

Cancer PathCHART

Cancer Pathology Coding Histology And Registration Terminology

Division of Cancer Control & Population Sciences

The Future of Cancer Surveillance Data Quality

What: The Cancer PathCHART initiative is a groundbreaking collaboration that aims to improve cancer surveillance data quality by updating standards for tumor site and histology combinations and associated terminology and coding. Also included in this initiative is CPC*Search, an interactive web tool with search capability for validity status of all histologies at a given tumor site, vice versa, and associated terminology.

Why: The foundational data items of site, histology, and behavior are the basis for all subsequent data abstraction for a tumor (e.g., stage, treatment, outcomes). Accurate data are essential for the evaluation, management, research, and surveillance of cancer patients.

How: This initiative involves a multilevel review process with pathologists and tumor registrars of standards for tumor site-histology combinations, terminology, and coding. Review results are incorporated into the Cancer PathCHART database and serve as the single source of truth for tumor site, histology, and behavior coding and terminology standards for cancer surveillance in North America. The 2024 Cancer PathCHART ICD-O-3 Site Morphology Validation List replaced the 2023 ICD-O-3 SEER Site/Histology Validation List, which served as the basis of the 2023 Primary Site, Morphology-Type, Beh ICDO3 (SEER IF25) edit, and the impossible site-morphology combinations in the 2023 Primary Site, Morphology-Imposs ICDO3 (SEER IF38) edit.

When: The Cancer PathCHART ICD-O-3 Site Morphology Validation List (CPC SMVL) has been updated for 2024 (V2024A) and 2025 (V2025A) diagnosis years. These updated standards were released in one file with the 2026 standards (V2026) as V2024A_V2025A_V2026_CPC SMVL, accessible via the [Cancer PathCHART Product Downloads](#) page. These products will be updated annually as needed. [CPC*Search](#) went live in April 2024 and can be used for cancer cases diagnosed in the 2024 calendar year. Plans for expansion of CPC*Search to include V2025A standards and other functionality are underway.

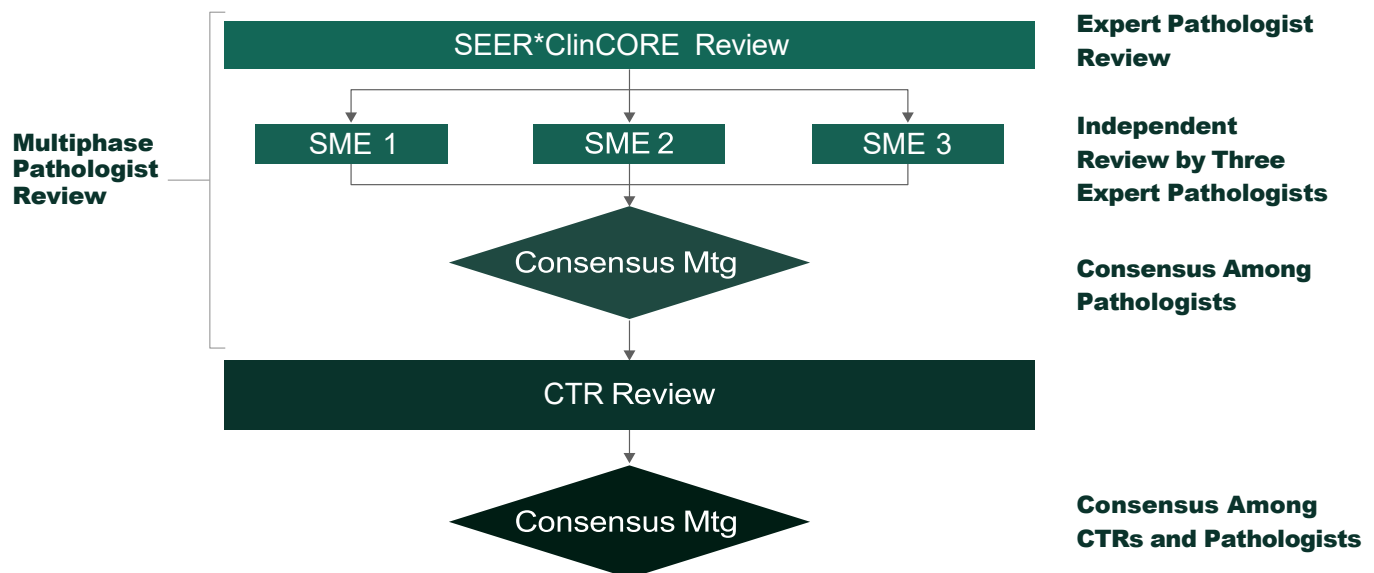
Impact: This vital online resource will help cancer registrars, clinicians, pathologists, researchers, and developers use the same terms and coding standards, making cancer surveillance more accurately reflect medical practice without altering cancer registration workflows.

