Introduction

- New terms and codes in these rules are based on the *WHO Classification of Tumors of the Digestive System* 2010 edition
- Ninety-eight percent of colon cancers are adenocarcinoma and adenocarcinoma subtypes
- **Mixed histologies and specific variants or subtypes of adenocarcinoma** other than mucinous/colloid or signet ring cell are rare. A less common combination is **mixed adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma (MANEC)** (previously called adenocarcinoma and carcinoid). The new terminology was originally proposed for tumors arising from goblet cell carcinoid but with more aggressive adenocarcinoma histology. It was also proposed because carcinoids are a subgroup of neuroendocrine carcinoma. Pathologists may still diagnose adenocarcinoma and carcinoid, adenocarcinoid, or adenocarcinoma and a specific neuroendocrine tumor or adenocarcinoma arising from/with a NET (including specific types of NET-like goblet cell carcinoid). Over time, the histologic diagnoses will change to MANEC.
- **De novo (previously called frank) adenocarcinoma** arises in the mucosa of the bowel, not in a polyp

**Terms Seen More Frequently: NET, NEC, GIST**
- NET (neuroendocrine tumor): The term NET is gradually replacing carcinoid; however, some pathologists still use the term carcinoid
- NEC (neuroendocrine carcinoma): The term NEC includes small cell neuroendocrine carcinoma, large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma, and poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma
- GIST (gastrointestinal stromal tumor):
  - GISTs were originally thought to be smooth muscle tumors but are now thought to originate from the interstitial cells of Cajal, neuro-regulatory cells in the GI tract. Prior to the implementation of an ICD-O-3 histology code for GISTs in 2001, they were reported as a GI sarcoma, usually leiomyosarcoma
  - GISTs are more common in the stomach (60%) and small intestine (30%), but 1-2% occur in the colon and 3% in the rectum
  - About a quarter of gastric GISTs are malignant
  - It is often difficult for the pathologist to determine the behavior of a GIST

*Note 1:* Tables and rules refer to ICD-O rather than ICD-O-3. The version is not specified to allow for updates. Use the currently approved version of ICD-O.

*Note 2:* 2007 MPH Rules and 2018 Solid Tumor Rules are used based on date of diagnosis.
- Tumors diagnosed 01/01/2007 through 12/31/2017: Use 2007 MPH Rules
- Tumors diagnosed 01/01/2018 and later: Use 2018 Solid Tumor Rules
- The original tumor diagnosed before 1/1/2018 and a subsequent tumor diagnosed 1/1/2018 or later in the same primary site: Use the 2018 Solid Tumor Rules.
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Changes from 2007 MPH Rules

These changes are effective with cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and later.

1. **Rectum** and **Rectosigmoid** are now included with the Colon Rules. In the 2007 MPH Rules, they were included with Other Sites.
2. There are new multiple primary rules which address anastomotic recurrence.
3. Neuroendocrine tumors (formerly carcinoid) arising in the appendix are reportable for cases diagnosed 1/1/2015 and forward.
4. **Rule clarification: Pseudomyxoma peritonei** (accumulation of mucin in the abdominal or pelvic cavity) now has a two-tiered system (WHO 2010) that classifies pseudomyxoma peritonei as either high-grade or low-grade (see below). Pseudomyxoma peritonei is usually associated with mucinous tumors of the appendix and is rarely associated with ovarian mucinous tumors.
   - High-grade pseudomyxoma peritonei is **malignant** /3
   - Low-grade pseudomyxoma peritonei is **not malignant** /0
   - See Histology Rules for coding instructions
5. There are **dysplasias** which have been assigned an in situ behavior code /2 in WHO and in the ICD-O Update. Despite becoming a /2, they are **not reportable in the US**. They are reportable in Canada.
   - **A.** Dysplasia was not collected in the past. If dysplasia is added to the database with the same code as in situ tumors, there will be a huge upsurge in the incidence of in situ neoplasms.
     - There would be no way to separate the dysplasias from the in-situ neoplasms in the database, which would cause problems with surveillance (long-term studies) since the prognosis and probabilities of disease progression are different between an in-situ tumor and a dysplasia
     - **Pathologists frequently use the term “severe dysplasia” or “high grade dysplasia” in place of carcinoma in situ. Code CIS only if the pathologist expressly states “CIS”**
   - **B.** The various agencies are looking for solutions to this issue
6. **Polyps** are now disregarded when coding histology. For example, adenocarcinoma in an adenomatous polyp is coded as adenocarcinoma 8140.
7. New codes/terms are identified by asterisks (*) in the histology table in the Terms and Definitions.
Equivalent or Equal Terms

These terms can be used interchangeably:

- And; with
  Note: “And” and “with” are used as synonyms when describing multiple histologies within a single tumor.
- Carcinoid; NET; neuroendocrine tumor
- Carcinoma; carcinoma NOS; adenocarcinoma; adenocarcinoma NOS; intestinal type adenocarcinoma 8140
- De novo; frank adenocarcinoma (obsolete)
- Familial polyposis; familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) 8220
- Intramucosal; lateral extension within the mucosal layer of the GI tract
- Invasion through colon wall; extension through colon wall; transmural
  Note: The term “transmural” is used to describe extension through all layers of the wall, but not past the wall OR extension through the serosa into the mesentery. Read the pathology report carefully.
- Mucinous; mucoid; mucous; colloid
- Neuroendocrine carcinoma; NEC
- Polyp; adenoma; polyp NOS; adenomatous polyp
  Note 1: The term “polyp” means projecting from a surface.
  Note 2: There are many kinds of polyps. Most common are adenomas, which are part of the adenoma-cancer sequence.
  Note 3: Other types of polyps include hyperplastic, juvenile, Peutz-Jeghers and serrated adenoma/polyp.
- Serosa; visceral peritoneum
- Simultaneous; existing at the same time; concurrent; prior to first course treatment
- Site; topography
- Tumor; mass; tumor mass; lesion; neoplasm
  - The terms tumor, mass, tumor mass, lesion, and neoplasm are not used in a standard manner in clinical diagnoses, scans, or consults. Disregard the terms unless there is a physician’s statement that the term is malignant/cancer
  - These terms are used ONLY to determine multiple primaries
  - Do not use these terms for casefinding or determining reportability
Terms that are NOT Equivalent or Equal

This is a list of terms that are not equivalent. There are no casefinding implications.

