

# SEER Inquiry System - Report

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## Question 20100105

### References:

2010 SEER Manual. Appendix C

### Question:

Surgery of Primary Site--Brain and CNS: Is "debulking" of a primary brain tumor coded to 21 [subtotal resection of tumor] or 30 [gross resection of tumor]?

### Discussion:

### Answer:

Assign code 21 [subtotal resection of tumor, lesion, or mass]. Debulking removes as much of the tumor volume as possible in cases where it is not possible to remove the entire tumor. Debulking should improve the effectiveness of subsequent radiation therapy and/or chemotherapy.

### Cancer Site Category:

Brain and CNS

### Data Item Category:

Surgery of Primary Site

### Other Category:

N/A

### Year:

2010