



Kentucky Cancer Registry Spring Training 2017

What we will cover

- ▶ Coding instructions for grade
- ▶ Case examples addressing some areas of confusion for grade
- ▶ New grade data items coming in 2018
- ▶ TNM



Where to find Grade coding instructions?

Instructions for Coding Grade for 2014+

GRADE, DIFFERENTIATION OR CELL INDICATOR

Item Length: 1

NAACCR Item #: 440

NAACCR Name: Grade

Grade, Differentiation for solid tumors (Codes 1, 2, 3, 4, 9) and Cell Indicator for Lymphoid Neoplasms (Codes 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

Note: These instructions pertain to the data item Grade, Differentiation or Cell Indicator.

These are coding instructions for **cases diagnosed 1/1/2014** and forward.

Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasms

Cell Indicator (Codes 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

Cell Indicator (Codes 5, 6, 7, 8) describes the lineage or phenotype of the cell. Codes 5, 6, 7, and 8 are used only for hematopoietic and lymphoid neoplasms. Code 9 indicates cell type not determined, not stated, or not applicable.

Coding Grade for Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasms

1. Determine the histology based on the current Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Manual
[\[http://seer.cancer.gov/tools/heme/Hematopoietic_Instructions_and_Rules/\]](http://seer.cancer.gov/tools/heme/Hematopoietic_Instructions_and_Rules/).
2. Determine the Cell Indicator by applying the “Grade of Tumor Rules” within the current Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Manual
[\[http://seer.cancer.gov/tools/heme/Hematopoietic_Instructions_and_Rules/\]](http://seer.cancer.gov/tools/heme/Hematopoietic_Instructions_and_Rules/) to code the grade.

<https://seer.cancer.gov/tools/grade/grade-2014-coding-instructions.pdf>

Grade instructions 1-2

Read you instructions and keep them handy at all times.

1. Systemic treatment and radiation can alter a tumor's grade. Therefore, it is important to code grade based on information prior to neoadjuvant therapy **even if grade is unknown.**
2. Code the grade from the primary tumor only. Do NOT code grade based on metastatic tumor or recurrence.
 - ▶ In the rare instance that tumor tissue extends contiguously to an adjacent site and tissue from the primary site is not available, code grade from the contiguous site.
 - ▶ If primary site is unknown, code grade to 9.

Grade instruction 3

3. Code the grade shown below (6th digit) for specific histologic terms that imply a grade.
 - Carcinoma, undifferentiated (8020/34)
 - Carcinoma, anaplastic (8021/34)
 - Follicular adenocarcinoma, well differentiated (8331/31)
 - Thymic carcinoma, well differentiated (8585/31)
 - Sertoli-Leydig cell tumor, poorly differentiated (8631/33)
 - Sertoli-Leydig cell tumor, poorly differentiated with heterologous elements (8634/33)
 - Undifferentiated sarcoma (8805/34)
 - Liposarcoma, well differentiated (8851/31)
 - Seminoma, anaplastic (9062/34)
 - Malignant teratoma, undifferentiated (9082/34)
 - Malignant teratoma, intermediate type (9083/32)
 - Intraosseous osteosarcoma, well differentiated (9187/31)
 - Astrocytoma, anaplastic (9401/34)
 - Oligodendroglioma, anaplastic (9451/34)
 - Retinoblastoma, differentiated (9511/31)
 - Retinoblastoma, undifferentiated (9512/34)

Grade instruction 4a-4b

- 4a. Make sure to code the grade of the malignancy
 - ▶ **Do not** code dysplasia grade
 - ▶ Example high grade dysplasia (CIN III)
 - ▶ Code the grade for an in situ tumor if the grade is given
- 4b. If there are both in situ and invasive components, code only the grade for the invasive portion even if its grade is unknown.

Grade instruction 5

5. If there is more than one grade, code the highest grade within the applicable system. Code the highest grade even if it is only a focus. Code grade in the following priority order using the first applicable system:
 - ▶ Special grade systems for the sites listed in Coding for Solid Tumors #6
 - ▶ Differentiation: use Coding for Solid Tumors #7: 2-, 3-, or 4- grade system
 - ▶ Nuclear grade: use Coding for Solid Tumors #7: 2-, 3-, or 4- grade system
 - ▶ If it isn't clear whether it is a differentiation or nuclear grade and a 2-, 3-, or 4- grade system was used, code the specific grade.
 - ▶ Terminology (use Coding for Solid Tumors #8)

Grade instruction 6

6. Use the information from the special grade systems first. If no special grade can be coded, continue with Coding for Solid Tumors #7-9.

