Cutaneous Melanoma Multiple Primary Rules – Text
C440-C449 with Histology 8720-8780
(Excludes melanoma of any other site)

UNKNOWN IF SINGLE OR MULTIPLE MELANOMAS

Note: Melanoma(s) not described as metastasis

Rule M1   When it is not possible to determine if there is a **single** melanoma **or multiple** melanomas, opt for a single melanoma and abstract as a single primary.*
Note: Use this rule only after all information sources have been exhausted

* Prepare one abstract. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code.
This is the end of instructions for Unknown if Single or Multiple Melanoma.

SINGLE MELANOMA

Note 1: Melanoma not described as metastasis
Note 2: Includes combinations of in situ and invasive

Rule M2   A **single melanoma** is always a single primary. *

* Prepare one abstract. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code.
This is the end of instructions for Single Melanoma.

MULTIPLE MELANOMAS

Multiple melanomas may be a single primary or multiple primaries
Note 1: Melanoma not described as metastases
Note 2: Includes combinations of in situ and invasive

Rule M3   Melanomas in sites with ICD-O-3 **topography** codes that are **different** at the second (C**x**xx), third (Cx**x**x) or fourth (C44**x**) character are multiple primaries. **

Melanoma MP

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Rule M4   Melanomas with **different laterality** are multiple primaries. **
Note: A **midline** melanoma is a different laterality than right or left.
Example 1: Melanoma of the right side of the chest and a melanoma at midline of the chest are different laterality, multiple primaries
Example 2: A melanoma of the right side of the chest and a melanoma of the left side of the chest are multiple primaries

Rule M5   Melanomas with ICD-O-3 **histology** codes that are **different** at the first (**x**xxx), second (x**x**xx) or third number (xx**x**x) are multiple primaries. **

Rule M6   An **invasive** melanoma that occurs **more than 60 days after** an **in situ** melanoma is a multiple primary. **
Note 1: The purpose of this rule is to ensure that the case is counted as an incident (invasive) case when incidence data are analyzed.
Note 2: Abstract as multiple primaries even if the medical record/physician states it is recurrence or progression of disease.

Rule M7   Melanomas diagnosed **more than 60 days** apart are multiple primaries. **

Rule M8   Melanomas that **do not meet any** of the above **criteria** are abstracted as a single primary. *
Note 1: Use the data item "Multiplicity Counter" to record the number of melanomas abstracted as a single primary.
Note 2: When an invasive melanoma follows an in situ melanoma within 60 days, abstract as a single primary.
Note 3: All cases covered by this rule are the same site and histology.

* Prepare one abstract. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code.
** Prepare two or more abstracts. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code to each case abstracted.
This is the end of instructions for Multiple Melanomas.

Rule M8 Examples: The following are examples of cases that use Rule M8. This is NOT intended to be an exhaustive set of examples; there are other cases that may be classified as a single primary. ***Warning: Using only these case examples to determine the number of primaries can result in major errors.***

Example 1: Solitary melanoma on the left back and another solitary melanoma on the left chest.	**Example 2:** Solitary melanoma on the right thigh and another solitary melanoma on the right ankle.