



# Oncology

## Best Practice Documentation

Click on the desired Diagnoses link or press Enter to view all information.

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# Solid Tumors

- Behavior
  - Benign
  - Malignant
    - Metastatic sites should be documented separately to the highest degree of specificity
  - Uncertain behavior
  - Unspecified Nature
  - In Situ
- Location
  - Affected organ (specify exact anatomical location within the organ)
  - Laterality (if applicable)
  - Overlapping lesions (specify the organs)



# Hodgkin's and Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

**Best practice documentation requires the specified type of lymphoma as well as the anatomical location**

- Hodgkin
  - Nodular lymphocyte predominant
  - Nodular sclerosis classical
  - Mixed cellularity classical
  - Lymphocyte-depleted classical
  - Lymphocyte- rich classical
  - Other classical
- Non-Hodgkin (specify type) Follicular
  - Non-follicular
  - Mature T/NK-cell lymphoma
  - Other and unspecified types of non-Hodgkin lymphoma
  - Other specified types of T/NK lymphoma
- Specified Lymph Nodes Involved



# Hodgkin's and Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

**Best practice documentation requires the specified type of lymphoma as well as the anatomical location**

- Specify specific lymph nodes:
  - ❑ Head, face & neck
  - ❑ Intrathoracic
  - ❑ Intra-abdominal
  - ❑ Axilla & upper limb
  - ❑ Inguinal region and lower limb
  - ❑ Intrapelvic
  - ❑ Spleen
  - ❑ Multiple sites (specify)
  - ❑ Extranodal & solid organ sites (specify)



# Follicular and Non-Follicular Lymphomas

## Follicular Lymphomas

- Type:
  - ❑ Grade I
  - ❑ Grade II
  - ❑ Grade III
  - ❑ Grade IIIa
  - ❑ Grade IIIb
  - ❑ Diffuse follicle center
  - ❑ Cutaneous follicle center
  - ❑ Other (specify)

## Non-Follicular Lymphomas

- Type:
  - ❑ Small cell B-cell
  - ❑ Mantle cell
  - ❑ Diffuse large B-cell
  - ❑ Lymphoblastic (diffuse)
  - ❑ Burkitt
  - ❑ Other (specify)
  - ❑ Non-follicular (diffuse), unspecified



# T/NK Cell Lymphomas

## Mature T/NK Cell Lymphomas

Type:

- Mycosis fungoides
- Sézary disease
- Peripheral T-cell ,not classified
  - Includes: Lennert's lymphoma
  - Mature T-cell ,not elsewhere classified
- Anaplastic large cell lymphoma, ALK- positive
  - Includes: Anaplastic large cell, CD30-positive
- Anaplastic large cell lymphoma, ALK- negative
- Cutaneous T-cell lymphoma
- Other (specify)

## Other specified types

Type:

- Extranodal
- Hepatosplenic T-cell
- Enteropathy- type (intestinal) T-cell
- Subcutaneous panniculitis-like T-cell
- Blastic NK-cell
- Angioimmunoblastic T-cell
- Primary cutaneous CD30-positive T-cell proliferations



# Malignant Immunoproliferative Diseases and other B-cell Lymphomas

Type:

- Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia Mac
- Heavy chain disease
  - Franklin disease
  - Gamma heavy chain disease
  - Mu heavy chain disease
- Immunoproliferative small intestinal disease (C88.3)
  - Alpha heavy chain disease
  - Mediterranean lymphoma
- Extranodal marginal zone B-cell lymphoma of mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT-lymphoma)
  - SALT lymphoma
  - BALT-lymphoma



# Lymphomas

## Documentation Example

### Insufficient Documentation

- Patient with metastatic colon CA, admitted for inpatient chemotherapy treatment.

