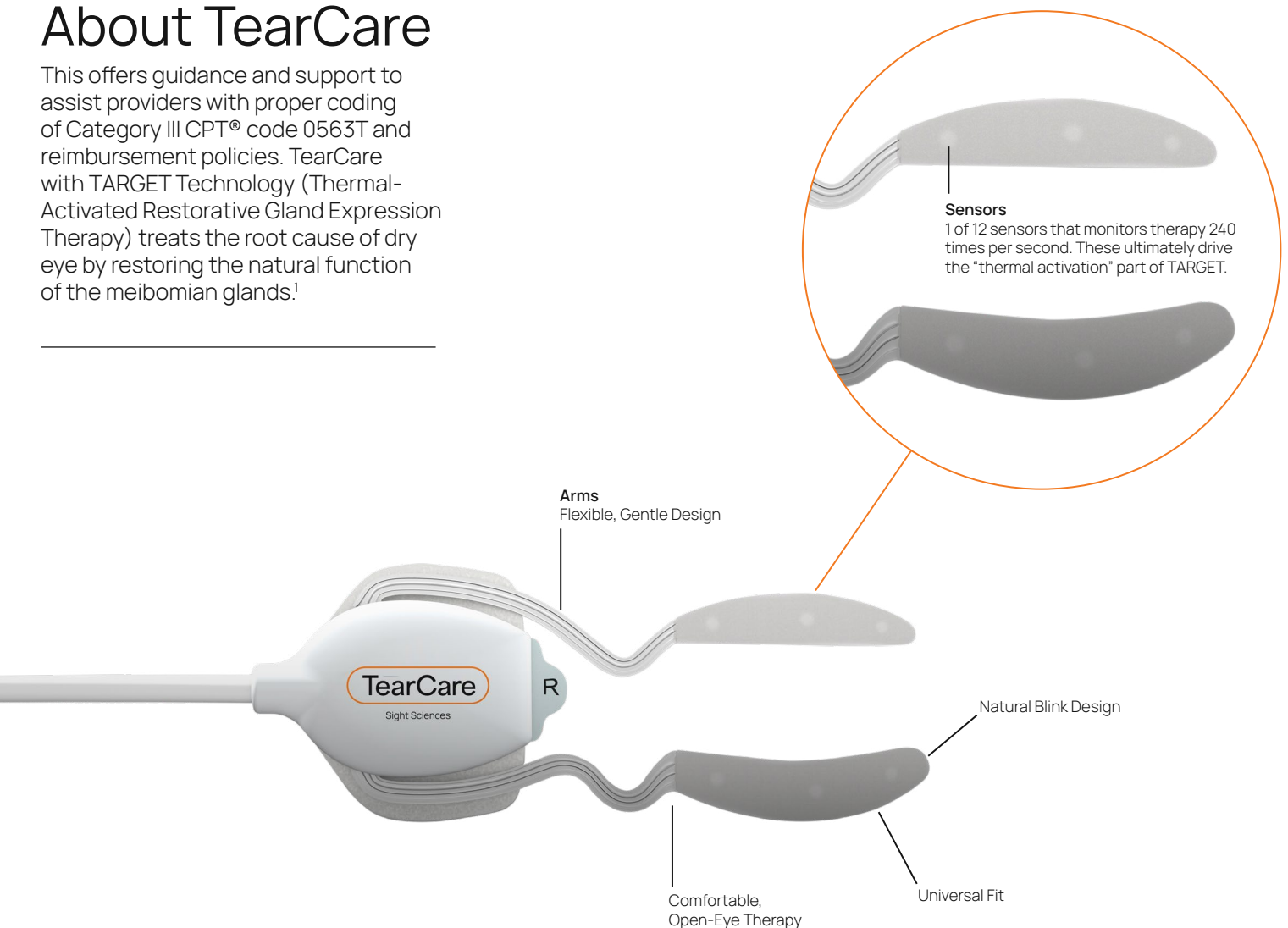


# TearCare® System

## About TearCare

This offers guidance and support to assist providers with proper coding of Category III CPT® code 0563T and reimbursement policies. TearCare with TARGET Technology (Thermal-Activated Restorative Gland Expression Therapy) treats the root cause of dry eye by restoring the natural function of the meibomian glands.<sup>1</sup>



# Indication

The TearCare System is intended for the application of localized heat therapy in adult patients with evaporative dry eye disease due to meibomian gland dysfunction (MGD), when used in conjunction with manual expression of the meibomian glands.<sup>2</sup>

## Coding for the TearCare System

CPT <sup>3</sup>	Description
0563T	Evacuation of meibomian glands, using heat delivered through wearable, open-eye eyelid treatment devices and manual gland expression, bilateral

**NOTE:** CPT 0563T code description describes the TearCare System as a bilateral service for which payors may not require location modifiers. Please refer to payor policies for guidance.

