

SEER Inquiry System - Report

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Question 20010055

References:

SEER EOD-88, 3rd Ed, 111

Question:

EOD-Lymph Nodes--Breast: Are lymph nodes described as being either "keratin positive" or "keratin positive for metastasis" to be coded as involved lymph nodes?

Discussion:

Answer:

For cases diagnosed between 1998-2003:

Lymph nodes that are only "keratin positive" would not be coded as involved lymph nodes. The pathologist uses this expression to mean that the nodes stained positive for keratin that does not mean they are also involved with cancer.

However, if the pathologist uses these stains to make a definitive diagnosis of metastatic carcinoma (i.e., uses the expression "keratin positive for metastasis"), then code the nodes as involved.

Cancer Site Category:

Breast

Data Item Category:

N/A

Other Category:

N/A

Year:

2001