Colon Multiple Primary Rules – Text  
C180 - C189  
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-9989 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

### UNKNOWN IF SINGLE OR MULTIPLE TUMORS

*Note:* Tumor(s) not described as metastasis

**Rule M1**  
When it is not possible to determine if there is a **single** tumor or **multiple** tumors, opt for a single tumor and abstract as a single primary.  
*Note:* Use this rule only after all information sources have been exhausted.

* Prepare one abstract. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code.  
This is the end of instructions for Unknown if Single or Multiple Tumors.

### SINGLE TUMOR

*Note 1:* Tumor not described as metastasis  
*Note 2:* Includes combinations of in situ and invasive

**Rule M2**  
A **single** tumor is always a single primary.  
*Note:* The tumor may overlap onto or extend into adjacent/contiguous site or subsite.

* Prepare one abstract. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code.  
This is the end of instructions for Single Tumor.

### MULTIPLE TUMORS

Multiple tumors may be a single primary or multiple primaries.

*Note 1:* Tumors not described as metastases  
*Note 2:* Includes combinations of in situ and invasive

**Rule M3**  
Adenocarcinoma in adenomatous polyposis coli (**familial polyposis**) with one or more malignant polyps is a single primary.  
*Note:* Tumors may be present in multiple segments of the colon or in a single segment of the colon.

**Rule M4**  
Tumors in sites with **ICD-O-3 topography** codes that are different at the second (C\text{x}xx), third, (C\text{xx}x) or fourth (C18\text{x}) character are multiple primaries. **

**Rule M5**  
Tumors diagnosed **more than one (1) year** apart are multiple primaries. **
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Rule M6  An invasive tumor following an in situ tumor more than 60 days after diagnosis are multiple primaries. **
Note 1: The purpose of this rule is to ensure that the case is counted as an incident (invasive) case when incidence data are analyzed.
Note 2: Abstract as multiple primaries even if the medical record/physician states it is recurrence or progression of disease.

Rule M7  A frank malignant or in situ adenocarcinoma and an in situ or malignant tumor in a polyp are a single primary.*

Rule M8  Abstract as a single primary* when one tumor is:
- Cancer/malignant neoplasm, NOS (8000) and another is a specific histology or
- Carcinoma, NOS (8010) and another is a specific carcinoma or
- Adenocarcinoma, NOS (8140) and another is a specific adenocarcinoma or
- Sarcoma, NOS (8800) and another is a specific sarcoma

Rule M9  Multiple in situ and/or malignant polyps are a single primary.*
Note: Includes all combinations of adenomatous, tubular, villous, and tubulovillous adenomas or polyps.

Rule M10 Tumors with ICD-O-3 histology codes that are different at the first (xxxx), second (xxxx) or third (xxxy) number are multiple primaries. **

Rule M11 Tumors that do not meet any of the above criteria are a single primary.*
Note 1: When an invasive tumor follows an in situ tumor within 60 days, abstract as a single primary.
Note 2: All cases covered by Rule M11 are in the same segment of the colon.

* Prepare one abstract. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code.
** Prepare two or more abstracts. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code to each case abstracted.
This is the end of instructions for Multiple Tumors.