



From the ICD-10 Mailbag

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Coding for Lid Disease in ICD-10

Meibomian Gland Disease (MGD) and Blepharitis can be difficult to code in ICD-10. MGD is difficult due to the fact that there are no specific codes for it in ICD-10. The most appropriate codes would include:

H01.8...Other specified inflammations of eyelid

Or

H02.89...Other specified disorders of eyelid

While neither specifically describes MGD, both are reasonable choices.

Notes on MGD:

- Both of the codes listed above are “other” codes. “Other” is usually a better choice than “unspecified”.
- Because ICD-10 is actually more than 20 years old (having been first published in 1993), much has changed in our knowledge and treatment of MGD and Dry Eye.

Also frustrating are the codes for Blepharitis, partly because there is no specific code and partly because there are no bilateral codes. The codes for Blepharitis include:

H01.001 right upper eyelid

H01.002 right lower eyelid

H01.003 right eye, unspecified eyelid

H01.004 left upper eyelid

H01.005 left lower eyelid

H01.006 left eye, unspecified eyelid

H01.009 unspecified eye, unspecified eyelid

Notes on Blepharitis:

- There is really no way to code for all 4 lids without using 4 separate codes
- “Other” is usually a better choice than “unspecified”, but in this case “unspecified” is the best option

Please keep sending your coding questions, and we will address the best in the next issue of The Gazette.

Happy Coding,

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