EXTENT OF DISEASE (EOD) 2018
GENERAL CODING INSTRUCTIONS
SEPTEMBER 2019

Effective with cases diagnosed January 1, 2018 and forward

Prepared by
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Publication History

EOD was first published as part of the 1976 SEER Code Manual. The first EOD-specific coding manual was the April 1977 EOD Manual, which included a 13-digit and 2-digit coding schemas. This manual was used for diagnosis years 1977-1982. In 1983, EOD was moved to a 4-digit coding schema that provided schemas for all sites.

The next major update was the EOD 1988 10-digit, which was revised in 1992 and 1998. EOD was discontinued as of diagnosis date 12/31/2003. Collaborative Stage was implemented for diagnosis dates 1/1/2004 through 12/31/2015. Although Collaborative Stage was discontinued for the cancer registry community at that time, some SEER registries continued to collect Collaborative Stage for 2016 and 2017. As of 12/31/2017, Collaborative Stage is discontinued for those SEER registries as well, and EOD 2018 is implemented for SEER registries starting 1/1/2018.

Comparisons between EOD 2018 and earlier versions of EOD or CS are evaluated on a schema by schema basis, as some schemas cannot be compared and those that can be compared usually have limitations.

EOD 2018 has three main data items: EOD Primary Tumor, EOD Regional Nodes and EOD Mets. EOD 2018 is fully compatible with the AJCC TNM staging manual, 8th edition. Thorough review of EOD 2018 was done by NCI SEER staff, SEER*Educate Staff from the SEER Seattle registry, and contractors.
# Table of Contents

Extent of Disease........................................................................................................................................5  
Definitions of Terms Used in this Manual.................................................................................................6  
Ambiguous Terminology...............................................................................................................................8  
EOD 2018 Schemas....................................................................................................................................10  
General Coding Instructions ......................................................................................................................15  
EOD DATA ITEMS....................................................................................................................................17  
  EOD PRIMARY TUMOR.............................................................................................................................18  
  EOD REGIONAL NODES..........................................................................................................................20  
  EOD Mets ............................................................................................................................................25  
  DERIVED EOD 2018 T ............................................................................................................................28  
  DERIVED EOD 2018 N ............................................................................................................................29  
  DERIVED EOD 2018 M ............................................................................................................................30  
  DERIVED EOD 2018 STAGE GROUP ..................................................................................................31  
  DERIVED SUMMARY STAGE 2018 .......................................................................................................32
Extent of Disease

Extent of Disease (EOD) 2018 is a new version of EOD with significant differences from previous versions. NCI SEER maintains a surveillance system for cancer identification for the following purposes:

- Supporting Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)-wide cancer control initiatives, including Healthy People 2020
- Permitting staging of the most comprehensive set of patients for all cancer sites
- Reporting and monitoring trends in cancer incidence and outcomes
- Supporting and promoting research for all types of cancer
- Enabling and ensuring ongoing continuity of staging trends over time reflecting the combination of clinical and pathologic information (since 1994)

The 2018 version of EOD applies to every site/histology combination, including lymphomas and leukemias.

EOD uses all information available in the medical record; in other words, it is a combination of the most precise clinical and pathological documentation of the extent of disease.

There are 3 main data items in EOD, each of which is discussed in detail.

1. EOD Primary Tumor
2. EOD Regional Nodes
3. EOD Mets

This manual is effective for all cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and after.

Send questions, suggestions and corrections to:

Ask a SEER Registrar
Choose subject: Extent of Disease (EOD)
Definitions of Terms Used in this Manual

Adjacent connective tissue
These are unnamed tissues that immediately surround an organ or structure containing a primary cancer. Use this category when a tumor has invaded past the outer border (capsule, serosa, or other edge) of the primary organ into the organ’s surrounding supportive structures but has not invaded into larger structures or adjacent organs. The structures considered in ICD-O-3 as connective tissue include the following: adipose tissue; aponeuroses; arteries; blood vessels; bursa; connective tissue, NOS; fascia; fatty tissue; fibrous tissue; ganglia; ligaments; lymphatic channels (not nodes); muscle; nerves (spinal, sympathetic and peripheral); skeletal muscle; subcutaneous tissue; synovia; tendons; tendon sheaths; veins, and vessels, NOS. In general, these tissues do not have specific names. These tissues form the framework of many organs, provide support to hold organs in place, bind tissues and organs together, and serve as storage sites for nutrients.

Adjacent organs/structures
Organs are anatomic structures with specific physiologic functions other than (or in addition to) support and storage. There are two types:

- Unnamed: Contiguous growth into an unnamed organ lying next to the primary is coded to ‘adjacent organs/structures.’
- Named: Connective tissues may be large enough to be given a specific name.
  - Examples include: Blood, cartilage and bone are sometimes considered connective tissues, but in this manual, they would be listed separately.
  - Contiguous growth from one organ into an adjacent named structure would be coded to ‘adjacent organs/structures.’ For example, the brachial artery has a name, as does the broad ligament and both are structures.

Circulating Tumor Cells (CTCs)
See Isolated Tumor Cells

Contiguous
Directly adjacent; continuously adjoining; without lapse or intervening space; used in reference to regionalized cancers and extent of disease.

Cortex (adjective: cortical)
The external or outer surface layer of an organ, as distinguished from the core, or medulla, of the organ. In some organs, such as the adrenal glands, the cortex has a different function than the medulla.

Discontinuous
Tumors that are not connected; tumors in more than one area with normal tissue between them; often a sign of metastatic disease.

Disseminated Tumor Cells (DTCs)
See Isolated Tumor Cells

Direct extension
A term used in staging to indicate contiguous growth of tumor from the primary into an adjacent organ or surrounding tissue.
Distant
Refers to cancer that has spread from the original (primary) tumor to distant organs or distant lymph nodes.

