### HEAD AND NECK MULTIPLE PRIMARY RULES - TEXT

**C000-C148, C300-C329**

(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia – M9590 – 9989 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

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#### 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.

  **Example 1:** History and physical exam states large tumor in nasopharynx. Biopsy base of tongue shows squamous cell carcinoma. No further information available. Abstract as a single primary.

  **Example 2:** Pathology report states extensive squamous cell carcinoma involving nasopharynx and larynx. Fragments of epiglottis positive for squamous cell carcinoma. No other information available. Abstract as a single primary.

* 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.**

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#### 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.**

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#### 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**  
Tumors on the right side and the left side of a paired site are multiple primaries. **

* **Note:** See Table 1 for list of paired sites.

**Rule M4**  
Tumors on the upper lip (C000 or C003) and the lower lip (C001 or C004) are multiple primaries. **

**Rule M5**  
Tumors on the upper gum (C030) and the lower gum (C031) are multiple primaries. **
Head and Neck Multiple Primary Rules - Text
C000-C148, C300-C329
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia – M9590 – 9989 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Rule M6  Tumors in the nasal cavity (C300) and the middle ear (C301) are multiple primaries. **

Rule M7  Tumors in sites with ICD-O-3 topography codes that are different at the second (Cxxx) and/or third (Cxxxx) character are multiple primaries. **

Rule M8  An invasive tumor following an in situ tumor more than 60 days after diagnosis is a multiple primary. **
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 M9  Tumors diagnosed more than five (5) years apart are multiple primaries. **

Rule M10  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
● Squamous cell carcinoma, NOS (8070) and another is specific squamous cell carcinoma or
● Melanoma, NOS (8720) and another is a specific melanoma
● Sarcoma, NOS (8800) and another is a specific sarcoma

Rule M11  Tumors with ICD-O-3 histology codes that are different at the first (xxxx), second (xxxx) or third (xxxx) number are multiple primaries. **

Rule M12  Tumors that do not meet any of the above criteria are abstracted as 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 M12 have the same first 3 numbers in ICD-O-3 histology code.

This is the end of instructions for Multiple Tumors.
* If a single primary, prepare one abstract. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code.
** If multiple primaries, prepare two or more abstracts. Use the histology coding rules to assign the appropriate histology code to each case abstracted.

Rule M12 Examples: The following are examples of cases that use Rule M12. This is NOT intended to be an exhaustive set of examples; there are other cases that may be classified as a single primary. Warning: Using only these case examples to determine the number of primaries can result in major errors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example 1:</th>
<th>Example 2:</th>
<th>Example 3:</th>
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<td>Multifocal tumors in floor of mouth</td>
<td>An in situ and invasive tumor diagnosed within60 days</td>
<td>In situ following an invasive tumor more than 60 days apart</td>
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