

JF CATARACT SURGERY POLICY CHECKLIST

This checklist is intended to provide healthcare providers with a reference for use when responding to documentation requests for this service. It is not intended to replace the published guidelines or policy.

Policy References

- [Cataract Surgery in Adults LCD Policy \(L34203\)](#)
- [Policy Article \(A57195\)](#)

Documentation References

- [JF Documentation Guidelines for Medicare Services](#)

Medical Documentation

Coverage is possible when the following documentation is included in the medical chart:

For All Types of Cataracts

Documentation is for the correct beneficiary and date of service

Documentation supporting evidence of a cataract

Documentation of ocular disease threatening vision or impairment of visual function impacting activities of daily living

Statement that the beneficiary agrees with surgical correction after Risks, Benefits and Alternatives have been explained

Documentation of intent to perform procedure or qualified provider's order for procedure

Documentation of procedure notes or operative report of cataract extraction and any other pre-operative ophthalmologic evaluation and studies performed

Documentation contains a valid and legible signature from the performing provider

Documentation to support the code(s) and modifier(s) billed

If applicable, submit documentation of beneficiary waiver of liability

For Visually-Symptomatic Cataract

Statement indicating specific impairment due to loss of visual function caused by the cataract

A best-corrected Snellen visual acuity with a degree of lens opacity

Attestation supported by documented symptoms and physical findings indicating visual function impairment is believed to not be correctable with tolerable change in glasses or contact lenses

Attestation indicating cataract is believed to contribute to visual impairment when more than one ocular disease is present

For Complex Cataract Surgery

Statement supporting justification for requirements of complex cataract surgery

Documentation in the operative report that elements constituting Complex Cataract Extraction were utilized