Isolated tumor cells (ITCS), Circulating tumor cells (CTCs), Disseminated tumor cells (DTCs)
Isolated tumor cells (ITC) are single tumor cells or small clusters of cells not more than 0.2 mm in greatest extent that can be detected by routine H and E stains or immunohistochemistry. An additional criterion has been proposed to include a cluster of fewer than 200 cells in a single histological cross-section. The same applies to cases with findings suggestive of tumor cells or their components by non-morphological techniques such as flow cytometry or DNA analysis.

ITCs do not typically show evidence of metastatic activity (e.g. proliferation or stromal reaction) or penetration of lymphatic sinus walls.

This definition also refers to circulating tumor cells (CTCs) and disseminated tumor cells (DTCs)

Localized
In medicine, describes disease that is limited to a certain part of the body. For example, localized cancer is usually found only in the tissue or organ where it began, and has not spread to nearby lymph nodes or to other parts of the body. Some localized cancers can be completely removed by surgery.

Medulla (adjective: medullary)
The medulla (central) portion of an organ, in contrast to the outer layer or cortex. It is sometimes called marrow. In some organs, such as bone, the medulla or marrow has a different physiologic role than the cortex.

Parenchyma
The parenchyma is the functional portion of an organ, in contrast to its framework or stroma. For example, the parenchyma of the kidney contains all the structures which filter and remove waste products from the blood. In general, malignancies tend to arise in the parenchyma of an organ.

Regional
In oncology, describes the body area right around a tumor.

Stroma
The stroma are the cells and tissues that support, store nutrients, and maintain viability within an organ. Stroma consists of connective tissue, vessels and nerves, and provides the framework of an organ. In general, spread of tumor to the stroma of an organ is still localized or confined to the organ of origin.
Ambiguous Terminology

Most of the time, registrars will find definitive statements of involvement; however, for those situations where involvement is described with non-definitive (ambiguous) terminology, use the guidelines below to interpret and determine the appropriate assignment of EOD Primary Tumor, EOD Regional Nodes or EOD Mets.

Determination of the cancer stage is both a subjective and objective assessment by the physician(s) of how far the cancer has spread. When it is not possible to determine the extent of involvement because terminology is ambiguous, look at the documentation that the physician used to make informed decisions on how the patient is being treated. For example, assign the EOD fields based on involvement when the patient was treated as though adjacent organs or nodes were involved.

Use the following lists to interpret the intent of the clinician ONLY when further documentation is not available and/or there is no specific statement of involvement in the medical record. The clinician’s definitions/descriptions and choice of therapy have priority over these lists because individual clinicians may use these terms differently.

**Note 1:** Terminology in the schema takes priority over this list. Some schemas interpret certain words as involvement; such as ‘encasing’ the carotid artery for a head and neck site or “abutment,” “encases,” or “encasement” for pancreas primaries.

**Note 2:** Use this list only for EOD 2018 or Summary Stage 2018.

**Note 3:** This is not the same list used for determining reportability as published in the SEER manual, Hematopoietic Manual or in Section 1 of the Standards for Oncology Registry Entry (STORE). This is not the same list of ambiguous terminology provided in the Solid Tumors Rules published and maintained by the SEER Program.
Use the following lists as a guide *when no other information is available.*

### Involved

- Adherent
- Apparent(ly)
- Appears to
- Comparable with
- Compatible with
- Consistent with
- Contiguous/continuous with
- Encroaching upon*
- Extension to, into, onto, out onto
- Features of
- Fixation to a structure other than primary**
- Fixed to another structure**
- Impending perforation of
- Impinging upon
- Impose/imposing on

### Not Involved

- Abuts
- Approaching
- Approximates
- Attached
- Cannot be excluded/ruled out
- Efface/effacing/effacement
- Encased/encasing
- Encompass(ed)
- Entrapped
- Equivocal

| * interpret as involvement whether the description is clinical or operative/pathologic |
| ** interpret as involvement of the other organ or tissue |
The EOD site-specific schemas are based on historical schemas, Summary Stage 2000 and the AJCC 8th Edition. Some of the AJCC chapters were divided to line up with historical Summary Stage chapters. See SEER*RSA for schema-specific coding guidelines, codes and code descriptions for EOD Primary Tumor, EOD Regional Nodes and EOD Mets.

