

INTRAOCULAR LENS IMPLANTATION

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I. PROCEDURE CODES

66983 - 66985, and 66986

II. DESCRIPTION

A lens implant (intraocular lens (IOL)) is a man-made tiny, clear plastic lens which is placed inside the eye at the time a cataract is removed. It replaces the natural lens and remains permanently within the eye. Prior to the procedure appropriate intraocular lens power for the eye is determined. To do this, the length of the eye is measured using a painless ultrasound technique and a measure of the refracting power of the cornea is also determined with a keratometer. In phacoemulsification or extracapsular cataract surgery, a protective clear capsule is retained in the eye.

III. POLICY

A. Intraocular lens (IOL) implantation (see [Chapter 7, Section 6.3](#)) along with cataract extraction is cost-shared on or after the date the IOL is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or is subject to an investigational device exemption. (See [Chapter 7, Section 10.1](#).)

B. Cataract surgery requires prospective review. (See [OPM Part Three, Chapter 3, Addendum D](#).)

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