Key Collaborators

The following organizations in this collaborative initiative are making Cancer PathCHART *the* authority on tumor site-histology combinations and terminology for accurate coding.

- National Cancer Institute—
Surveillance, Epidemiology,
and End Results Program (NCI–SEER)
- National Cancer Registrars
Association (NCRA)
- North American Association
of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR)
- Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention—National Program
of Cancer Registries (CDC–NPCR)
- International Association
of Cancer Registries (IACR)
- Statistics Canada | Statistique Canada
- World Health Organization—
International Agency for Research
on Cancer (WHO–IARC)
- College of American Pathologists (CAP)
- American Joint Committee
on Cancer (AJCC)
- American College of Surgeons—
Commission on Cancer (ACS–CoC)
- International Collaboration
on Cancer Reporting (ICCR)

Review Process



Tumor Sites Reviewed by Implementation Year

Year	Organ System	Sites
2024	Bone and Soft Tissue	Bones and Joints; Connective, Subcutaneous, and Other Soft Tissue
	Breast	Breast
	Digestive	Ampulla of Vater; Anus; Appendix; Biliary System; Colon and Rectum; Esophagus; Gallbladder; Liver; Pancreas; Small Intestine; Stomach
	Female Genital	Cervix; Endometrium; Fallopian Tube; Myometrium; Ovary; Vagina; Vulva, Adnexa, and Other Female Genital; Placenta
	Male Genital	Penis; Prostate; Testis*
	Urinary	Kidney*
2025	Respiratory Tract	Lung and Bronchus; Pleura
	Thorax	Thymus; Mediastinal Space
	Soft Tissue	Peripheral Nerves and Autonomic Nervous System; Retroperitoneum; Heart and Pericardium
	Male Genital System	Epididymis, Paratesticular, and Spermatic Cord; Testis*
	Urinary System	Urethra; Urothelial Sites; Paraurethral Gland; Kidney*
	Central Nervous System	Cerebral Hemispheres; Cerebellum; Brain Stem; Ventricles; Meninges; Cranial Nerves; Spinal Cord
2026	Head and Neck	Lip; Oral Cavity and Mobile Tongue; Gingiva; Major Salivary Glands; Nasopharynx; Oropharynx; Branchial Cleft; Nasal Cavity and Paranasal Sinuses; Middle Ear; Larynx and Hypopharynx; Pharynx, including Waldeyer Ring, Trachea, and Upper Respiratory
2027	Pending Sites	Skin; Eye and Orbit; Thyroid Gland; Adrenal Gland; Pituitary; Craniopharyngeal Duct; Pineal Gland; Parathyroid Gland; Carotid Body, Aortic Body, and Other Paraganglia

*Testis and kidney were reviewed across two implementation years (2024 and 2025).

For More Information

Contact the Cancer PathCHART team today at NCICancerPathCHART@mail.nih.gov with any questions.

Our website: seer.cancer.gov/cancerpathchart

CPC*Search: seer.cancer.gov/cancerpathchart/search

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