- **Component** is not equivalent to subtype/variant
  *Note:* Component is only coded when the pathologist specifies the component as a second carcinoma
- The words “exophytic” and “polypoid” are not synonymous with either an adenoma or an adenomatous polyp. The terms “exophytic” and “polypoid” refer to anything projecting from the bowel mucosa into the lumen. The lesion may be benign, malignant, or inflammatory
- Polypoid adenocarcinoma is not equivalent to adenocarcinoma in a polyp

Table 1: Specific Histologies, NOS, and Subtypes/Variants

Use Table 1 as directed by the Histology Rules to assign the more common histology codes for malignancies found in the colon, rectosigmoid and rectum.

**Note 1:** Rare histologies may not be listed in the table. When a histology term is not found, reference ICD-O and all updates.

**Note 2:** Submit a question to Ask a SEER Registrar when the histology code is not found in Table 1, ICD-O or all updates.

**Note 3:** Behavior codes are listed when the term has only one possible behavior (either a /2 or /3). For histologies which may be either /2 or /3, a behavior code is not listed. Code behavior from pathology.

**Note 4:** Typical colon, rectal, and appendiceal carcinomas may exhibit comedo features or differentiation. Comedo describes the tumor appearance rather than a true histologic subtype/variant of adenocarcinoma. Code to adenocarcinoma 8140.

**Column 1** contains specific and NOS histology terms.
- **Specific** histology terms do not have subtypes/variants
- **NOS** histology terms do have subtypes/variants.

**Column 2** contains synonyms for the specific or NOS term. Synonyms have the same histology code as the specific or NOS term.

**Column 3** contains subtypes/variants of the NOS histology. Subtypes/variants do not have the same histology code as the NOS term.
### Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions

C180-C189, C199, C209

(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific and NOS Term and Code</th>
<th>Synonyms for Specific or NOS Term</th>
<th>Subtypes/Variants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adenocarcinoma 8140</td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma, NOS</td>
<td>Undifferentiated adenocarcinoma/carcinoma 8020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma/carcinoma in a polyp NOS (now coded to 8140)</td>
<td>Adenoid cystic carcinoma 8200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma/carcinoma in adenomatous polyp (now coded to 8140)</td>
<td>Cribriform comedo-type carcinoma/adenoacarcinoma, cribriform comedo-type 8201*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma/carcinoma in polypoid adenoma (now coded to 8140)</td>
<td>Diffuse adenocarcinoma/carcinoma 8145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma/carcinoma in serrated adenoma (now coded to 8140)</td>
<td>Linitis plastica 8142/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma and mucinous carcinoma, mucinous documented as less than 50% of tumor OR percentage of mucinous unknown/not documented</td>
<td>Medullary adenocarcinoma/carcinoma 8510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma and signet ring cell carcinoma, percentage of signet ring cell carcinoma documented as less than 50% of tumor OR percentage of signet ring cell carcinoma unknown/not documented</td>
<td>Micropapillary carcinoma 8265*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma/carcinoma in tubular polyp (now coded to 8140)</td>
<td>Mucinous/colloid adenocarcinoma/carcinoma 8480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma/carcinoma in tubulovillous polyp (now coded to 8140)</td>
<td>Mucoepidermoid carcinoma 8430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma/carcinoma in villous adenoma (now coded to 8140)</td>
<td>Serrated adenocarcinoma 8213*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adenocarcinoma in any type of polyp Adenocarcinoma, intestinal type Adenocarcinoma and cribriform carcinoma percentage of cribriform documented as less than 50% of tumor OR percentage of cribriform carcinoma unknown/not documented</td>
<td>Signet ring cell/poorly cohesive adenocarcinoma/carcinoma 8490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Superficial spreading adenocarcinoma 8143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tubulopapillary carcinoma 8263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 1:** See [Histology Rules](#) for instructions on coding adenocarcinoma subtypes/variants arising in a polyp.

**Note 2:** When the term **intestinal adenocarcinoma** is used to describe a colon primary, it simply means the **appearance** is similar to adenocarcinoma seen in the stomach and is coded to adenocarcinoma NOS **8140**.
## Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions

