Southern Cross Health Insurance

## Eligibility criteria for primary clear lens extraction for primary angle closure or primary angle closure glaucoma – effective from 3 November 2026

Southern Cross will only reimburse the cost of phacoemulsification for lens extraction for primary angle closure or primary angle closure glaucoma under a member's policy when criteria **1 and 2** below are met for that member.

1. The member has iridotrabecular contact greater than 180 degrees on gonioscopy, either appositional or synechial, assessed by a specialist ophthalmologist.

2. At least one of the following is present:

    - sustained intraocular pressure of 30 mmHg or greater

    - glaucomatous optic neuropathy demonstrated by visual field loss and/or corresponding structural change on OCT retinal nerve fibre layer analysis.

### Documentation requirements

All documentation must be retained for audit purposes and include sufficient supporting clinical evidence to demonstrate that these eligibility criteria have been met and be available on request by Southern Cross.

Please also ensure you are familiar with all **policy exclusions**, including:

- Acute care
- Congenital conditions
- Cosmetic treatment/procedures
- Health screening
- Treatment of any condition not detrimental to health
- Unapproved healthcare services.

Refer to the relevant policy document for specific conditions and exceptions that apply to these exclusions.