► **Special grade systems for solid tumors**

| CS Schema | Special Grade System |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Breast | Nottingham or Bloom-Richardson (BR) Score/Grade (SSF7) |
| Prostate | Gleason's Score on Needle Core Biopsy/Transurethral Resection of Prostate (TURP) (SSF 8) |
| Prostate | Gleason's Score on Prostatectomy/Autopsy (SSF 10) |
| Heart, Mediastinum | Grade for Sarcomas (SSF 1) |
| Peritoneum | Grade for Sarcomas (SSF 1) |
| Retroperitoneum | Grade for Sarcomas (SSF 1) |
| Soft Tissue | Grade for Sarcomas (SSF 1) |
| Kidney Parenchyma | Fuhrman Nuclear Grade (SSF 6) |

Grade instruction 7

7. Use the Two-, Three- or Four-grade system information

If you have any confusion on what grading system is being used you should refer to the pathologist directly or cancer committee or cancer conferences to ask the pathologist to confirm/verify.

► Two-grade system

| Term | Description | Grade Code | Exception for Breast and Prostate Grade Code |
|------------|-------------|------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1/2, I/II | Low grade | 2 | 1 |
| 2/2, II/II | High grade | 4 | 3 |

- In transitional cell carcinoma for bladder, the terminology high grade TCC and low grade TCC are coded in the two-grade system.

Grade instruction 7 continued

7. Use the Two-, Three- or Four-grade system information

► **Three-grade system**

| Term | Description | Grade Code | Exception for Breast and Prostate Grade Code |
|------|--------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1/3 | Low grade | 2 | 1 |
| 2/3 | Intermediate grade | 3 | 2 |
| 3/3 | High grade | 4 | 3 |

Grade instruction 7 continued

7. Use the Two-, Three- or Four-grade system information

► **Four-grade system**

| Term | Description | Grade Code |
|------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 1/4 | Grade I; Well differentiated | 1 |
| 2/4 | Grade II; Moderately differentiated | 2 |
| 3/4 | Grade III; Poorly differentiated | 3 |
| 4/4 | Grade IV; Undifferentiated | 4 |

Grade instruction 8

8. Terminology: use the 'Description' column or the 'Grade' column to code grade. Breast & Prostate use the same grade code with a few noted exceptions.

| Description | Grade | Assigned Grade Code | Exception for Breast and Prostate Grade Code |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Differentiated, NOS | I | 1 | |
| Well differentiated | I | 1 | |
| Only stated as 'Grade I' | I | 1 | |
| Fairly well differentiated | II | 2 | |
| Intermediate differentiation | II | 2 | |
| Low grade | I-II | 2 | 1 |
| Mid differentiated | II | 2 | |
| Moderately differentiated | II | 2 | |
| Moderately well differentiated | II | 2 | |
| Partially differentiated | II | 2 | |
| Partially well differentiated | I-II | 2 | 1 |
| Relatively or generally well differentiated | II | 2 | |
| Only stated as 'Grade II' | II | 2 | |

Grade instruction 8 continued

| Description | Grade | Assigned Grade Code | Exception for Breast and Prostate Grade Code |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Medium grade, intermediate grade | II-III | 3 | 2 |
| Moderately poorly differentiated | III | 3 | |
| Moderately undifferentiated | III | 3 | |
| Poorly differentiated | III | 3 | |
| Relatively poorly differentiated | III | 3 | |
| Relatively undifferentiated | III | 3 | |
| Slightly differentiated | III | 3 | |
| Dedifferentiated | III | 3 | |
| Only stated as 'Grade III' | III | 3 | |
| High grade | III-IV | 4 | 3 |
| Undifferentiated, anaplastic, not differentiated | IV | 4 | |
| Only stated as 'Grade IV' | IV | 4 | |
| Non-high grade | | 9 | |

Grade instruction 9

9. If no description fits or grade is unknown prior to neoadjuvant therapy, code as a 9 (unknown).



Grade Examples

- ▶ Example 1
- ▶ Example 2
- ▶ Example 3
- ▶ Example 4
- ▶ Example 5
- ▶ Example 6

New Grade Data Items in 2018

- ▶ AJCC Grade Clinical
 - ▶ To be used when assigning AJCC clinical stage
- ▶ AJCC Grade Pathologic
 - ▶ To be used when assigning AJCC Pathologic stage

TNM Staging

- ▶ The most important thing to remember is to open your manuals for each case
 - ▶ Is the histology included in the chapter?
 - ▶ Are the criteria for staging being met?
 - ▶ Clinical staging requires that the cancer was known or suspected
 - ▶ Pathologic must meet the resection criteria

Questions?