Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (1-stage procedure), manual or mechanical technique (eg, irrigation and aspiration or phacoemulsification), complex, requiring devices or techniques not generally used in routine cataract surgery (eg, iris expansion device, suture support for intraocular lens, or primary posterior capsulorrhexis) or performed on patients in the amblyogenic developmental stage; without endoscopic cyclophotoacoagulation

(For complex extracapsular cataract removal with concomitant endoscopic cyclophotoacoagulation, use 66987)
(For insertion of ocular telescope prosthesis including removal of crystalline lens, use 03087)

AMA Coding Notes
Surgical Procedures on the Eye and Ocular Adnexa
(For diagnostic and treatment ophthalmological services, see Medicine, Ophthalmology, and 92002 et seq)
(Do not report code 69990 in addition to codes 65091-68850)

AMA CPT Assistant C
66982: Feb 01: 7, Nov 03: 10, Sep 09: 5, Mar 13: 6, Mar 16: 10, Dec 17: 14, Dec 18: 6

Plain English Description
Complex extracapsular cataract removal is performed with insertion of intraocular lens (IOL) prosthesis using manual or mechanical technique. A complex procedure uses devices or techniques not generally used in routine cataract surgery and may be required for children because primary posterior capsulotomy or capsulorrhexis is required which complicates insertion of the intraocular lens. Additionally, the anterior capsule in children is more difficult to open (tear) and the cortex is difficult to remove because of adhesion of the lens. Complexity of the cataract procedure may also be increased for patients with certain conditions, such as uveitis, glaucoma, pseudoexfoliation syndrome, or Marfan syndrome. Patients who have had prior intraocular surgery, who have experienced other trauma to the eye, and those with dense, hard, and/or white cataracts may also require a more complex procedure. Complex techniques include the use of an iris expansion device, suture support for the intraocular lens, or primary posterior capsulorrhexis. An incision is made in the corneoscleral junction (fornix) for insertion of the phacoemulsification device. A side port incision is made. An attempt is made to dilate the pupil, but may be unsuccessful. In this case, a spatula is inserted and posterior synchiae are lysed. Four incisions are made and an expansion device consisting of four hooks is inserted. The iris is retracted using the hooks. A circular tear is made in the anterior lens capsule. The lens capsule is opened and the phacoemulsification probe is inserted. Ultrasound is used to break up and remove the cataract. Once the cataract has been removed, the softer cortex surrounding the cataract is removed by suction. Viscoelastic material is injected into the lens capsule to maintain its shape. If the patient is a child, the posterior capsule may be incised (capsulotomy or capsulorhexis) to facilitate insertion of the IOL. The IOL is inserted and the viscoelastic material is removed. The expansion hooks are removed and the incisions are checked for water tightness. Subconjunctival injection of water or saline is performed to restore intraocular pressure and the eye is dressed.

Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis, manual/mechanical, complex

ICD-10-CM Diagnostic Codes
- H20.11 Chronic iridocyclitis, right eye
- H21.54 Posterior synchiae (iris)
- H25.011 Cortical age-related cataract, right eye
- H25.041 Posterior subcapsular polar age-related cataract, right eye
- H25.11 Age-related nuclear cataract, right eye
- H25.21 Age-related cataract, morgagnian type, right eye
- H25.811 Combined forms of age-related cataract, right eye
- H25.89 Other age-related cataract
- H26.001 Unspecified infantile and juvenile cataract, right eye
- H26.031 Infantile and juvenile nuclear cataract, right eye
- H26.041 Anterior subcapsular polar infantile and juvenile cataract, right eye
- H26.051 Posterior subcapsular polar infantile and juvenile cataract, right eye
- H26.101 Unspecified traumatic cataract, right eye
- H26.11 Localized traumatic opacities
- H26.121 Partially resolved traumatic cataract, right eye
- H26.131 Total traumatic cataract, right eye
- H26.20 Unspecified complicated cataract
- H26.221 Cataract secondary to ocular disorders (degenerative)
- H26.231 Glaucomatous flecks (subcapsular), right eye
- H26.8 Other specified cataract
- H30.001 Unspecified focal chorioretinal inflammation, right eye
- H30.891 Other chorioretinal inflammations, right eye
- H35.52 Pigmentary retinal dystrophy
- H40.141 Capsular glaucoma with pseudexfoliation of lens, right eye
- H40.89 Glaucoma secondary to other eye disorders, right eye
- H40.142 Degenerative myopia, right eye
- H44.2A1 Degenerative myopia with choroidal neovascularization, right eye
- H44.2A2 Degenerative myopia with choroidal neovascularization, left eye
- H44.2A3 Degenerative myopia with choroidal neovascularization, bilateral eye
- H44.2B1 Degenerative myopia with macular hole, right eye
- H44.2B2 Degenerative myopia with macular hole, left eye
- H44.2B3 Degenerative myopia with macular hole, bilateral eye
- H44.2C1 Degenerative myopia with retinal detachment, right eye
- H44.2C2 Degenerative myopia with retinal detachment, left eye
- H44.2C3 Degenerative myopia with retinal detachment, bilateral eye
- H44.2D1 Degenerative myopia with foveoschisis, right eye
- H44.2D2 Degenerative myopia with foveoschisis, left eye
- H44.2D3 Degenerative myopia with foveoschisis, bilateral eye
- H44.2E1 Degenerative myopia with other maculopathy, right eye
- H44.2E2 Degenerative myopia with other maculopathy, left eye
- H44.2E3 Degenerative myopia with other maculopathy, bilateral eye
- H44.311 Chalcosis, right eye
- H44.312 Chalcosis, left eye
- H44.313 Chalcosis, bilateral eye
- H44.331 Congenital cataract
- Z06.1 Cataract extraction status, right eye
- Z06.41 Cataract extraction status, left eye
- Z06.42 Cataract extraction status, bilateral eye

ICD-10-CM Coding Notes
For codes requiring a 7th character extension, refer to your ICD-10-CM book. Review the character descriptions and coding guidelines for proper selection. For some procedures, only certain characters will apply.
CCI Edits
Refer to Appendix A for CCI edits.

Pub 100
**66982:** Pub 100-03, 1, 10.1, Pub 100-03, 1, 80.10, Pub 100-03, 1, 80.12, Pub 100-04, 14, 40.3, Pub 100-04, 32, 120.120.4

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