**Note**: The individual schemas are not included in the EOD Manual.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EOD Schema</th>
<th>SS Chapter</th>
<th>AJCC – Chap. No</th>
<th>AJCC Chapter Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adnexa Uterine Other</td>
<td>Adnexa Uterine Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrenal Gland</td>
<td>Adrenal Gland (including NET)</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Adrenal Cortical Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ampulla Vater</td>
<td>Ampulla Vater (including NET)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Ampulla of Vater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anus</td>
<td>Anus</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Anus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix</td>
<td>Appendix (including NET)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Appendix-Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bile Ducts Distal</td>
<td>Extrahepatic Bile Ducts</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Distal Bile Duct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bile Ducts Intrahepatic</td>
<td>Intrahepatic Bile Ducts</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Intrahepatic Bile Duct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bile Ducts Perihilar</td>
<td>Extrahepatic Bile Ducts</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Perihilar Bile Duct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biliary Other</td>
<td>Biliary Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladder</td>
<td>Bladder</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Urinary Bladder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Appendicular Skeleton</td>
<td>Bone</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Bone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Pelvis</td>
<td>Bone</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Bone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bone Spine</td>
<td>Bone</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Bone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brain</td>
<td>Brain</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Brain and Spinal Cord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buccal Mucosa</td>
<td>Buccal Mucosa</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cervical Lymph Nodes and Unknown Primary Tumor of the Head and Neck</td>
<td>Cervical Lymph Nodes and Unknown Primary</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cervical Lymph Nodes and Known Primary Tumors of Head and Neck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cervix</td>
<td>Cervix</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Cervix Uteri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS Other</td>
<td>CNS Other</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Brain and Spinal Cord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colon and Rectum</td>
<td>Colon and Rectum (including NET)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Colon and Rectum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conjunctiva</td>
<td>Conjunctiva</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Conjunctival Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Adenosarcoma</td>
<td>Corpus Sarcoma (including Adenosarcoma)</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Corpus Uteri-Sarcoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Carcinoma</td>
<td>Corpus Carcinoma and Carcinosarcoma</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Corpus Uteri-Carcinoma and Carcinosarcoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Sarcoma</td>
<td>Corpus Sarcoma (including Adenosarcoma)</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>Corpus Uteri-Sarcoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOD Schema</td>
<td>SS Chapter</td>
<td>AJCC – Chap. No</td>
<td>AJCC Chapter Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutaneous Carcinoma of Head and Neck</td>
<td>Skin (except Eyelid)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cutaneous Carcinoma of the Head and Neck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cystic Duct</td>
<td>Extrahepatic Bile Ducts</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gallbladder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digestive Other</td>
<td>Digestive Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endocrine Other</td>
<td>Endocrine Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esophagus (including GE junction) Squamous</td>
<td>Esophagus (including GE junction)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Esophagus and Esophagogastric Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esophagus (including GE junction) (excluding Squamous)</td>
<td>Esophagus (including GE junction)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Esophagus and Esophagogastric Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye Other</td>
<td>Eye Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fallopian Tube</td>
<td>Fallopian Tube</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Ovary, Fallopian Tube, and Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor of Mouth</td>
<td>Floor of Mouth</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallbladder</td>
<td>Gallbladder</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gallbladder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genital Female Other</td>
<td>Genital Female Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genital Male Other</td>
<td>Genital Male Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIST</td>
<td>GIST</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gum</td>
<td>Gum</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart and Mediastinum</td>
<td>Heart, Mediastinum, Pleura</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Soft tissue sarcoma of the Abdomen and Thoracic Visceral Organs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HemeRetic</td>
<td>HemeRetic</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>Leukemia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypopharynx</td>
<td>Hypopharynx</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oropharynx (p16-) and Hypopharynx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ill-Defined Other</td>
<td>Ill-Defined Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intracranial Gland</td>
<td>Intracranial Gland</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Brain and Spinal Cord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaposi Sarcoma</td>
<td>Kaposi Sarcoma</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Soft tissue sarcoma of Unusual Sites and Histologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney Parenchyma</td>
<td>Kidney Parenchyma</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Kidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney Renal Pelvis</td>
<td>Kidney Renal Pelvis</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>Renal Pelvis and Ureter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrimal Gland</td>
<td>Lacrimal Gland/Sac</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>Lacrimal Gland Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lacrimal Sac</td>
<td>Lacrimal Gland/Sac</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larynx Glottic</td>
<td>Larynx Glottic</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Larynx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larynx Other</td>
<td>Larynx Other</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Larynx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larynx SubGlottic</td>
<td>Larynx SubGlottic</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Larynx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOD Schema</td>
<td>SS Chapter</td>
<td>AJCC – Chap. No</td>
<td>AJCC Chapter Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larynx SupraGlottic</td>
<td>Larynx SupraGlottic</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Larynx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lip</td>
<td>Lip</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liver</td>
<td>Liver</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Liver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Lung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lymphoma</td>
<td>Lymphoma</td>
<td>79, 80</td>
<td>Hodgkin and Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma <em>(Adult and Pediatric chapters)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lymphoma-CLL/SLL</td>
<td>Lymphoma</td>
<td>79, 80</td>
<td>Hodgkin and Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma <em>(Adult and Pediatric chapters)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lymphoma Ocular Adnexa</td>
<td>Lymphoma Ocular Adnexa</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>Ocular Adnexal Lymphoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Salivary Glands</td>
<td>Major Salivary Glands</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Major Salivary Glands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maxillary Sinus</td>
<td>Nasal Cavity and Paranasal Sinuses</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nasal Cavity and Paranasal Sinus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanoma Choroid and Ciliary Body</td>
<td>Melanoma Uvea</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>Uveal Melanoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanoma Conjunctiva</td>
<td>Melanoma Conjunctiva</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Conjunctival Melanoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanoma Head and Neck</td>
<td>Melanoma Head and Neck</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mucosal Melanoma of the Head and Neck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanoma Iris</td>
<td>Melanoma Uvea</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>Uveal Melanoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanoma Skin</td>
<td>Melanoma Skin</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Melanoma of the Skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merkel Cell Skin</td>
<td>Merkel Cell Skin</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Merkel Cell Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Ear</td>
<td>Middle Ear</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mouth Other</td>
<td>Mouth Other</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mycosis Fungoides and Sézary Syndrome</td>
<td>Mycosis Fungoides</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Primary Cutaneous Lymphomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasal Cavity and Ethmoid Sinus</td>
<td>Nasal Cavity and Paranasal Sinuses</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nasal Cavity and Paranasal Sinus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasopharynx</td>
<td>Nasopharynx</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nasopharynx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET Adrenal Gland</td>
<td>Adrenal Gland (including NET)</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Adrenal-Neuroendocrine Tumors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET Ampulla of Vater</td>
<td>Ampulla Vater (including NET)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Duodenum and Ampulla of Vater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET Appendix</td>
<td>Appendix (including NET)</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Appendix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOD Schema</td>
<td>SS Chapter</td>
<td>AJCC – Chap. No</td>
<td>AJCC Chapter Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
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<td>NET Colon and Rectum</td>
<td>Colon and Rectum (including NET)</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Colon and Rectum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET Duodenum</td>
<td>Small Intestine (including NET)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Duodenum and Ampulla of Vater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET Jejunum and Ileum</td>
<td>Small Intestine (including NET)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Jejunum and Ileum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET Pancreas</td>
<td>Pancreas (including NET)</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Pancreas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET Stomach</td>
<td>Stomach (including NET)</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Stomach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbital Sarcoma</td>
<td>Orbit</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Orbital sarcoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oropharynx HPV-Mediated (p16+)</td>
<td>Oropharynx</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>HPV-Mediated (p16+) Oropharyngeal Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oropharynx (p16-)</td>
<td>Oropharynx</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oropharynx (p16-) and Hypopharynx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovary</td>
<td>Ovary and Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Ovary, Fallopial Tube, and Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palate Hard</td>
<td>Palate Hard</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pancreas</td>
<td>Pancreas (including NET)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Exocrine Pancreas</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Penis</td>
<td>Penis</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharynx Other</td>
<td>Pharynx Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Placenta</td>
<td>Placenta</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Gestational Trophoblastic Neoplasms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plasma Cell Myeloma</td>
<td>Myeloma Plasma Cell Disorder</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>Plasma Cell Myeloma and Plasma Cell Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plasma Cell Disorders</td>
<td>Myeloma Plasma Cell Disorder</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>Plasma Cell Myeloma and Plasma Cell Disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleura</td>
<td>Pleura</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Cutaneous Lymphomas: Non-MF/SS</td>
<td>Primary Cutaneous Lymphomas: Non-MF/SS</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Primary Cutaneous Lymphomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma</td>
<td>Ovary and Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Ovary, Fallopial Tube, and Primary Peritoneal Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostate</td>
<td>Prostate</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>Prostate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Other</td>
<td>Respiratory Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOD Schema</td>
<td>SS Chapter</td>
<td>AJCC – Chap. No</td>
<td>AJCC Chapter Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
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<td>Retinoblastoma</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Retroperitoneum</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Soft tissue sarcoma of the Retroperitoneum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinus Other</td>
<td>Sinus Other</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skin Eyelid</td>
<td>Skin Eyelid</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Eyelid Carcinoma</td>
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<td>Skin Other</td>
<td>Skin (except Eyelid)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small Intestine</td>
<td>Small Intestine (including NET)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Small Intestine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soft Tissue Abdomen and Thoracic</td>
<td>Soft Tissue</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Soft tissue sarcoma of the Abdomen and Thoracic Visceral Organs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retroperitoneum</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Soft Tissue Head and Neck</td>
<td>Soft Tissue</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Soft tissue sarcoma of the Head and Neck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soft Tissue Trunk and Extremities</td>
<td>Soft Tissue</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>Soft tissue sarcoma of the Trunk and Extremities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft Tissue Usual Histologies/Sites</td>
<td>Soft Tissue</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Soft tissue sarcoma of Unusual Sites and Histologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stomach</td>
<td>Stomach (including NET)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Stomach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testis</td>
<td>Testis</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>Testis</td>
</tr>
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<td>Thymus</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Thymus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thyroid</td>
<td>Thyroid (including Medullary)</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>Thyroid-Differentiated and Anaplastic Carcinoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thyroid Medullary</td>
<td>Thyroid (including Medullary)</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Thyroid-Medullary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tongue Anterior</td>
<td>Tongue Anterior</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oral Cavity</td>
</tr>
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<td>Trachea</td>
<td>Trachea</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urethra</td>
<td>Urethra (including prostatic)</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Urethra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urethra-Prostatic</td>
<td>Urethra (including prostatic)</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>Urethra</td>
</tr>
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<td>Urinary Other</td>
<td>Urinary Other</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Vagina</td>
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<td>Vagina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vulva</td>
<td>Vulva</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Vulva</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Coding Instructions

