Coding Guidelines

Lymphoma
M9590-9699, 9702-9727, 9735, 9737-9738, 9823, 9827

Background

The two general types of lymphoma are **Hodgkin lymphoma** (HL), also known as Hodgkin disease, and **non-Hodgkin lymphoma** (NHL).

Hodgkin lymphoma can originate almost anywhere in the body. Hodgkin lymphoma may occur in a single lymph node, a group of lymph nodes, or, sometimes, in other parts of the lymphatic system such as the bone marrow and spleen.

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma may originate in a single lymph node, a group of lymph nodes, or in another organ.

When lymphoma originates in a lymph node, it is referred to as "**nodal**." When lymphoma originates in an organ, it is referred to as "**extranodal**."

Coding Instructions

Primary Site
The primary site for nodal lymphomas is coded to lymph nodes (C770-C779). The primary site for extranodal lymphoma is coded to a site **other than** lymph nodes (primary sites other than C770-C779).

First Course of Therapy

Do not code proton pump inhibitors as treatment. Proton pump inhibitors are used for gastric acid suppression; they treat symptoms, not the lymphoma itself.

Surgery of Primary Site (NAACCR ID #1290)

Nodal Lymphoma (C770-C779)

Assign the appropriate surgery code using the Lymph Nodes Surgery Codes.

Note: Assign code 25 (Local tumor excision, NOS) only when **one** lymph node was identified through clinical evaluations and was removed.

Do **not** code in Surgery of Primary Site when **multiple** nodes are involved and only one is removed. Code as a biopsy.

Extranodal Lymphoma (Primary Sites other than C770-C779)

Use the site-specific surgery codes corresponding to the primary site.

Example 1: Stomach lymphoma. Use the Stomach Surgery Codes to code Surgery of Primary Site.

Example 2: Tonsil lymphoma. Use the Pharynx Surgery Codes to code Surgery of Primary Site. The surgery codes for Pharynx cover Tonsil (C090–C099).

See the *Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Case Reportability and Coding Manual* and the Hematopoietic Database (DB) for more information and additional coding instructions.