

Supplementary reason code guidance | Use from 1 April 2010

The following supplementary codes are to be used with immediate effect. The accompanying guidance clarifying the use of the codes has been produced in consultation with the Scottish Government Health Directorates and Optometry Scotland. For the purposes of NHS primary and supplementary eye examinations, "sight test" means a refraction.

2.0 Cycloplegic sight test following routine eye examination

This code is to be used when a patient requires a cycloplegic refraction following a routine primary eye examination.

2.1 Paediatric review within 6 months

This code is to be used for a review appointment for children following a primary eye examination. Examples would be a follow up appointment for a child to check that spectacles are helping to treat a child who has presented within 6 months with amblyopia, or binocular vision anomaly, and abnormal stereopsis and so on.

2.2 Referral refinement/repeat or follow-up procedures

This code is to be used for procedures that are required to refine the result and help confirm a diagnosis to determine whether the patient needs a referral or to be retained for ongoing care in the community. This code can also be used for a sight test which could not be undertaken at the primary eye examination due to eye infection, disease or injury. It should be used for any appropriate follow-up procedures. For example, follow-up on flashes and floaters and for repeat procedures, for instance repeat threshold visual fields, slit lamp biomicroscopy and/or digital retinal photography.

2.3 Suspect glaucoma

This code to be used where the patient is being reviewed as they have suspect glaucoma. This could include repeat threshold visual fields, repeat applanation tonometry or slit lamp biomicroscopy.

2.4 Patients under 60 with suspect conditions as detailed below:

This code is to be used for a patient under 60 years of age with suspect cataracts, suspect macular disorders, suspect diabetic retinopathy, suspect vitreo retinal disorders, suspect glaucoma, suspect neurological symptoms, suspect tumour risk or small pupils measuring 2mm or under, who require a dilated slit lamp examination and any other tests and procedures appropriate to the patients symptoms.

2.5 External eye/anterior segment as detailed below. This code also needs to cover patients who present with an anterior eye disorder within the normal interval between primary examinations.

This code is to be used where the patient is being examined or reviewed for an anterior segment disorder, damage or infection, as detailed in the patient's record, for example, corneal abrasion, foreign body, dry eye, conjunctivitis, red eye, scleritis, episcleritis, iritis or uveitis; for an external eye examination/assessment using slit lamp and relevant diagnostic agents.

2.6 Sight test for child under 16 referred by Hospital Eye Service

This code is to be used where a child has been referred by the Hospital Eye Service for a cycloplegic refraction.

2.7 Patient discharged by Hospital Eye Service following cataract operation

This code is to be used for a patient who has been discharged from the Hospital Eye Service who requires a postoperative cataract examination and sight test.

2.8 Sudden vision loss/flashes and floaters or reduced visual acuity or neurological symptoms

This code is to be used only for a patient who presents for an unscheduled visit within a shorter timescale than set down for primary eye examinations with, for example; reduced visual acuity, sudden vision loss, sudden onset flashes and floaters or neurological symptoms. The examination/assessment might include a sight test, macular assessment, slit lamp biomicroscopy (which may include mydriasis), and any other tests and procedures appropriate to the patient's signs and symptoms. This code is not to be used for a patient review examination.

Further information on the amendment to National Health Service (General Ophthalmic Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2006 is available in the Primary Care Administration letter NHS: PCA(O)(2010)01:

[http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/sehd/pca/PCA2010\(O\)01.pdf](http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/sehd/pca/PCA2010(O)01.pdf)