

SEER Inquiry System - Report
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Question 20021142

References:

#1: SEER Program Code Man, 3rd Ed, 88

#2: 2004 SEER Manual, 66

Question:

Date of Diagnosis: If an originally diagnosed "benign" tumor is later discovered to have "metastasized", should the date of diagnosis be back-dated to the date the original tumor was discovered or to the date the metastatic disease was identified?

Discussion:

Answer:

Code the Date of Diagnosis field to the date the malignancy is diagnosed. If there was a medical or pathologic review of the original benign diagnosis that indicates that the patient had cancer at the earlier time, then the earlier date is coded as the date of diagnosis. If no medical or pathologic review of the original benign diagnosis is done, then code the date of diagnosis to the date the metastasis is discovered.

Cancer Site Category:

N/A

Data Item Category:

Date of diagnosis

Other Category:

N/A

Year:

2002