## Medicare Payment For CPT 0563T

Payment is determined on a case-by-case basis. Since Category III codes are not assigned Relative Value Units (RVUs) or a national payment rate by Medicare, individual Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) may elect to assign pricing (called carrier pricing)<sup>4</sup> for CPT 0563T for their jurisdiction. It is recommended to review your individual Medicare contractor's website to identify if the MAC has published a payment rate for 0563T.

Global Period	Medicare National Average Fee Schedule Payment Rate <sup>4</sup>	Total RVUS
Does not apply	Carrier Priced	N/A

**NOTE:** Commercial and Medicare Advantage payments are based on contractual agreements or negotiated fees between the provider and the health plan. Questions regarding your contracted payment rates should be directed to your health plan's provider representative.

## Common ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding

The International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes are used to report patient diagnoses and health conditions for visits/services in all healthcare settings. Providers should consult the ICD-10-CM code set and coverage policies or other payor guidelines when determining the appropriate diagnosis code(s) to submit to health plans. Coding is a clinical decision and providers should code to the highest level of specificity.

ICD-10-CM <sup>5</sup>	Code Description		
Diagnosis	Right Eye/Lid	Left Eye/Lid	Bilateral Eye/Lid
Meibomian Gland Dysfunction Upper Lid	H02.881	H02.884	N/A
Meibomian Gland Dysfunction Lower Lid	H02.882	H02.885	N/A
Meibomian Gland Dysfunction Upper and Lower Lid	H02.88A	H02.88B	N/A
Dry Eye Syndrome	H04.121	H04.121	H04.123

# Considerations for Category III CPT Codes

- Check payor contracts to ensure fair reimbursement for the provider's time, work, and resources, as well as to include an allowable of non-facility practice expenses to cover the cost of the SmartLids®.
- Check payor coverage policies for medical necessity criteria, if available. Prior to the procedure, submit a written pre-determination or prior-authorization if needed.
- Set billed charges, each practice should use its own methodology to set appropriate charges.
- Conduct a benefit verification to understand patient-specific coverage. **Ensure the patient has been made aware of their financial obligations.**
- CPT 0563T includes evaluation of the patient prior to the procedure. However you may bill an E/M code if there was a separate and identifiable reason to examine the patient.

## Sample CMS-1500 Form

In box 19 Narrative:

- Invoice dollar amount
- Name of product
- Units / dosage
- How administered

CPT code 0563T is used to report the TearCare procedure

## Understanding the Provider Time for Appropriate Billing

TearCare Procedure (Evacuation of Meibomian Glands, Code 0563T)	Time (Minutes)
Pre-Service Evaluation (exam, reviewing history, documenting medications, allergies, etc.)	15
Informed consent	0-5
Lid preparation (makeup removal, contact lens removal, facial/oil removal)	5
SmartLid application	5
15-minute required heat application	15
Manual expression of the meibomian glands	10-15
Discharge instructions provided	5
<b>Total Estimated Time</b>	<b>55</b>

# The SAHARA Study: Redefining Clinical Excellence

TearCare offers superior improvements over Restasis®<sup>6,7</sup> (cyclosporine):



TearCare is effective as a **primary option** for MGD therapy.<sup>7</sup>



Patients gain additional **long-lasting** benefits by switching from Restasis® (cyclosporine) to TearCare.<sup>6</sup>

