



## From the ICD-10 Mailbag

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### Coding for Dry Eye in ICD-10

Several doctors and billers have asked how to properly code for dry eye in ICD-10, because some have had a hard time converting the ICD-9 code in their EHR systems. There are some options for dry eye codes in the Disorders of lacrimal system category (H04-) and the Keratitis category (H16-), which are listed below (note that non-billable codes are grayed out). Part of the problem with locating a code is that there was no “Dry Eye” code in ICD9, so most of us used:

375.15 Tear film insufficiency, unspecified

That code converts to the ICD-10 codes:

H04.121 ..... Dry eye syndrome of right lacrimal gland

H04.122 ..... Dry eye syndrome of left lacrimal gland

H04.123 ..... Dry eye syndrome of bilateral lacrimal glands

But a more accurate set of codes for Dry Eye in ICD-10 may be:

H16.221 ..... Keratoconjunctivitis sicca, not specified as Sjögren's right eye

H16.222 ..... Keratoconjunctivitis sicca, not specified as Sjögren's left eye

H16.223 ..... Keratoconjunctivitis sicca, not specified as Sjögren's bilateral

#### Notes:

- There were no “pure” dry eye codes in ICD9 and there are none in ICD-10 either
- Remember that ICD-10 is actually more than 20 years old (having been first published in 1993). Since that time, much has changed in our knowledge and treatment of Dry Eye.

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

Happy Coding,

*Peter J. Cass, O.D.*