Extent of Disease (EOD) 2018 is a data collection system which has three data items: EOD Primary Tumor, EOD Regional Nodes, and EOD Mets. These items may be combined with other data to derive different types of stage. EOD 2018 is collected for every site and histology combination for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

Do not use this system for any cases diagnosed prior to 1/1/2018.

*Note: ALWAYS check site-specific EOD 2018 schemas for exceptions and/or additional information.*

General Guidelines

1. EOD schemas apply to ALL primary sites and specified histologies. Most schemas are based on primary site, while some are based on histology alone.

2. For ALL sites, EOD is based on a combined clinical and operative/pathological assessment. Gross observations at surgery are particularly important when all malignant tissue cannot be, or was not removed.
   a. In the event of a discrepancy between pathology and operative reports concerning excised tissue, priority is given to the pathology report.

3. EOD should include all information available within **four months of diagnosis** in the absence of disease progression or upon completion of surgery(ies) in first course of treatment, whichever is longer.

4. Clinical information, such as description of skin involvement for breast cancer and distant lymph nodes for any site, can change the EOD stage. Be sure to review the clinical information carefully to accurately determine the extent of disease.
   a. If the operative/pathology information disproves the clinical information, use the operative/pathology information.

5. Information for EOD from a surgical resection after neoadjuvant treatment may be used, but ONLY if the extent of disease is greater than the pre-treatment clinical findings.

6. Disease progression, including metastatic involvement, known to have developed after the initial stage workup, should be excluded when coding the EOD fields.

7. Autopsy reports are used in coding EOD just as are pathology reports, applying the same rules for inclusion and exclusion.

8. Death Certificate only (DCO) cases
   Code the following for DCO’s, unless more specific codes can be assigned.
   a. EOD Primary Tumor: 999
   b. EOD Regional Nodes: 999
   c. EOD Mets: 99

9. T, N, M information may be used to code EOD 2018 when it is the only information available.
10. Use the medical record documentation to assign EOD when there is a discrepancy between the T, N, M information and the documentation in the medical record. If you have access to the physician, please query to resolve the discrepancy.
   a. When there is doubt that documentation in the medical record is complete, code the EOD corresponding to the physician staging.

   **Example:** Patient diagnosed at community hospital with limited workup. Staging note from medical oncologist suggesting missing results from further outside test.