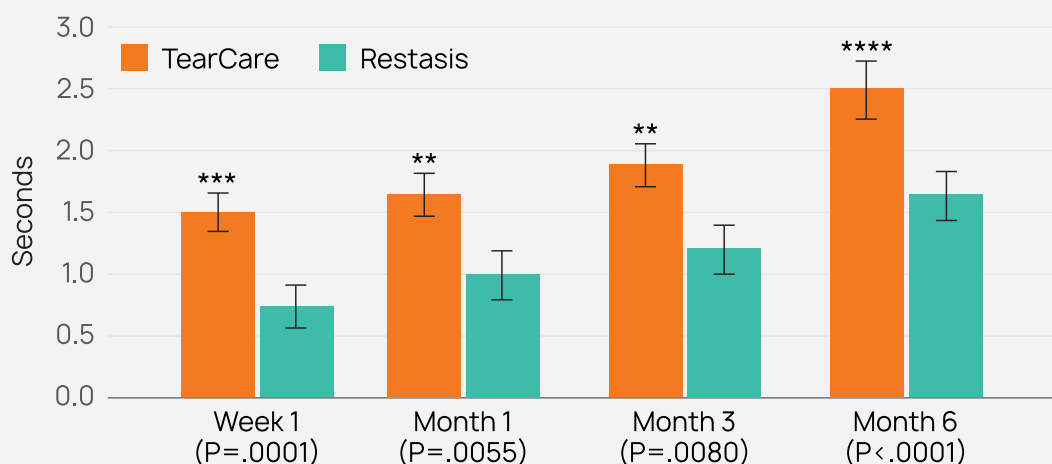


**Compliance is not a factor** with TearCare.<sup>7</sup>

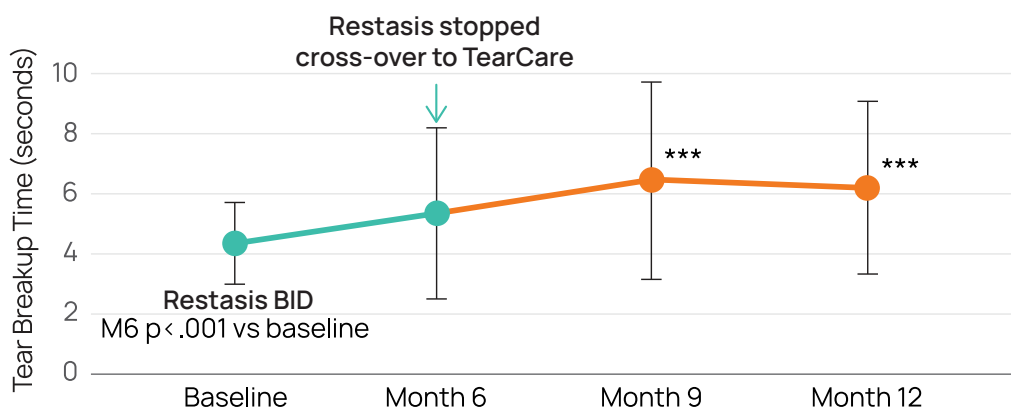


Economic models demonstrate that TearCare is **more cost-effective** than prescription eye drops.<sup>8</sup>

## TearCare superior to Restasis in TBUT change from baseline at all time points<sup>6</sup>



## Superior results not reliant on patient adherence<sup>7</sup>



# Notes

<sup>1</sup> Blackie CA, et al. Treatment for meibomian gland dysfunction and dry eye symptoms with a single-dose vectored thermal pulsation: a review. Curr Opin Ophthalmol. 2015 Jul;26(4):306-13.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Indications for Use [510k clearance. 510(K) Number: K213045].

<sup>3</sup> CPT codes, descriptions, and other data only are copyright 2024 American Medical Association. All Rights Reserved. Applicable FARS/HHSARS apply. Fee schedules, relative value units, conversion factors and/or related components are not assigned by the AMA, are not part of CPT, and the AMA is not recommending their use. The AMA does not directly or indirectly practice medicine or dispense medical services. The AMA assumes no liability for data contained or not contained herein.

<sup>4</sup> Carrier/Payor determines the payment rate.

<sup>5</sup> <https://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jeb/topics/modifiers>.

<sup>6</sup> Ayres BD, et al. Clin Ophthalmol. 2023 Dec 18;17:3925-3940.

<sup>7</sup> Ayres BD, et al. Clin Ophthalmol. 2024 May 28;18:1525-1534.

<sup>8</sup> TearCare Budget Impact Model published 2024 <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/17469899.2024.2444930?scroll=top&needAccess=true#abstract>





# TearCare



[sightsciences.com](https://sightsciences.com)

## MARKET ACCESS

Reimbursement support is available to help answer coverage, coding, and payment questions and provide reimbursement support.

**email:**

[sightaccess@sightsciences.com](mailto:sightaccess@sightsciences.com)

## SIGHT ACCESS PARTNERS

Sight Access includes a field-based team that provides reimbursement support.

## SIGHT ACCESS RESOURCES

Contact our team to access our library of resources to support your practice and increase access for your patients.

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