C180-C189, C199, C209

(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific and NOS Term and Code</th>
<th>Synonyms for Specific or NOS Term</th>
<th>Subtypes/Variants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Adenocarcinoma with mucinous and signet ring cell features  
Adenoma (now coded to 8140)  
Comedocarcinoma  
Intestinal adenocarcinoma | | |
| **Adenosquamous carcinoma 8560** | Mixed adenocarcinoma NOS and epidermoid carcinoma  
Mixed adenocarcinoma NOS and squamous cell carcinoma  
*Note:* This code **cannot be used** for adenocarcinoma subtypes/variants with squamous cell/epidermoid carcinoma | |
| **Combined small cell carcinoma 8045** | Small cell carcinoma mixed with  
- Adenocarcinoma **OR**  
- Neuroendocrine carcinoma **OR**  
- Any other type of carcinoma/adenocarcinoma | |
| Gastrinoma 8153 | | |
| Gastrointestinal stromal tumor classified as malignant 8936/3 | Gastrointestinal stromal tumor, malignant  
GIST, malignant | |
| **Mixed adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma 8244** | Adenocarcinoma mixed with high-grade large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma  
Adenocarcinoma mixed with high-grade small cell neuroendocrine carcinoma  
Any carcinoid mixed with neuroendocrine carcinoma  
MANEC | Goblet cell carcinoid **8243** |
| **Neuroendocrine carcinoma 8246** | NEC | Large cell NEC **8013**  
Small cell NEC **8041** |

Jump to [Multiple Primary Rules](#)  
Jump to [Histology Coding Rules](#)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific and NOS Term and Code</th>
<th>Synonyms for Specific or NOS Term</th>
<th>Subtypes/Variants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Neuroendocrine tumor Grade 1 (G1) 8240 | Carcinoid NOS  
Low-grade neuroendocrine tumor  
NET Grade 1 (G1)  
Well differentiated neuroendocrine tumor | EC cell serotonin-producing  
NET/enterochromaffin cell carcinoid 8241  
Neuroendocrine tumor (NET) Grade 2 (G2) 8249  
Somatostatin-producing NET 8156 |
| Sarcoma NOS 8800/3 | | Angiosarcoma/hemangiosarcoma 9120/3  
Leiomyosarcoma 8890/3 |
| Spindle cell carcinoma 8032 | | |
| Squamous cell carcinoma 8070 | Epidermoid carcinoma NOS  
Squamous cell carcinoma NOS  
Squamous cell epithelioma | |

*These new codes were approved by the IARC/WHO Committee for ICD-O*
Table 2: Histologies Not Reportable for Colon, Rectosigmoid and Rectum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific or NOS Term and Code</th>
<th>Synonyms</th>
<th>Subtype/Variant of NOS with Histology Code</th>
<th>Reason not reportable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adenoma 8140/0</td>
<td>Adenoma NOS</td>
<td>tubular adenoma 8211/0</td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note: No malignancy in polyps</td>
<td>tubulovillous adenoma 8263/0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>villous adenoma 8261/0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowden-associated polyp No code</td>
<td>Cowden disease</td>
<td>Cowden syndrome</td>
<td>Non-malignant /no code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note: No malignancy in polyps</td>
<td>Multiple hamartoma syndrome</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysplasia, high grade 8148/2</td>
<td>High-grade dysplasia</td>
<td>NOT REPORTABLE in US: Currently the United States is not collecting dysplasia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note: Colorectal primaries only (C180-C189, C199 and C209)</td>
<td>intraepithelial neoplasia, high grade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note: Canada collects these neoplasms as adenocarcinoma in situ in a polyp</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysplasia, low grade 8148/0*</td>
<td>Intraepithelial neoplasia, low grade</td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note: Colorectal primaries only (C180-C189, C199 and C209)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jump to [Multiple Primary Rules](#)
Jump to [Histology Coding Rules](#)
### Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions
**C180-C189, C199, C209**
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific or NOS Term and Code</th>
<th>Synonyms</th>
<th>Subtype/Variant of NOS with Histology Code</th>
<th>Reason not reportable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) No code  | Adenomatous polyposis coli  
Bussey-Garder polyposis  
Familial multiple polyposis  
Familiar polyposis coli  
Familial polyposis of the colon and rectum  
Familial polyposis of the gastrointestinal tract  
Gardner syndrome  
Multiple adenomatosis                                                                 |                                           | Reportable only when there is cancer in a polyp |
| Gangliocytic paraganglioma 8683/0            |                                                                                                                                           |                                           | Non-malignant                          |
| Gastrointestinal stromal tumor 8936/1        | GIST NOS  
GIST, behavior not specified                                                                                                           |                                           |                                        |
| Hyperplastic polyp No code                   |                                                                                                                                           |                                           | Non-malignant/no code                  |
| Inflammatory or pseudopolyp No code          |                                                                                                                                           |                                           | Reactive lesions; mimic carcinoma      |
| Juvenile polyp No code                       | Combined juvenile polyposis/hereditary  
Hemorrhagic telangiectasis (Osler-Weber-Rendu) syndrome  
Familial juvenile polyposis  
Generalized juvenile polyposis  
Hamartomatous gastrointestinal polyposis;  
Juvenile polyposis  
Juvenile polyposis coli  
Juvenile polyposis of infancy                                                                 |                                           | Non-malignant / no code                |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific or NOS Term and Code</th>
<th>Synonyms</th>
<th>Subtype/Variant of NOS with Histology Code</th>
<th>Reason not reportable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L cell glucagon-like peptide and PP/PYY-producing NETs 8152/1*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leiomyoma 8890/0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lipoma 8850/0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Benign accumulation of fat cells that are circumscribed or encapsulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-grade appendiceal mucinous neoplasm 8480/1</td>
<td>LAMN</td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> May have low-grade, non-invasive pseudomyxoma peritonei, mucinous implants in peritoneum or beyond</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynch syndrome No code</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant/no code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mesenchymal tumors</td>
<td>Granular cell tumor 9580/0</td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peutz-Jeghers polyp No code</td>
<td>Intraepithelial neoplasia in Peutz-Jeghers polyp(s) Periorificial lentiginosis Peutz-Jeghers polyposis Polyps-and-spots syndrome</td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant/no code</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions

