Cutaneous Melanoma Histology Coding Rules – Text  
C440-C449 with Histology 8720-8780  
(Excludes melanoma of any other site)

SINGLE MELANOMA OR MULTIPLE MELANOMAS ABSTRACTED AS A SINGLE PRIMARY

**Rule H1**  Code the histology documented by the physician when there is no pathology/cytology specimen or the pathology/cytology report is not available.  
*Note 1:* Priority for using documents to code the histology  
- Documentation in the medical record that refers to pathologic or cytologic findings  
- Physician’s reference to type of melanoma in the medical record  
- PET scan  
*Note 2:* Code the specific histology when documented.

**Rule H2**  Code the histology from the metastatic site when there is no pathology/cytology specimen from the primary site.  
*Note:* Code the behavior /3.

**Rule H3**  Code the histology when only one histologic type is identified.

**Rule H4**  Code the invasive histologic type when there are invasive and in situ components.

**Rule H5**  Code the histologic type when the diagnosis is regressing melanoma and a histologic type.  
*Example:* Nodular melanoma with features of regression.  Code 8721 (Nodular melanoma).

**Rule H6**  Code 8723 (Malignant melanoma, regressing) when the diagnosis is regressing melanoma.  
*Example:* Malignant melanoma with features of regression.  Code 8723.

**Rule H7**  Code the histologic type when the diagnosis is lentigo maligna melanoma and a histologic type.

**Rule H8**  Code 8742 (Lentigo maligna melanoma) when the diagnosis is lentigo maligna melanoma.

**Rule H9**  Code the most specific histologic term when the diagnosis is melanoma, NOS (8720) with a single specific type.  
*Note 1:* The specific type for in situ lesions may be identified as pattern, architecture, type, subtype, predominantly, with features of, major, or with ____differentiation  
*Note 2:* The specific type for invasive lesions may be identified as type, subtype, predominantly, with features of, major, or with ____differentiation.
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**Rule H10**  Code the histology with the **numerically higher** ICD-O-3 code.

This is the end of instructions for Single Melanoma or Multiple Melanomas Abstracted as a Single Primary.
Code the histology according to the rule that fits the case.