11. EOD Schema-specific guidelines take precedence over general guidelines. Always read the information pertaining to a specific primary site or histology schema.
Description

EOD Primary Tumor is part of the EOD 2018 data collection system and is used to classify contiguous growth (extension) of the primary tumor within the organ of origin or its direct extension into neighboring organs. See also EOD Regional Nodes [NAACCR Data item #774] and EOD Mets [NAACCR Data item #776]. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

Rationale

EOD Primary tumor is used to calculate Derived EOD 2018 T (when applicable) [NAACCR Data item #785] and Derived Summary Stage 2018 [NAACCR Data item #762]. Derivation will occur at the level of the central registry.

Note: ALWAYS check site-specific EOD 2018 schemas for exceptions and/or additional information

See the most current version of SEER*RSA for rules and site-specific codes and coding structures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000</td>
<td>In situ, intraepithelial, noninvasive, non-infiltrating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>SCHEMA-SPECIFIC CODES WHERE NEEDED</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>No evidence of primary tumor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 999  | Unknown; extension not stated  
|      | Primary tumor cannot be assessed  
|      | Not documented in patient record  
|      | Death Certificate Only |

Coding Instructions

1. **Assign the farthest documented contiguous extension of the primary tumor.** Code the farthest documented contiguous direct extension of tumor away from the primary site. If an involved organ or tissue is not specifically mentioned in the code descriptions, approximate the location from listed structures in the same anatomic area and assign the appropriate code based on that information. EOD Primary Tumor codes are hierarchical with the exception of code 800.

2. A “localized, NOS” code is provided for those cases in which the only description is “localized with no further information.” “NOS” codes should be used only after an exhaustive search for more specific information.

3. **Pathological findings take priority over clinical findings.**
   a. Assign the highest code representing the greatest extension pathologically (based on pathology report), when available.
   b. If there is no applicable pathology, assign the highest code representing the greatest extension clinically. Imaging takes precedence over physical examination.
c. If extension is positive based on imaging and/or physical exam, but is confirmed to be negative on pathological exam, then code EOD Primary Tumor based on the pathological findings.

4. **Neoadjuvant (preoperative) therapy**: If the patient receives neoadjuvant (preoperative) systemic therapy (chemotherapy, immunotherapy) or radiation therapy, code the clinical information if that is the farthest extension documented. If the post-neoadjuvant surgery shows more extensive disease, code the extension based on the post-neoadjuvant information.

5. **In situ tumors**: Assign code 000 for in situ tumors.
   a. **Exception**: For some schemas, e.g., Breast, there may be multiple categories of in situ codes. Use schema-specific instructions and codes.

6. **In situ tumors with nodal or metastatic involvement**: In the event of an in situ tumor with nodal or metastatic involvement, assign EOD Primary Tumor as in situ and code the EOD Regional Nodes and/or EOD Mets appropriately. **This is a change from previous versions of EOD and Summary Stage.**

7. When multiple tumors are reported as a single primary, code the furthest direct extension from any tumor.

8. **Discontinuous or distant metastases**: Discontinuous/discontiguous metastases are usually coded in the EOD Mets field. Some exceptions include: mucinous carcinoma of the appendix, corpus uteri, ovary, fallopian tube and female peritoneum, where discontinuous metastases in the pelvis or abdomen are coded in EOD Primary Tumor.
   a. For some schemas, e.g., Breast, Lung, and Kidney, direct (contiguous) extension to certain specific sites is listed under EOD Mets. If the structure involved by direct extension is not listed in EOD Primary Tumor categories, look for it in EOD Mets. **If the specific structure involved by direct extension is not listed in either data item, assign the highest known contiguous extension code in EOD Primary Tumor.**

9. **Code 800** when there is no evidence of the primary tumor (occult primary).

10. **Code 999**
    a. Assign code 999 when there is no information on primary tumor extent.
    b. Code 999 is to be used by default for death certificate only (DCO) cases; however, assign the appropriate EOD Primary Tumor code when specific primary tumor extension information is available on a DCO.

11. **Document choice of EOD Primary Tumor code in text.** It is strongly recommended that the assessment of the primary tumor extension be documented, as well as the choice of the EOD Primary Tumor code in a related STAGE text field on the abstract. While primary tumor extension can be found in a variety of places, it’s most commonly found in a pathology and/or operative report.
**EOD REGIONAL NODES**

**Item Length:** 3  
**NAACCR Item #:** 774  
**NAACCR Name:** EOD Regional Nodes

### Description

EOD Regional Nodes is part of the EOD 2018 data collection system and is used to classify the regional lymph nodes involved with cancer at the time of diagnosis. See also EOD Primary Tumor [NAACCR Data item #772] and EOD Mets [NAACCR Data item #776]. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

### Rationale

EOD Regional Nodes is used to calculate Derived EOD 2018 N (when applicable) [NAACCR Data item #815] and Derived Summary Stage 2018 [NAACCR Data item #762]. Derivation will occur at the level of the central registry.

**Note:** ALWAYS check site specific EOD 2018 schemas for exceptions and/or additional information

See the most current version of SEER*RSA for rules and site-specific codes and coding structures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000</td>
<td>No regional lymph node involvement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 800  | Regional lymph node(s), NOS  
Lymph node(s), NOS |
| 888  | Use for these sites only: Brain; CNS Other; HemeRetic; Ill-Defined Other (includes unknown primary site); Intracranial Gland; Lymphoma; Lymphoma-CLL/SLL, Plasma Cell Myeloma |
| 999  | Unknown; regional lymph node(s) not stated  
Regional lymph node(s) cannot be assessed  
Not documented in patient record  
Death Certificate Only |

### Coding Instructions

1. **Record the specific involved regional lymph node chain(s) farthest from the primary site.** Regional lymph nodes are listed for each schema. EOD Regional Nodes are hierarchical, with the exception of code 800.
   
   a. Generally, the regional lymph nodes in the chain(s) closest to the primary site have lower codes, while nodes farther away from the primary or in farther lymph node chains have higher codes, although there are exceptions due to lymph drainage patterns.
b. If a lymph node chain is not listed, check the abstractor notes in SEER*RSA, Appendix C of the Hematopoietic Manual, an anatomy textbook, ICD-O-3, or a medical dictionary for a synonym. If the lymph node chain or its synonym are not listed in regional lymph nodes, code the involved node(s) in EOD Mets.

i. **Tip for coding lymph nodes:** If not possible to determine if a lymph node is regional or distant, check the scheme for a site that is nearby.

