



Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION
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February 12, 2004

PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR

No. 07, s. - 2004

TO : ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT : LIMITATIONS as to the AVAILMENT of
 KERATOMILIEUSIS, RADIAL KERATOTOMY and
 KERATOPLASTY

Pursuant to PhilHealth Board Resolution No. 650, s. of 2004, keratomilieusis, radial keratotomy and keratoplasty performed for refractive error compensation or as a substitute for optometric services (i.e. eye glasses, contact lenses or other prosthetic devices) shall be excluded from PhilHealth Coverage and are deemed non-compensable surgeries or procedures.

However, claims for keratomilieusis, radial keratotomy and keratoplasty performed to treat corneal lesions and to rehabilitate post-operative surgically induced astigmatism and/or anisometropia shall be covered and reimbursed. Other indications that do not merely result in the correction of refractive errors or as a substitute for optometric services may also be reimbursed after due evaluation by the Peer Review Committee.

The following are the codes, descriptive terminologies and RVU assigned for the procedures:

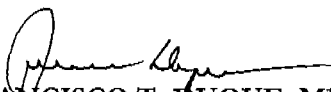
CODE	DESCRIPTIVE TERMS	RVU
65710	Keratoplasty (corneal transplant); lamellar	140
65730	Penetrating (except in aphakia)	160
65750	Penetrating (in aphakia)	170
65755	Penetrating (in pseudophakia)	170
65760	Keratomilieusis (including LASIK)	100
65771	Radial keratotomy	60

In order to establish the compensability of keratomilieusis, radial keratotomy and keratoplasty, all claims for these procedures must be submitted together with a fully accomplished PhilHealth Claim Form 3 or a copy of Clinical Abstract. The surgeon should document the indication for the surgery through history and physical examination findings. Operating room records should also support the presence of the the indications. Claims with incomplete requirements shall not be processed and shall be returned to hospital for completion.

All other Circulars consistent herewith remain in full force and effect.

This circular will take effect 15 days following publication hereof.

Please be guided accordingly.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE, MD, MSc
 President and CEO