

Policy Name	Clinical Policy – Specialty Spectacle Lenses
Policy Number	1330.00
Department	Clinical Product & Strategy
Subcategory	Medical Management
Original Approval Date	06/20/2018
Current MPC/CMO Approval Date	04/30/2021
Current Effective Date	09/01/2021

Company Entities Supported (Select All that Apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Superior Vision Benefit Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Superior Vision Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Superior Vision of New Jersey, Inc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Block Vision of Texas, Inc. d/b/a Superior Vision of Texas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Davis Vision (Collectively referred to as 'Versant Health' or 'the Company')
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DEFINITIONS	
D Diopter	The measurement unit for focusing power and refractive error
High Index	A lens fabrication that is lighter weight and has an increased impact resistance than standard lenses
Polycarbonate	A lens material with greater impact resistance than standard lenses
Trivex	A lens material with greater impact resistance than standard lenses
UV	Ultraviolet

PURPOSE

To provide the medical necessity criteria to support the indication(s) for specialty lenses and to render medical necessity determinations. Applicable procedure codes are also defined.

POLICY

A. BACKGROUND

High index lens materials provide added safety due to greater impact resistance, and permit fabrication of thinner, lighter lenses that are more comfortable for the wearer.

Spectacle lenses are made from a variety of materials. The optimal choice for the patient depends on a number of factors: lens weight, thickness, resistance to scratches, shatter-resistance, and ultraviolet (UV) protection. Many other considerations need to be factored into lens selection related to the purpose of the eyeglasses, the activities of the wearer, and

cost. Lens thickness is inversely proportional to refractive index. So, for the same prescription (Rx), a higher refractive index yields a thinner lens. Thinner lenses generally weigh less than thicker ones and are more comfortable to wear. The index of refraction of different lens materials are: CR-39 plastic (1.50), crown glass (1.52), Trivex (1.53), polycarbonate (1.59), and high index plastics (1.60-1.74).

The American National Standard Institute's ANSI Z87 Committee has established impact resistance standards as well as minimum lens thickness. Lenses made from Trivex or polycarbonate have significantly more impact-resistance than other lens materials for added safety. A broken or shattered lens poses a severe safety hazard to the eye.

B. Medically Necessary

1. **Polycarbonate** lenses are covered for the following purposes:

- a. Patients with high ametropia (≥ 6.00 D) in any meridian
- b. Patients under age 18
- c. Patients who have vision of 20/200 or worse in one eye to preserve functional vision
- d. As required for reasons of disability, or vocational, occupational or recreational tasks

2. **High Index lenses**

+/- 8.00 Diopters of refractive error in any meridian

3. **Transition lenses/sunglasses**

Will be considered medically necessary for the following diagnoses:

- a. Aniridia
- b. Coloboma
- c. Albinism
- d. Ocular Albinism
- e. Iridodialysis

4. **FL 41 Filters**

FL-41 Filters are medically necessary for a diagnosis of blepharospasm

C. Not Medically Necessary

For ultra violet blocking lenses, blue blocking lenses and tinted lenses, there is insufficient evidence in the peer reviewed literature to support improved health outcomes, except for conditions stated in B.3. For other indications, these add-ons are generally considered lifestyle or cosmetic in nature.

D. Documentation

Medical necessity must be supported by adequate and complete documentation in the patient's medical record that describes the medical rationale for specialty spectacle lenses,

consistent with the medical necessity criteria enumerated above. The medical record must be available upon request to initiate or sustain previous payments. Every page of the record must be legible and include appropriate patient identification information (e.g., complete name, date(s) of service). Services provided/ordered must be authenticated by the physician, in a handwritten or electronic signature. Stamped signatures are not acceptable.

E. Procedural Detail

CPT Codes	
S058 0	Polycarbonate lens (list this code in addition to the basic code for the lens)
V2744	Tint, photochromatic, per lens
V274 5	Addition to lens; tint, any color, solid, gradient or equal, excludes photochromatic, any lens material, per lens
V2755	U-V lens, per lens
V2761	Mirror Coating
V2762	Polarized lenses
V278 2	Lens, index 1.54 to 1.65 plastic or 1.60 to 1.79 glass, excludes polycarbonate, per lens (list this code in addition to the basic code for the lens)
V278 3	Lens, index greater than or equal to 1.66 plastic or greater than or equal to 1.80 glass, excludes polycarbonate, per lens (list this code in addition to the basic code for the lens)
V278 4	Lens, polycarbonate or equal, any index, per lens (list this code in addition to the basic code for the lens)
Required Modifiers	
RT	right side
LT	left side
Invalid Modifiers	
24	EM visit during post-op period
25	EM visit same day as minor procedure
57	EM visit same day as major procedure
22	Increased Procedural Services
26	Professional Component
TC	Technical Component
59	Distinct Procedural Service

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RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
1309.00	Medically Necessary Contact Lenses

DOCUMENT HISTORY		
<i>Approval Date</i>	<i>Revision</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
06/20/2018	Initial Policy	06/20/2018
07/25/2019	Minor revisions	08/01/2019
06/03/2020	Add specific criteria for transitional lenses, light filter/tints, and polycarbonate coatings; policy renamed.	09/01/2020

04/30/2021	Restated the metric for high ametropia for poly carbonate lenses to any meridian from “spherical equivalent. Added 5 CPT codes for lens tints and chromatic coatings.	09/01/2021
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SOURCES

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