   *Example:* If unable to determine if a listed regional node for esophagus is regional or distant, check the stomach EOD regional nodes. If the lymph node chain is listed as regional for stomach, assume the named lymph node is not an obscure name for a lymph node chain and that it is probably distant for the esophagus.

2. **Pathological findings take priority over clinical findings:** It is not necessary to biopsy every lymph node in the suspicious area to disprove involvement. See next section for coding instructions when neo-adjuvant therapy is administered.

   a. Code the lymph node involvement at diagnosis pathologically (based on pathology report), when available.

   b. If there is no applicable histology, assign lymph node involvement based on clinical findings. Imaging takes precedence over physical examination.

   c. If nodes are determined positive based on imaging and then confirmed to be negative on pathological exam, then code EOD Regional Nodes based on the negative pathological findings.

   **Exception:** Assign code 800, “Regional lymph node(s), NOS or Lymph node(s), NOS” only when there is lymph node involvement, but no available information regarding the specific node(s) involved.

3. **Neoadjuvant (preoperative) therapy:** If the patient receives neoadjuvant (preoperative) systemic therapy (chemotherapy, immunotherapy) or radiation therapy, code the clinical information if that is the most extensive lymph node involvement documented. If the post-neoadjuvant surgery shows more extensive lymph node involvement, code the regional nodes based on the post-neoadjuvant information.

4. **Terms meaning lymph node involvement:** For solid tumors, the terms “fixed” or “matted” and “mass in the hilum, mediastinum, retroperitoneum, and/or mesentery” (with no specific information as to tissue involved) are recorded as involvement of lymph nodes.

   a. Other terms, such as “palpable,” “enlarged,” “visible swelling,” “shotty,” or “lymphadenopathy” should be ignored for solid tumors, unless there is a statement of involvement by the clinician or the patient was treated as though regional nodes were involved.

   *Example:* Palpable axillary lymph nodes found, consistent with mets. Record as involvement of lymph nodes.

   *Example:* Enlarged renal hilar nodes found on CT, positive for cancer. Record as involvement of lymph nodes.
b. The terms “homolateral,” “ipsilateral,” and “same side” are used interchangeably.

5. **Accessible lymph nodes:** For “accessible” lymph nodes that can be observed, palpated, or examined without instruments, such as the regional nodes for the breast, oral cavity, salivary gland, skin, thyroid, and other organs, look for some description of the regional lymph nodes. A statement such as “remainder of examination negative” is sufficient to code 000 negative regional lymph nodes.

   **Note:** If there is mention of a clinical evaluation but no mention of positive lymph nodes, assign code 000.

6. **Inaccessible lymph nodes:** For certain primary sites, regional lymph nodes are not easily examined by palpation, observation, physical examination, or other clinical methods. These are lymph nodes within body cavities that in most situations cannot be palpated, making them inaccessible. Bladder, colon, corpus uteri, esophagus, kidney, liver, lung, ovary, prostate, and stomach are examples of inaccessible sites (this is not an all-inclusive list). When EOD Primary Tumor is low stage/Localized and standard treatment is done, it is sufficient to code 000 for negative regional lymph nodes.

7. Code EOD Regional Nodes 000 (negative) instead of 999 (unknown) when ALL three of the following conditions are met:
   
   a. There is no mention of regional lymph node involvement in the physical examination, pre-treatment diagnostic testing, or surgical exploration.
   
   b. The patient has localized disease.
   
   c. The patient receives what would be the standard treatment to the primary site (treatment appropriate to the stage of disease as determined by the physician), or patient is offered usual treatment but refuses it.

   These guidelines apply only to localized cancers. Assign code 999 when there is reasonable doubt that the tumor is localized.

   **Example:** When there is evidence that a prostate cancer has penetrated through the capsule into the surrounding tissues (regional disease) and regional lymph node involvement is not mentioned, it would be correct to code 999 for unknown lymph node involvement in the absence of any specific information regarding regional nodes.

8. **In situ tumors:** Code 000 for lymph node involvement.

9. **In situ tumors with metastatic nodal involvement:** In the event of an in situ tumor with metastatic nodal involvement, assign EOD Primary Tumor as in situ (code 000) and code EOD Regional Nodes appropriately (positive). **This is a change from prior versions of EOD.**

10. **Direct tumor extension into lymph node:** If direct extension of the primary tumor into a regional lymph node is shown, code the involved node(s) in EOD Regional Nodes.
11. **Sentinel lymph nodes**: Involved nodes found during sentinel lymph node procedures are classified as positive regional nodes.

   a. The sentinel lymph node is the first lymph node to receive lymphatic drainage from a primary tumor.

   b. If it contains metastatic tumor, this indicates that other lymph nodes may contain tumor. If it does not contain metastatic tumor, other lymph nodes are not likely to contain tumor. Occasionally there is more than one sentinel lymph node

12. **Isolated Tumor cells (ITCs)**: For some schemas, ITCs are counted as positive regional nodes, while other schemas count them as negative. **See the individual schemas to determine how to code ITCs.**

13. **Discontinuous (satellite) tumor deposits (peritumoral nodules) for colon, appendix, rectosigmoid and rectum**: These can occur WITH or WITHOUT regional lymph node involvement. Assign the appropriate code according to guidelines in individual schemas. Tumor nodules in pericolic or perirectal fat without evidence of residual lymph node structures can be one of several aspects of the primary cancer: discontinuous spread, venous invasion with extravascular spread, or a totally replaced lymph node. If there are Tumor Deposits and node involvement, code only the information on node involvement in this field. Specific information on Tumor Deposits is coded in the data item: Tumor Deposits [NAACCR Data Item #3934].