*C180-C189, C199, C209*

*Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific or NOS Term and Code</th>
<th>Synonyms</th>
<th>Subtype/Variant of NOS with Histology Code</th>
<th>Reason not reportable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pseudomyxoma peritonei (when pathologist does not designate as malignant OR implants are benign) 8480/1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant. When both implants and site of origin are benign, the case is not reportable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessile serrated adenoma/polyp 8213/0*</td>
<td>Serrated polyposis Sporadic serrated polyps Traditional serrated adenoma</td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Note: No malignancy in polyps</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tubular carcinoid, no malignancy 8245/1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Non-malignant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These new codes were approved by the IARC/WHO Committee for ICD-O*
Illustrations

Colonoscopy measurements which may be used to determine primary site when no site is designated

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Jump to Multiple Primary Rules
Jump to Histology Coding Rules
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)
Polyps and de novo or “frank” adenocarcinoma in colon

Source: http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/44/Colon_cancer.jpg
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Large intestine; snare instrument to remove polyps
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Colon Surgery: Hemicolecotomy

The primary treatment for colon cancer is surgery. Part of the large bowel and surrounding lymph nodes are removed. The remaining bowel is then joined together (anastomosis).

http://www.cedars-sinai.edu/Patients/Programs-and-Services/Colorectal-Cancer-Center/Services-and-Treatments/Rectal-Cancer.aspx
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Equivalent Terms and Definitions
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Rectal Surgery
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Multiple Primary Rules  
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

**Note 1:** These rules are NOT used for tumor(s) described as metastases.

**Note 2:** 2007 MPH Rules and 2018 Solid Tumor Rules are used based on date of diagnosis.
- Tumors diagnosed 01/01/2007 through 12/31/2017: Use 2007 MPH Rules
- Tumors diagnosed 01/01/2018 and later: Use 2018 Solid Tumor Rules
- The original tumor diagnosed before 1/1/2018 and a subsequent tumor diagnosed 1/1/2018 or later in the same primary site: Use the 2018 Solid Tumor Rules

### Unknown if Single or Multiple Tumors

**Note:** Collision tumors are counted as two individual tumors for the purpose of determining multiple primaries. Collision tumors were originally two separate tumors that arose in close proximity. As the tumors increased in size, they merged or overlapped each other. Use the Multiple Tumors module.

**Rule M1**
Abstract a single primary when it is not possible to determine if there is a single tumor or multiple tumors.

**Note 1:** Use this rule only after all information sources have been exhausted

**Note 2:** Examples of cases with minimal information include
- Death certificate only (DCO)
- Cases for which information is limited to pathology report only
  - Outpatient biopsy with no follow-up information available
  - Multiple pathology reports which do not specify whether a single tumor or multiple tumors have been biopsied and/or resected

This is the end of instructions for Unknown if Single or Multiple Tumors

i Prepare one abstract. Use the histology rules to assign the appropriate histology code.
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Multiple Primary Rules  
C180-C189, C199, C209  
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

### Single Tumor

**Note:** Collision tumors are counted as **two individual** tumors for the purpose of determining multiple primaries. Collision tumors were originally two separate tumors that arose in close proximity. As the tumors increased in size, they merged or overlapped each other. Use the Multiple Tumors module.

**Rule M2** Abstract a **single primary**\(^1\) when there is a **single tumor**.

*Note 1:* A single tumor is always a single primary.  
*Note 2:* The tumor may overlap onto or extend into adjacent/contiguous site or subsites.  
*Note 3:* The tumor may have in situ and invasive components.  
*Note 4:* The tumor may have two or more histologic components.

This is the end of instructions for Single Tumor

\(^1\) **Prepare one abstract.** Use the [histology rules](#) to assign the appropriate histology code.

### Multiple Tumors

**Note 1:** Multiple tumors may be a single primary or multiple primaries.  
**Note 2:** Collision tumors are counted as **two individual** tumors for the purpose of determining multiple primaries. Collision tumors were originally two separate tumors that arose in close proximity. As the tumors increased in size, they merged or overlapped each other. Use the Multiple Tumors module.

**Rule M3** Abstract a **single primary\(^1\)** when

- The diagnosis is *adenomatous polyposis coli* (familial polyposis/FAP) **OR**
- There is no diagnosis of FAP **BUT**
  - Greater than 100 polyps are documented **AND**
  - Adenocarcinoma in situ /2 or invasive /3 is present in at least one polyp

---

Jump to [Equivalent Terms and Definitions](#)  
Jump to [Histology Coding Rules](#)
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Multiple Primary Rules
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

**Note 1:** A diagnosis of adenomatous polyposis coli (familial polyposis/FAP) is made when the patient has greater than 100 adenomatous polyps. Polyps with adenocarcinoma and benign polyps will be present. Because there are many polyps, the pathologist does not examine every polyp.

**Note 2:** In situ /2 and malignant /3 adenocarcinoma in polyps, malignancies with remnants of a polyp, as well as de novo (previously called frank) malignancies may be present in multiple segments of the colon or in both the colon and rectum. Polyposis may be present in other GI sites such as stomach (a de novo does not have to be present; all adenocarcinoma may be in polyps).

**Note 3:** FAP is a genetic disease. The characteristics of FAP are numerous precancerous polyps in the colon and rectum when the patient reaches puberty. If not treated, the polyps typically become malignant. Patients often have total colectomies.

