Intrastromal Corneal Ring Segments for Keratoconus

Definitions
Keratoconus (KC) is a disorder of the eye which results in progressive corneal thinning. This may result in blurry vision, double vision, nearsightedness, astigmatism and light sensitivity with both eyes typically affected. In more severe cases a scar or a circle may be seen within the cornea. While the cause is unknown, it is believed to occur due to a combination of genetic, environmental and hormonal factors.

Guideline
Insertion of intrastromal corneal ring segments (ICRS) for Keratoconus (e.g., Intacs®) is considered medically necessary for members who:

- Have experienced a progressive deterioration in their vision, such that they can no longer achieve adequate functional vision on a daily basis with their contact lenses or spectacles.
- Are ≥ 21 years of age
- Have clear a central cornea
- Have a corneal thickness of ≥ 450 microns at the proposed incision site
- Have corneal transplantation as the only remaining option to improve functional vision

Limitations/Exclusions
Intrastromal corneal ring segments are not considered medically necessary when adequate vision correction is achieved through use of glasses or contact lenses.

Applicable Procedure Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H18.601</td>
<td>Keratoconus, unspecified, right eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H18.602</td>
<td>Keratoconus, unspecified, left eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H18.603</td>
<td>Keratoconus, unspecified, bilateral</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Intrastromal Corneal Ring Segments for Keratoconus

H18.609 Keratoconus, unspecified, unspecified eye
H18.611 Keratoconus, stable, right eye
H18.612 Keratoconus, stable, left eye
H18.613 Keratoconus, stable, bilateral
H18.619 Keratoconus, stable, unspecified eye
H18.621 Keratoconus, unstable, right eye
H18.622 Keratoconus, unstable, left eye
H18.623 Keratoconus, unstable, bilateral
H18.629 Keratoconus, unstable, unspecified eye

Applicable Diagnosis Codes

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>65785</td>
<td>Implantation of intrastromal corneal ring segments</td>
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<td>L8610</td>
<td>Ocular implant</td>
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References


Specialty matched clinical peer review.