

SEER Inquiry System - Report

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Question 20010162

References:

Question:

EOD-Size of Primary Tumor: Should the code 001 in tumor size be used for tumors described as having "focal" involvement? See discussion.

Discussion:

Is tumor size coded to 001 for the following examples:

Example 1: Focal adenoca in left lobe on prostatectomy.

Example 2: Multifocal ductal carcinoma of breast on mastectomy.

Answer:

Example 1 and 2: There is insufficient information in the examples to determine whether EOD-Size of Primary Tumor should be coded to 001.

The instructions are that code 001 is used for a microscopic focus or foci of tumor only. That means that the tumor is small enough that it could not be seen by the naked eye, nor would it be palpable. Be careful with the term "focal" because it is most often used to describe tumor cells grouped or concentrated in one area as in example 1. There is no implication that this focus was microscopic only. Was it mentioned in the gross or macroscopic portion of the pathology report? If so, it is not coded to 001. Was it palpable? If so, it is not coded to 001.

Example 2 cites a multifocal breast cancer. Again, did the pathologist visualize the cancer (was it reported on the gross or macroscopic portion of the pathology?) If so, do not use code 001. Was the lesion palpable? If so, do not use code 001.

Cancer Site Category:

N/A

Data Item Category:

N/A

Other Category:

N/A

Year:

2001