**Note 4:** Multiple polyps in the colorectum is not equivalent to FAP.

**Note 5:** Code primary site as follows:
- Present in more than one segment of colon: C189 colon, NOS
- Present in colon and rectosigmoid OR colon and rectum: C199 rectosigmoid junction
- Present in colon and small intestine: C260 intestinal tract, NOS (there is no code for large and small bowel)

**Note:** In addition to the colon and small intestine, FAP may also be present in the:
- Stomach AND/OR
- Rectosigmoid AND/OR
- Rectum

**Example:** The patient has a diagnosis of FAP. The operative report and physician’s documentation say that polyps with adenocarcinoma were present in specimens removed from the ascending colon and the sigmoid colon. The ascending and sigmoid colon are part of the large bowel. Code the primary site C189 colon NOS.

**Rule M4** Abstract multiple primaries when there are separate, non-contiguous tumors in sites with ICD-O site codes that differ at the second CXxx and/or third CxXx character.

**Note 1:** Definition of separate/non-contiguous tumors: at least two malignancies which do not overlap/merge.

**Note 2:** Differences at either the second or third characters are different primary sites/multiple primaries.

**Example 1:** Breast C50x and colon C18x

**Example 2:** Colon C18x and rectum C209 (This does not include FAP- see earlier rules)

**Note:** This rule does not apply to a single overlapping malignancy of colon and rectum.
Rule M5 Abstract multiple primaries when separate/non-contiguous tumors are two or more different subtypes/variants in Column 3, Table 1 in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions. Timing is irrelevant. 
*Note:* The tumors may be subtypes/variants of the same or different NOS histologies.
- **Same NOS:** Medullary carcinoma NOS 8510/3 and tubulopapillary adenocarcinoma 8263/3 are both subtypes of adenocarcinoma NOS 8140/3 but are distinctly different histologies. Abstract multiple primaries.
- **Different NOS:** Goblet cell carcinoid 8243/3 is a subtype of mixed adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma 8244/3; somatostatin-producing NET 8156/3 is a subtype of neuroendocrine tumor Grade 1 (G1) 8240/3. They are distinctly different histologies. Abstract multiple primaries.

Rule M6 Abstract multiple primaries when separate/non-contiguous tumors are on different rows in Table 1 in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions. Timing is irrelevant. 
*Note:* Each row in the table is a distinctly different histology.

Rule M7 Abstract multiple primaries when a subsequent tumor arises at the anastomotic site AND:
- One tumor is a NOS and the other is a subtype/variant of that NOS OR
- The subsequent tumor occurs greater than 24 months after original tumor resection OR
- The subsequent tumor arises in the mucosa

*Note:* Bullet three does not apply to GIST. GISTs only start in the wall; never in the mucosa.

*Example:* (For bullet 1: NOS and subtype/variant) The original tumor was adenocarcinoma NOS 8140. The patient had a hemicolectomy. There was a recurrence at the anastomotic site diagnosed exactly as mucinous adenocarcinoma 8480. Mucinous adenocarcinoma is a subtype/variant of the NOS adenocarcinoma, but they are two different histologies. Code two primaries, one for the original adenocarcinoma NOS and another for the subsequent anastomotic site mucinous adenocarcinoma.

*Note 1:* There may or may not be physician documentation of anastomotic recurrence. Follow the rules.

*Note 2:* When the original tumor was diagnosed prior to 1/1/2018 and was coded to adenocarcinoma in a polyp, and the anastomotic site tumor is adenocarcinoma per 2018 rules, the tumors are the same histology. ICD-O codes differ because of changes in histology coding rules. Continue through the rules.

*Note 3:* The tumor may or may not invade into the colon wall or adjacent tissue.

*Note 4:* These rules are hierarchical. Only use this rule when previous rules do not apply.
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Multiple Primary Rules  
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(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

**Rule M8**  
Abstract a single primary\(^1\) when a subsequent tumor arises at the anastomotic site AND:  
• The subsequent tumor occurs less than or equal to 24 months after original tumor resection OR  
• The tumor arises in colon/rectal wall and/or surrounding tissue; there is no involvement of the mucosa OR  
• The pathologist or clinician documents an anastomotic recurrence  

*Note 1:* The physician may stage the subsequent tumor because the depth of invasion determines the second course of treatment.  
*Note 2:* These tumors are a single primary/recurrence. Registrars that collect recurrence information should record the information in the recurrence fields.

**Rule M9**  
Abstract multiple primaries\(^2\) when there are separate, non-contiguous tumors in sites with ICD-O site codes that differ at the fourth characters C18\(X\).  

*Note:* Differences at the fourth character include different segments of the colon. Abstract a primary for each separate non-contiguous tumor in a different segment of the colon. This rule is not used for colon NOS C189. C189 is rarely used other than DCO.  

*Example:* The patient has adenocarcinoma in situ in a sigmoid polyp and mucinous adenocarcinoma in a polyp in the descending colon, the site code differs at the fourth character (sigmoid C18\(7\) and descending C18\(6\)). Code two primaries, one for the sigmoid and another for the descending colon.

**Rule M10**  
Abstract multiple primaries\(^2\) when the patient has a subsequent tumor after being clinically disease-free for greater than one year after the original diagnosis or last recurrence.  

*Note 1:* Clinically disease-free means that there was no evidence of recurrence on follow-up.  
• Colonoscopies are NED  
• Scans are NED  

*Note 2:* When there is a recurrence less than or equal to one year of diagnosis, the “clock” starts over. The time interval is calculated from the date of last recurrence. In other words, the patient must have been disease-free for greater than one year from the date of the last recurrence.  

*Note 3:* When the first course of treatment was a polypectomy only, this rule means there were no recurrences for greater than one year.  

*Note 4:* When the first course of treatment was a colectomy or A&P resection, there were no anastomotic recurrences for greater than one year.  

*Note 5:* When it is unknown/not documented whether the patient had a recurrence, default to date of diagnosis to compute the time interval.  

