Coding Guidelines
Breast
C500 -C509

Primary Site
C500  Nipple (areolar)
   Paget disease without underlying tumor

C501  Central portion of breast (subareolar) area extending 1 cm around areolar complex
   Retroareolar
   Infraareolar
   Next to areola, NOS
   Behind, beneath, under, underneath, next to, above, cephalad to, or below nipple
   Paget disease with underlying tumor
   Lower central

C502  Upper inner quadrant (UIQ) of breast
   Superior medial
   Upper medial
   Superior inner

C503  Lower inner quadrant (LIQ) of breast
   Inferior medial
   Lower medial
   Inferior inner

C504  Upper outer quadrant (UOQ) of breast
   Superior lateral
   Superior outer
   Upper lateral

C505  Lower outer quadrant (LOQ) of breast
   Inferior lateral
   Inferior outer
   Lower lateral

C506  Axillary tail of breast
   Tail of breast, NOS
   Tail of Spence

C508  Overlapping lesion of breast
   Inferior breast, NOS
   Inner breast, NOS
   Lateral breast, NOS
   Lower breast, NOS
   Medial breast, NOS
   Midline breast NOS
   Outer breast NOS
   Superior breast, NOS
   Upper breast, NOS
   3:00, 6:00, 9:00, 12:00 o’clock

Appendix C: Coding Guidelines
C509 Breast, NOS
Entire breast
Multiple tumors in different subsites within breast
Inflammatory without palpable mass
¾ or more of breast involved with tumor
Diffuse (tumor size 998)

Additional Subsite Descriptors
The position of the tumor in the breast may be described as the positions on a clock

O’Clock Positions and Codes
Quadrants of Breasts

Coding Subsites
Use the information from reports in the following priority order to code a subsite when there is conflicting information:

1. Pathology report
2. Operative report
3. Physical examination
4. Mammogram, ultrasound

Code the subsite with the invasive tumor when the pathology report identifies invasive tumor in one subsite and in situ tumor in a different subsite or subsites.

Code the specific quadrant for multifocal tumors all within one quadrant
  • Do not code C509 (Breast, NOS) in this situation

Appendix C: Coding Guidelines
Code the primary site to C508 when
  • there is a single tumor in two or more subsites and the subsite in which the tumor originated is unknown
  • there is a single tumor located at the 12, 3, 6, or 9 o’clock position on the breast

Code the primary site to C509 when there are multiple tumors (two or more) in at least two quadrants of the breast.

**Laterality**
Laterality must be coded for all subsites.

Breast primary with positive nodes and no breast mass found: Code laterality to the side with the positive nodes