



American Academy of Ophthalmic Executives®

0449T XEN® Gel Stent

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Visit aao.org/migs for ongoing updates. For local coverage determination updates, visit aao.org/lcds.

Billing Guidelines

Category III code 0449T

Code was published on January 1, 2017.

Sunset date extended to 2027.

As a Category III code for newer technology, the service has not been valued by the Relative Update Committee (RUC). Payment is at each payer's discretion.

FDA-approved in conjunction with or without cataract surgery.

Ask for allowable when preauthorizing.

XEN-Ex: External Approach

The XEN 45 is placed typically through an ab interno approach where it is inserted through the cornea into the angle and then through the sclera and it emerges underneath the conjunctiva.

Some surgeons go the opposite direction. They insert the device through the conjunctiva first, then through the sclera and then through the angle into the anterior chamber.

CPT code 66183 Insertion of aqueous drainage device, without extraocular reservoir, external approach.

Ophthalmic Mutual Insurance Company (OMIC) recommends obtaining informed consent for off-label use of a device as is the case when placing the XEN gel stent with an ab externo approach. Visit <https://www.omic.com/risk-management/consent-forms/> to download a sample form.

Billing Guidelines When Used in Conjunction with Cataract Surgery

66984 -RT/-LT or 66982 -RT/-LT if indications for complex cataract surgery are met.

0449T -RT/-LT

Depending on the payer allowable, 0449T may be listed first before cataract surgery.

Do not append modifier -51 indicating multiple procedures performed during the same operative period.

Modifiers

-RT Right eye

-LT Left eye

Typically, Category III codes do not recognize modifiers -54, -55, -79.

Never append modifier -51 to a category III code or to add-on codes.

To Remove

Report 65920 Removal of implanted material, anterior segment of eye.

If removed **within** the global period of the cataract surgery, append modifier -78 Unplanned return to the operating/procedure room by the same physician following initial procedure for a related procedure during the global period.

Do not begin a new global period.

Continue the 90-day postop from the original cataract surgery.

Payment will be 80 percent of the allowable.

To Reposition

Report 66999 Unlisted procedure, anterior segment of eye

To Revise

When revising XEN Gel Stent, one of the following CPT codes may be applicable:

- **66250** Bleb revision
- **66999** Unlisted procedure, anterior segment (for non-bleb related revisions, eg, repositioning, trimming)

+0450T each additional device (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

To be reported when more than one XEN Gel Stent device is inserted at the same time as the initial device.

No RVUs are assigned. Payment is at the payer's discretion.

No payment is made to the facility as it is bundled with the primary stent.

Sunset January 2027.