*Note 6:* The physician may state this is a recurrence, meaning the patient had a previous colon tumor and now has another colon tumor. Follow the rules; do not attempt to interpret the physician’s statement.
Rule M11  Abstract a **single primary**¹ when separate/non-contiguous tumors are on the same row in Table 1 in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions. Timing is irrelevant.

*Note 1:* The tumors **must be the same behavior.** When one tumor is in situ and the other invasive, continue through the rules.

*Note 2:* The same row means the tumors are:
- The same histology (same four-digit ICD-O code) OR
- One is the preferred term (column 1) and the other is a synonym for the preferred term (column 2) OR
- A NOS (column 1/column 2) and the other is a subtype/variant of that NOS (column 3)

*Note 3:* The tumors may be de novo (formerly called frank) and carcinoma in a polyp.

*Note 4:* The tumors may be adenocarcinoma in multiple polyps 8221.

Rule M12  Abstract a **single primary**¹ (the invasive) when an in situ tumor is diagnosed after an invasive tumor.

*Note 1:* The rules are **hierarchical.** Only use this rule when none of the previous rules apply.

*Note 2:* The tumors **may** be a NOS and a subtype/variant of that NOS. See Table 1 in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions for listings of NOS and subtype/variants.

*Note 3:* The in situ is recorded as a recurrence for those registrars who collect recurrence data.

Rule M13  Abstract a **single primary**¹ (the invasive) when an invasive tumor is diagnosed less than or equal to 60 days after an in situ tumor.

*Note 1:* The rules are hierarchical. Only use this rule when previous rules do not apply.

*Note 2:* Change behavior code on original abstract from /2 to /3. **Do not change date of diagnosis.**

*Note 3:* If the case has already been submitted to the central registry, report all changes.

*Note 4:* The physician may stage both tumors because staging and determining multiple primaries are done for different reasons. Staging determines which treatment would be most effective. Determining multiple primaries is done to stabilize the data for the study of epidemiology (long-term studies done on incidence, mortality, and causation of a disease with the goal of reducing or eliminating that disease).

*Note 5:* See the COC and SEER manuals for instructions on coding data items such as Date of Diagnosis, Accession Year and Sequence Number.

Rule M14  Abstract **multiple primaries**² when an invasive tumor occurs more than 60 days after an in situ tumor.

*Note 1:* Abstract both the invasive and in situ tumors.

*Note 2:* Abstract as multiple primaries even if physician states the invasive tumor is disease recurrence or progression. This rule is based on long-term epidemiologic studies of recurrence intervals. The specialty medical experts (SMEs) reviewed and approved these rules. Many of the SMEs were authors, co-authors, or editors of the AJCC Staging Manual.


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(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Rule M15  
Abstract a single primary\(^1\) when tumors do not meet any of the above criteria.  
\textit{Note:} Use caution when applying this default rule. Please confirm that you have not overlooked an applicable rule.

This is the end of instructions for Multiple Tumors.

\(^1\)Prepare one abstract. Use the histology rules to assign the appropriate histology code. For registries collecting recurrence data: When a subsequent tumor is “single primary,” record that subsequent tumor as a recurrence.

\(^{ii}\) Prepare two or more abstracts. Use the histology rules to assign the appropriate histology code to each case abstracted.
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*Note 1:* Ignore the terms “cribriform” and “comedo” when they are used to describe the histology or are mentioned in the microscopic portion of the path report.

*Note 2:* Collision tumors are counted as two individual tumors for the purpose of determining multiple primaries. Collision tumors were originally two separate tumors that arose in close proximity. As the tumors increased in size, they merged or overlapped each other. Use the Multiple Tumors module.

### Priority Order for Using Documentation to Identify Histology

The priority list is used for **single primaries** (including multiple tumors abstracted as a single primary).

This is a hierarchical list of source documentation.
Code the **most specific** pathology/tissue from either **resection** or **biopsy**.

*Note:* The term “most specific” usually refers to a subtype/variant.

1. **Biomarkers**
2. **Tissue or pathology report** (in priority order)
   A. Addendum(s) and/or comment(s)
   B. Final diagnosis
   C. CAP protocol
   
   *Note 1:* Addendums and comments on the pathology report are given a high priority because they often contain information about molecular testing, genetic testing, and/or special stains which give a more specific diagnosis.

   *Note 2:* The pathologist’s diagnosis from the pathology report is always reliable, so the final diagnosis is the second priority.

   *Note 3:* The CAP protocol is a checklist which:
   - Provides guidelines for collecting the essential data elements for complete reporting of malignant tumors and optimal patient care
   - Allows physicians to check multiple histologies
   
   *Note:* The CAP protocol must be documented in one location. Most frequently, in the:
   - The pathology final diagnosis
   - Addendum to the path report

3. Tissue/pathology from a **metastatic** site

   *Note 1:* Code the behavior /3.
Note 2: The tissue from a metastatic site often shows variations from the primary tumor. When it is the only tissue available, it is more accurate than a scan.

4. Scan: The following list is in priority order.
   A. CT
   B. PET
   C. MRI

5. Code the histology documented by the physician when none of the above are available. Use the documentation in the following priority order:
   A. Documentation from Tumor Board
   B. Documentation in the medical record that refers to original pathology, cytology, or scan(s)
   C. Physician’s reference to type of cancer (histology) in the medical record

Note 1: Code the specific histology when documented.

Note 2: Code the histology to 8000 (cancer/malignant neoplasm, NOS) or as stated by the physician when nothing more specific is documented.

