

SEER Inquiry System - Report

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Question 20021063

References:

SEER EOD-88, 3rd Ed, 9

Question:

EOD-Pathologic Review of Number of Regional Lymph Nodes Examined: What code is used to represent this field when a path report from a lymph node biopsy or dissection describes lymph node "portions" or "fragments"? See discussion.

Discussion:

- 1) Lymph nodes, right pelvic dissection: No evidence of malignancy in 4 portions of lymph node examined. (Should we code the number examined as 01, 04, or 97?)
- 2) Lymph nodes, left pelvic dissection: 5 fragments of lymph nodes show no evidence of malignancy. (Should we code the number examined as 05 or 97?)
- 3) Biopsy of right neck mass: Malignancy in fragments of lymph nodes. The following month, pt had a right modified lymph node dissection: 16/32 lymph nodes are positive for malignancy. (Should we code the number examined as 32, 33, 97, 98?)

Answer:

For cases diagnosed 1998-2003:

The total number of lymph nodes examined is recorded in EOD-Num of Reg LN Examined. If the number of actual lymph nodes represented by the "fragments" or "portions" cannot be determined, assign code 96, 97, or 98 as appropriate.

- 1) Based on the terminology "four portions of lymph node (singular)" code to 01 despite "dissection" terminology.
- 2) Code to 97 based on "fragments of lymph nodes (pleural)" terminology and procedure identified as dissection.
- 3) Code to 97 based on statement of "fragments of lymph nodes (pleural)" for biopsy plus dissection.

Cancer Site Category:

N/A

Data Item Category:

N/A

Other Category:

N/A

Year:

2002