



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

NEWSLETTER

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TO: Vision Care Providers: Ophthalmologists, Optometrists and
Opticians – **For Action Only**
Health Maintenance Organizations - **For Information Only**

SUBJECT: Coverage of Optical Appliances, including Lenses for Glasses

EFFECTIVE: **Immediately**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Newsletter is to clarify Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare (NJFC) fee-for-service (FFS) policy regarding coverage of lenses and lens treatment. Also, to notify providers of a new Error Code to deny payments for concurrent lens treatments for the same lens.

BACKGROUND: In accordance with N.J.A.C. 10:62-2.6 (i), (j) and (k), the following standards and policies apply to Medicaid/NJFC FFS coverage of lenses and lens treatments:

(i) Prior authorization is required for individuals with significant pathological conditions requiring optical tints other than rose, one and two, grey or brown plastic lenses, 10 percent to 20 percent.

(j) Polycarbonate lenses (Y5201) may be provided in special situations when maximum protection is indicated and recommended in writing by the prescribing practitioner.

(k) Ultraviolet filter lens (V2755) may be provided in special situations when maximum ultraviolet protection is indicated for the preservation of tissue integrity and recommended in writing by the prescribing practitioner.

All components of a prescription for optical appliances must be medically indicated by the prescribing practitioner.

ACTION: Effective immediately, lens treatment services will be denied payment by Error Code "702" when Medicaid/NJFC FFS payments are requested for both polycarbonate and ultraviolet treatments for the same lens.

Recent investigations conducted by the Bureau of Program Integrity (BPI), Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), have identified providers billing for lens treatment services that were not rendered. Please be advised that BPI uses techniques to identify this type of fraud and abuse. Providers engaging in this type of fraudulent claim activity shall be subject to criminal and/or civil penalties.

If you have any policy questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the Vision Care Consultant, DMAHS, at (609) 588-2777.

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