6. Cytology (seldom used for colon, rectosigmoid and rectum)

Coding Multiple Histologies

1. Code histology when the:
   A. Exact term is documented OR
   B. Histology is described as
      - Subtype
      - Type
      - Variant

2. Do not code the histology when:
   A. The following modifiers are used as a descriptor:
      - Architecture
      - Differentiation

   Note: Only code differentiation when there is a specific code for the NOS with differentiation in Table 1 in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions, ICD-O and all updates.
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- Features (of)/with features of
  Note: Only code features when there is a specific code for the NOS with features in Table 1 in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions, ICD-O and all updates.
- Foci; focus, focal
- Major/majority of
  Note: Major/majority describes the greater amount of tumor.
- Pattern(s)
- Predominantly
  Note: Predominantly describes the greater amount of tumor.

Example 1: Adenocarcinoma with papillary features is coded 8140/3 (features is ignored).
Example 2: Adenocarcinoma with neuroendocrine differentiation is coded 8574/3 (there is a specific code for adenocarcinoma with neuroendocrine differentiation).

B. The following ambiguous terminology is used as a modifier:
- Apparently
- Appears
- Comparable with
- Compatible with
- Consistent with
- Favor(s)
- Malignant appearing
- Most likely
- Presumed
- Probable
- Suspect(ed)
- Suspicious (for)
- Typical (of)

Note 1: See SEER Program Manual and COC Manual. Ambiguous terminology is used to determine reportability.
Note 2: Histology described by ambiguous terminology is coded ONLY when a case is accessioned based on ambiguous terminology and no other histology information is available/documentd.
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Histology Rules  
C180-C189, C199, C209  
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Single Tumor

**Rule H1**  
Code adenocarcinoma with neuroendocrine differentiation **8574** when the final diagnosis is **exactly** “adenocarcinoma with neuroendocrine differentiation”.  
*Note: Do not* use this code when:  
- The diagnosis is any subtype/variant of adenocarcinoma with neuroendocrine differentiation  
- Any modifier other than differentiation is used, i.e. adenocarcinoma with neuroendocrine features

**Rule H2**  
Code the **specific histology** and **ignore the polyp** when a carcinoma **originates** in a polyp.  
*Note 1:* This is a **change** from the 2007 MPH rules which instructed registrars to use the codes for malignancies in a polyp, such as adenocarcinoma in a polyp **8210**.  
*Note 2:* Sufficient data has been collected to:  
- Determine the frequency with which carcinomas arise within polyps  
- Establish patient care guidelines for individuals with colon polyps  
*Example:* Colonoscopy with polypectomy finds mucinous adenocarcinoma in the polyp. Code mucinous adenocarcinoma **8480**.

**Rule H3**  
Code combined small cell carcinoma **8045** when the final diagnosis is **small cell** carcinoma **AND any other carcinoma**.  
*Examples:*  
- Small cell carcinoma **8041** and adenocarcinoma **8140**  
- Small cell carcinoma **8041** and neuroendocrine carcinoma **8246**

**Rule H4**  
Code **mixed mucinous and signet ring cell** as follows:  
- Adenocarcinoma with mucinous and signet ring features – code adenocarcinoma **8140**  
- Mucinous carcinoma and signet ring cell carcinoma:  
  - Mucinous carcinoma documented as **greater than 50%** – code mucinous carcinoma **8480**  
  - Signet ring cell carcinoma documented as **greater than 50%** – code signet ring cell carcinoma **8490**  
  - Percentage of mucinous carcinoma and signet ring cell carcinoma **unknown/not designated** - code adenocarcinoma mixed subtypes **8255**  

Jump to [Equivalent Terms and Definitions](#)  
Jump to [Multiple Primary Rules](#)
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Histology Rules
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(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Rule H5  Code adenocarcinoma NOS 8140 when the final diagnosis is:
- Two histologies:
  - Adenocarcinoma and mucinous carcinoma
    - Percentage of mucinous unknown/not documented
    - Mucinous documented as less than 50% of tumor
  - Adenocarcinoma and signet ring cell carcinoma
    - Percentage of signet ring unknown/not documented
    - Signet ring cell documented as less than 50% of tumor
- Adenocarcinoma in a polyp OR
  Note 1: This is a change from 2007 MPH rules.
  Note 2: Sufficient data has been collected to determine the frequency with which carcinomas arise within polyps as well as establish patient care guidelines for individuals with colon polyps.
- Exactly adenocarcinoma OR
- Intestinal type adenocarcinoma OR adenocarcinoma intestinal type (no modifiers or additional histologic terms).
  Note 1: Code 8140 adenocarcinoma NOS even if pathology says intestinal type adenocarcinoma.
  Note 2: Do not use code 8144 adenocarcinoma intestinal type in colorectal primaries. Intestinal type adenocarcinoma 8144 is used for tumors which occur in the stomach, head and neck, and specific GYN sites. It is called intestinal because it resembles carcinoma which occurs in the colon, rectosigmoid or rectum.
  Note 3: When a diagnosis of intestinal type adenocarcinoma is further described by a specific term (such as mucinous intestinal type adenocarcinoma or signet ring cell intestinal type adenocarcinoma), it would be treated as an adenocarcinoma with a subtype/variant.