14. **Code 800**. Use code 800 for the following situations:

   a. Lymph node assignment for the EOD schema is based on location (specifically listed lymph nodes) and the only documentation available is that lymph nodes are involved.

   b. Lymph node assignment for the EOD is based on number and/or size and the only documentation available is that lymph nodes are involved.

   c. Statement of “regional lymph nodes involved,” with no further information on location, number and/or size.

   d. Unidentified nodes included with the resected primary site.

       i. Nodes may be identified in the operative or pathology report (including the final diagnosis), microscopic or gross description.

   e. Lymph nodes which are not specified as regional or distant should be assumed to be regional nodes.

15. **Code ‘888’ for the following schemas:**

   i. Brain
   ii. CNS Other
   iii. HemeRetic
   iv. Ill-Defined Other (includes unknown primary site)
   v. Intracranial Gland
   vi. Lymphoma
a) Primary Cutaneous Lymphoma and Ocular Adnexal Lymphoma have separate schemas from Lymphoma. **EOD Regional Nodes must be coded for those two schemas (888 is not valid)**

vii. Lymphoma-CLL/SLL

viii. Plasma Cell Myeloma

16. **Code 999**

   a. Assign code 999 when there is no information on regional lymph node involvement and the primary tumor is not localized.

   b. Code 999 is to be used by default for death certificate only (DCO) case: however, assign the appropriate EOD Regional Nodes code when specific regional lymph node involvement information is available for a DCO.

17. **Document choice of EOD Regional Nodes code in text.** It is strongly recommended that the positive and negative assessment of regional lymph node(s) be documented, as well as the choice of the EOD Regional Nodes code in a related STAGE text field on the abstract. Information on regional node status can be found on physical exam, scans and pathology reports.
**EOD METS**

**Item Length:** 2  
**NAACCR Item #:** 776  
**NAACCR Name:** EOD Mets

**Description**

EOD Mets is part of the EOD 2018 data collection system and is used to classify the distant site(s) of metastatic involvement at time of diagnosis. See also EOD Primary Tumor [NAACCR Data item #772] and EOD Regional Nodes [NAACCR Data item #774]. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

**Rationale**

EOD Mets is used to calculate Derived EOD 2018 M (when applicable) [NAACCR Data item #795] and Derived Summary Stage 2018 [NAACCR Data item #762]. Derivation will occur at the level of the central registry.

**Note:** ALWAYS check site-specific EOD 2018 schemas for exceptions and/or additional information

See the most current version of SEER*RSA for rules and site-specific codes and coding structures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 00   | No distant metastasis  
      | Unknown if distant metastasis  
      | None |
| 70   | Distant metastasis, NOS |
| 88   | Use for these sites only: HemeRetic; Ill-Defined Other (includes unknown primary site); Kaposi Sarcoma; Lymphoma; Lymphoma-CLL/SLL; Plasma Cell Myeloma, Plasmacytomas |
| 99   | Death certificate only (DCO) |

**Coding Instructions**

1. **Determination of EOD Mets requires only history and physical examination.** Imaging of distant organs is not required. *In other words, when a case lacks any extensive workup, the registrar can infer that there are no distant metastases based solely on physical exam documentation.)*

   a. Assign 00 for cases in which there are no distant metastases as determined by clinical, radiographic and/or pathologic methods.

   b. A case is classified as clinically free of metastases (code 00) unless there is documented evidence of metastasis by clinical means or by cytological/pathological examination of a metastatic site. For the following scenarios, code 00 can be used:

      i. No information is available (no PE, imaging or pathology)
ii. There is reasonable doubt that the tumor is no longer localized and there is no documentation of distant metastasis

c. Assign the appropriate EOD Mets codes 10-70 for cases in which one or more distant metastases is identified by clinical, radiographic and/or pathologic methods. EOD Mets codes are hierarchical with the exception of code 70.

2. For a few schemas, such as Breast, Lung, Kidney, and Ovary, the EOD Mets category may include direct extension of the primary tumor into distant organs or tissues. If the structure involved by direct extension is not listed in EOD Primary Tumor, look for the structure in EOD Mets. If the specific structure involved by contiguous extension is not listed in either EOD Primary Tumor or EOD Mets, assign the highest available code in EOD Primary Tumor.

3. **Discontinuous or hematogenous metastases:** Distant metastasis known at the time of diagnosis is coded in EOD Mets. In other words, when the patient was diagnosed, tumor had already spread indirectly (through vascular or lymph channels) to distant lymph nodes or to site(s) distant from the primary site. Refer to the individual schemas for detailed instructions.

4. **Positive pathological findings take priority over clinical findings.**
   a. Assign the highest applicable code for metastasis at diagnosis pathologically (based on pathology report), when available.
   b. If there is no applicable pathology or the pathology does not show metastasis, code EOD Mets based on clinical findings. Imaging takes precedence over physical examination.

5. Not all possible metastatic sites are listed in each of the schemas. If there is confirmed metastasis of a site that is not listed, assign the highest code as described below.
   a. For schemas that have only codes 10 (distant lymph nodes) and 70 (all other mets), code 70 is to be used for all mets (except distant lymph nodes only)
   b. For schemas where there are additional codes, use the highest code before code 70 when mets are present that are not specified in any of the other codes. Code 70 in these cases should only be used when the only information is “distant metastasis, NOS,” and there is no documentation regarding the specific metastases
      i. For example, history only cases or cases with minimal information available.
      ii. There will be enough information to code the numerically lower, but more specific, EOD Mets code when the location of the metastases is documented in the chart or abstract.

