

Eligibility criteria for lens extraction for narrow anterior chamber angles

Southern Cross will only reimburse the cost of phacoemulsification for lens extraction for narrow anterior chamber angles under a member's policy when both of the following criteria (1 **and** 2) are met for that member.

1. The member has critically narrow anterior chamber angles.
2. Treatment with laser peripheral iridotomy has failed to effect a satisfactory clinical response as defined by one of the following:
 - i. intra-ocular pressure remains greater than 21mm Hg despite reasonable medical treatment
 - or**
 - ii. progressive glaucomatous optic neuropathy has been demonstrated by visual fields, or OCT analysis of the retinal nerve fibre layer.

Eligibility criteria for pseudo-exfoliation glaucoma

Southern Cross will only reimburse the cost of phacoemulsification for lens extraction for pseudo-exfoliation glaucoma under a member's policy following unsuccessful selective laser trabeculectomy (SLT) where there is progression despite maximal medical therapy.