy-ppp>
5. American Academy of Ophthalmology Retina Panel. Preferred Practice Pattern® Guidelines. Retinal Vein Occlusions PPP 2019. San Francisco, CA: American Academy of

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Ophthalmology; 2019, <https://www.aaopt.org/preferred-practice-pattern/retinal-vein-occlusions-ppp>

- American Academy of Ophthalmology Retina Panel. Preferred Practice Pattern® Guidelines. Retinal and Ophthalmic Artery Occlusions PPP 2019. San Francisco, CA: American Academy of Ophthalmology; 2019, <https://www.aaopt.org/preferred-practice-pattern/retinal-ophthalmic-artery-occlusions-ppp>

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

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Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

Note: For Medicare members, to ensure consistency with the Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), all applicable NCDs, LCDs, and Medicare Coverage Articles should be reviewed prior to applying the criteria set forth in this clinical policy. Refer to the CMS website at <http://www.cms.gov> for additional information.

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