Rule H6  Code invasive mucinous adenocarcinoma 8480 when the diagnosis is any of the following:
- Exactly “mucinous adenocarcinoma” (no modifiers)
- High-grade pseudomyxoma peritonei
- Invasive pseudomyxoma peritonei
- Malignant pseudomyxoma peritonei
  Note 1: Be very careful when determining primary site; almost all pseudomyxoma peritonei originate in the appendix C181. However, it can be metastatic disease from sites such as bowel, ovary, or bladder. Code the primary site as designated by a physician. When the primary site is not designated, code unknown primary C809 and the histology as mucinous carcinoma 8480.
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**Note 2:** Report the appendiceal mucinous neoplasm as malignant /3 using the ICD-O matrix principle and the SEER and COC Manuals when the pathology from the appendix is low-grade mucinous neoplasm (not reportable) AND  
- The pseudomyxoma peritonei are high-grade/invasive/malignant OR  
- Patient is treated for malignant pseudomyxoma peritonei

**Note 3:** The following are non-reportable:  
- Appendiceal neoplasm with low-grade pseudomyxoma peritonei AND no treatment  
- No designation of high- or low-grade for the appendiceal neoplasm AND no treatment for the pseudomyxoma peritonei

**Rule H7** Code the histology when only one histology is present.  
**Note 1:** Use Table 1 to code histology. New codes, terms, and synonyms are included in Table 1 and coding errors may occur if the table is not used.  
**Note 2:** Use the ICD-O and all updates when the histology is not listed in Table 1.  
**Note 3:** Submit a question to Ask a SEER Registrar when the histology code is not found in Table 1, ICD-O or all updates.

**Rule H8** Code the invasive histology when in situ and invasive histologies are present in the same tumor.

**Rule H9** Code the subtype/variant when there is a NOS and a single subtype/variant of that NOS such as the following:  
- Adenocarcinoma 8140 and a subtype/variant of adenocarcinoma  
- Mixed adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma 8244 and a subtype/variant of mixed adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma  
- Neuroendocrine carcinoma 8246 and a subtype/variant of neuroendocrine carcinoma  
- Neuroendocrine tumor Grade 1 (G1) 8240 and a subtype/variant of neuroendocrine tumor Grade 1 (G1)  
- Sarcoma 8800 and a subtype/variant of sarcoma  

**Note 1:** See Table 1 in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions to find NOS and subtypes/variants.  
**Note 2:** Only code subtypes/variant when pathology gives an exact diagnosis. Do not code the subtype/variant when modified by terms such as differentiation, features of, etc., unless there is a specific code for the histology term with the modifier.

**This is the end of instructions for Single Tumor.**

Code the histology using the rule that fits the case.
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Histology Rules
C180-C189, C199, C209
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Multiple Tumors Abstracted as a Single Primary

Note: Multiple tumors must be a single primary to use this module. See the Multiple Primary Rules to determine whether these tumors are a single primary.

Rule H10  Code adenocarcinoma in familial adenomatous polyposis coli (FAP) 8220 when:
• Clinical history says the patient has familial polyposis AND
  o The final diagnosis on the pathology report from resection is adenocarcinoma in FAP OR
  o There are greater than 100 polyps identified in the resected specimen
Note 1: Use this rule only when there are multiple polyps. Do not use for a single polyp (adenoma) or for a de novo (frank) malignancy and a malignancy in a single polyp.
Note 2: Use this rule ONLY for adenocarcinoma in FAP.
Note 3: The disease process, treatment, and prognosis for FAP is not as favorable as a single polyp with adenocarcinoma.

Rule H11  Code adenocarcinoma in multiple adenomatous polyps 8221 when FAP is not mentioned AND
• There are at least 2 polyps with adenocarcinoma /2 or /3 AND
  o Less than or equal to 100 polyps are identified OR
  o The exact number of polyps is unknown/not documented
Note 1: Do not use this code for a malignancy in a single polyp (adenoma) or for a de novo (frank) malignancy.
Note 2: Use this rule ONLY for adenocarcinoma NOS in multiple polyps.

Rule H12  Code the histology of the invasive tumor when there are in situ /2 and invasive /3 tumors.
• One tumor is in situ and the other is invasive
• All tumors are a mixture of in situ and invasive histology

Rule H13  Code the histology when only one histology is present in all tumors.
Note 1: Use Table 1 to code histology. New codes, terms, and synonyms are included in Table 1 and coding errors may occur if the table is not used.
Note 2: When the histology is not listed in Table 1, use the ICD-O and all updates.
Note 3: Submit a question to Ask a SEER Registrar when the histology code is not found in Table 1, ICD-O or all updates.
Colon, Rectosigmoid, and Rectum Histology Rules  
C180-C189, C199, C209  
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-M9992 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

**Rule H14**  
Code the **subtype/variant** when the diagnosis is a NOS and a **single subtype/variant** of that NOS such as the following:
- Adenocarcinoma 8140 and a subtype/variant of adenocarcinoma
- Mixed adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma 8244 and a subtype/variant of mixed adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma
- Neuroendocrine carcinoma 8246 and a subtype/variant of neuroendocrine carcinoma
- Neuroendocrine tumor Grade 1 (G1) 8240 and a subtype/variant of neuroendocrine tumor Grade 1 (G1)
- Sarcoma 8800 and a subtype/variant of sarcoma

**Note 1:** All tumors may be **mixed** histologies (NOS and a subtype/variant of that NOS) **OR** one tumor may be a NOS histology and the other tumor a **subtype/variant** of that NOS.

**Note 2:** See **Table 1** in the Equivalent Terms and Definitions to find NOS and subtypes/variants.

**Note 3:** Check the **Multiple Primary Rules** to confirm that the tumors are a single primary.

**Note 4:** Only code subtypes/variant when pathology gives an **exact diagnosis. Do not** code the subtype/variant when modified by terms such as **differentiation, features of, etc., unless** there is a specific code for the histology term with the modifier.

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This is the end of instructions for Multiple Tumors Abstracted as a Single Primary.

Code the histology using the rule that fits the case.