



NHS MEDICAL POLICY

**Endoscopic Dacryocystorhinostomy (DCR)
Procedure 2018-005**

Endoscopic Dacryocystorhinostomy (DCR) may be indicated when ALL the following are present:

1	Epiphora (excessive watering of the eye) is present.
2	Epiphora is attributed to nasolacrimal duct obstruction (dacryostenosis or blocked tear duct).
3	If present, dry eye has been medically treated.
4	ONE or more of the following treatments for nasolacrimal duct obstruction were tried: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm compresses • Massage • Antibiotics, if infection was present • Nasolacrimal duct dilation

SOURCES

1. Tanigawa T, et al, Outcomes of endoscopic endonasal dacryocystorhinostomy for intractable lacrimal dacryostenosis and associated factors, *Int J Ophthalmol.* 2016; 9(10): 1471 – 1475.
2. Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group, Repka MX, Melia BM, et al. Primary treatment of nasolacrimal duct obstruction with balloon catheter dilation in children younger than 4 years of age. *J AAPOS* 2008; 12:451.
3. Repka MX, Chandler DL, Holmes JM, et al. Balloon catheter dilation and nasolacrimal duct intubation for treatment of nasolacrimal duct obstruction after failed probing. *Arch Ophthalmol* 2009; 127:633.
4. UpToDate.com: Nasolacrimal duct obstruction (dacryostenosis)
5. Milliman Care Guidelines, 22nd edition:
 - A-0185 AC ACG Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (FESS)
 - SG-HNS GRG Head and Neck Surgery or Procedure

CODE REFERENCE (This may not be a comprehensive list of codes to apply to this policy.)

68720

POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
06/12/2019	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/11/2020	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/11/2021	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
06/10/2022	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
05/26/2023	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee