



# From the ICD-10 Mailbag

**PETER J CASS, OD**

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## Coding for Glaucoma suspects in ICD-10

Several doctors and billers have asked how to properly code for glaucoma suspects in ICD-10. Some have had a hard time searching for the code in their EHR systems because the codes do not contain the word “suspect”. There is however a whole subcategory of glaucoma suspect codes (H40.0-), that includes 6 different types of glaucoma suspects (note that non-billable codes are grayed out):

### H40.0 Glaucoma suspect

#### H40.01 Open angle with borderline findings, low risk

H40.011 ..... right eye

H40.012 ..... left eye

H40.013 ..... bilateral

#### H40.02 Open angle with borderline findings, high risk

H40.021 ..... right eye

H40.022 ..... left eye

H40.023 ..... bilateral

#### H40.03 Anatomical narrow angle

H40.031 ..... right eye

H40.032 ..... left eye

H40.033 ..... bilateral

#### H40.04 Steroid responder

H40.041 ..... right eye

H40.042 ..... left eye

H40.043 ..... bilateral

#### H40.05 Ocular hypertension

H40.051 ..... right eye

H40.052 ..... left eye

H40.053 ..... bilateral

### Notes:

- The glaucoma suspect subcategory also includes codes for “preglaucoma” (H40.00-), but they are unspecified codes and should be avoided and have been left off of this list
- The glaucoma suspect subcategory does not require using a seventh character to code for severity.
- Remember that you must always code to the maximum digits available
- All the valid, billable codes in the glaucoma suspect subcategory are exactly 6 digits long.
- Category and subcategory codes cannot be used to bill for services

Happy Coding,

*Peter J. Cass, O.D.*