6. **Neoadjuvant (preoperative) therapy:** If the patient receives neoadjuvant (preoperative) systemic therapy (chemotherapy, immunotherapy) or radiation therapy, code the clinical information description that identifies the most extensive metastasis. If the post-neoadjuvant surgery shows additional or more extensive metastasis, code EOD Mets based on the post-neoadjuvant information.
7. **Isolated Tumor Cells (ITCs), Circulating Tumor Cells (CTCs), and Disseminated Tumor Cells (DTCs):** small clusters of tumor cells not greater than 0.2 mm in largest dimension found in distant sites such as bone, circulating blood, or bone marrow and having uncertain prognostic significance.

   a. For breast, code 05 when a biopsy of a distant site shows ITCs, CTCs or DTCs detected by IHC or molecular techniques.

   b. For other sites, CTCs, DTCs, and ITCs are coded 00.

8. **In situ tumors with metastatic involvement:** In the event of an in situ tumor with metastatic involvement, assign EOD Primary Tumor as in situ (code 000) and code EOD Mets appropriately (positive). **This is a change from prior versions of EOD.**

9. **Code 88 for the following schemas**
   i. HemeRetic
   ii. Ill-Defined Other (includes unknown primary site)
   iii. Kaposi Sarcoma
   iv. Lymphoma
      a) Primary Cutaneous Lymphoma and Ocular Adnexal Lymphoma have separate schemas from Lymphoma. **EOD Mets must be coded for those two schemas (88 is not valid)**
   v. Lymphoma-CLL/SLL
   vi. Plasma Cell Myeloma
   vii. Plasmacytomas

10. **Code 99:** Code 99 is to be used ONLY for death certificate only (DCO) cases; however, assign the appropriate EOD Mets code when specific metastatic information is available on a DCO.

   a. When it is unknown if there are distant metastases, code 00 (see rule 1b).

11. **Document choice of EOD Mets code in text.** It is strongly recommended that the positive and negative assessment of distant lymph nodes and/or distant metastasis be documented, as well as the choice of the EOD Mets code in a related STAGE text field on the abstract. Information on distant mets can be most commonly found in Physical Exam and Scans.
**DERIVED EOD 2018 T**

**Item Length:** 15  
**NAACCR Item #:** 785  
**NAACCR Name:** Derived EOD 2018 T

**New Data Item for Diagnosis Year 2018 and forward. Derived in Central registry only.**

**Description**

This item stores the derived EOD 2018 T value derived from coded fields using the EOD algorithm. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

**Rationale**

Derived EOD 2018 T can be used to evaluate disease spread at diagnosis, treatment patterns and outcomes over time.

Derived EOD 2018 T is only available at the central registry level.
DERIVED EOD 2018 N

Item Length: 15  
NAACCR Item #: 815  
NAACCR Name: Derived EOD 2018 N

New Data Item for Diagnosis Year 2018 and forward. Derived in Central registry only.

Description

This item stores the derived EOD 2018 N staging element from coded fields using the EOD algorithm. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

Rationale

Derived EOD 2018 N can be used to evaluate disease spread at diagnosis, treatment patterns and outcomes over time.

Derived EOD 2018 N is only available at the central registry level.
DERIVED EOD 2018 M

Item Length: 15
NAACCR Item #: 795
NAACCR Name: Derived EOD 2018 M

New Data Item for Diagnosis Year 2018 and forward. Derived in Central registry only.

Description
This item stores the derived EOD 2018 M staging element from coded fields using the EOD algorithm. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

Rationale
Derived EOD 2018 M can be used to evaluate disease spread at diagnosis, treatment patterns and outcomes over time.
Derived EOD 2018 M is only available at the central registry level.
**DERIVED EOD 2018 STAGE GROUP**

*New Data Item for Diagnosis Year 2018 and forward. Derived in Central registry only.*

**Description**

Derived EOD 2018 Stage Group is derived using the EOD data collection system (EOD Primary Tumor [NAACCR Data item #772], EOD Regional Nodes [NAACCR Data item #774] and EOD Mets [NAACCR Data item #776]) algorithm. Other data items may be included in the derivation process. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

**Rationale**

Derived EOD 2018 Stage Group can be used to evaluate disease spread at diagnosis, treatment patterns and outcomes over time.

Derived EOD 2018 Stage Group is only available at the central registry level.
**DERIVED SUMMARY STAGE 2018**

**Item Length:** 1  
**NAACCR Item #:** 762  
**NAACCR Name:** Derived Summary Stage 2018

New Data Item for Diagnosis Year 2018 and forward. Derived in Central registry only.

**Description**

Derived Summary Stage 2018 is derived using the EOD data collection system (EOD Primary Tumor [NAACCR Data item #772], EOD Regional Nodes [NAACCR Data item #774], and EOD Mets [NAACCR Data item #776]) algorithm. Effective for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 and forward.

**Rationale**

The SEER program has collected staging information on cases since its inception in 1973. For many cancer sites, the different versions of AJCC stage over time have made the analyses of long term trends in stage very difficult. Therefore, for long-term staging trends, SEER has relied on a more simplified summary stage. When Collaborative Stage (CS) information is no longer available, SEER will need to derive summary stage via computer algorithm based on T, N, or M (clinical, pathologic, Derived SEER combined) or EOD Primary Tumor, EOD Regional Nodes, and EOD Mets and other information as needed. Directly Assigned SS2018 data item is provided for those wishing to collect summary stage but are not collecting all of the fields needed by the computer algorithm to derive SS2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>In situ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Localized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Regional, direct extension only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Regional, regional lymph nodes only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Regional, direct extension and regional lymph nodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Distant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Benign, borderline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Unstaged</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Code 5 (Regional, NOS) has been removed for Summary Stage 2018.