### Best Practice Documentation

- Patient with **malignant metastatic colon CA stage IV of transverse colon, with known liver mets**, admitted for inpatient chemotherapy treatment. **No history of tobacco use.**





# Leukemias

- Different leukemias (specificity to follow)
  - Lymphoid
  - Myeloid
  - Monocytic
- Specify status:
  - Not having achieved remission
  - In remission
  - In relapse



# Lymphoid Leukemias

- Type
  - Acute Lymphoblastic (ALL)
  - Prolymphocytic of B-cell type
  - Hairy cell
  - Adult T-cell lymphoma/leukemia (HTLV-1-associated)
  - Prolymphocytic of T-cell type
  - Mature B-cell Burkitt-type
  - Chronic lymphocytic leukemia of B-cell type
  - Other (specify)
- Remission Status
  - Not having achieved remission
  - In remission
  - In relapse



# Myeloid and Monocytic Leukemias

## Myeloid Leukemia

- Type:
  - ❑ Acute myeloblastic
  - ❑ Chronic, BCR/ABL-positive
  - ❑ Atypical chronic, BCR/ABL-negative
  - ❑ Myeloid sarcoma
  - ❑ Acute promyelocytic
  - ❑ Acute myelomonocytic
  - ❑ Acute myeloid with 11q23-abnormality
  - ❑ Acute myeloid with multilineage dysplasia
  - ❑ Other (specify)
- Status:
  - ❑ Not having achieved remission
  - ❑ In remission
  - ❑ In relapse

## Monocytic Leukemia

- Type
  - ❑ Acute monoblastic/monocytic
    - AML M5
    - AML M5a
    - AML M5b
  - ❑ Chronic
    - Chronic monocytic leukemia
    - CMML-1
    - CMML-2
    - CMML with eosinophilia
  - ❑ Juvenile
  - ❑ Other (specify)
- Status:
  - ❑ Not having achieved remission
  - ❑ In remission
  - ❑ In relapse



# Leukemia

## Documentation Example

### Insufficient Documentation

- Patient with history of AML, admitted with change in mental status. Work up pending.

### Best Practice Documentation

- Patient with history of AML, **in remission**, admitted with change in mental status. Work up pending.



# Myelodysplastic Syndromes

Specify:

- Refractory anemia:
  - Without ring sideroblasts
  - With ring sideroblasts
  - With excess of blasts:
    - Blasts 1 (RAEB 1)
    - Blasts 2 (RAEB 2)
    - Unspecified (RAEB NOS)
- Refractory cytopenia
  - with multilineage dysplasia
  - with multilineage dysplasia and ring sideroblasts
- Myelodysplastic syndrome with isolated del(5q) chromosomal abnormality



# Myelodysplastic Syndromes Documentation Example

## Insufficient Documentation

- Patient with myelodysplastic syndrome admitted with SOB, generalized weakness & cytopenias. Consult hematology/ oncology.

## Best Practice Documentation

- Patient with **myelodysplastic syndrome with excess of blast type 1**, admitted with SOB, generalized weakness & **pancytopenia due to MDS**. Consult hematology/ oncology.



# Pathology Findings

- Pathology known prior to surgery should be documented and reinforced in the operative report and progress notes.
- Suspected, possible, or likely pathology should be documented based on clinical judgment whenever possible.
- Pathology findings should be documented in a progress note, consult, or discharge summary as soon as reviewed or made available.
- When pathology results are available after discharge it is appropriate and compliant to document them in the acute care legal medical record.



# Associated Diagnoses

**Best practice documentation requires you to document any associated diagnoses and document what the underlying cause is “due to”:**

- Anemia, Neutropenia, Thrombocytopenia, Pancytopenia, due to:
  - Chemotherapy
  - Radiation
  - Malignancy
  - Other specified cause
- Ascites (specify if malignant)
- Thrush
- Cachexia
- Dysphagia
- Electrolyte imbalances (specify)
- Malnutrition (mild, moderate, severe)
- Mucositis, due to:
  - Drug –induced (specify drug)
  - Radiation
  - Antineoplastic therapy





# Key Documentation Concepts

- Identify the specific site of the neoplasm (e.g., tail of pancreas)
- Include laterality of site if applicable
- Specify the morphology of the neoplasm as malignant, benign, in situ or uncertain behavior
- Specify the cell type of the neoplasm (e.g. basal cell, B-cell)
- Specify the documented sites as primary or as a metastatic site
- When appropriate specify status: not having achieved remission, in remission or in relapse
- Clearly document the reason for the encounter as either a complication of the disease process (e.g., neutropenic fever) or as an adverse effect of treatment (e.g., pancytopenia due to chemo)



# Take the Extra Step!

## Document:

- ALL chronic conditions – present and stable but managed.
- Significance of abnormal tests (i.e.: UTI, electrolytes, echo)
- Clarify whether diagnoses are ruled in or ruled out
- Establish cause-and-effect relationships (linking DM to manifestations)
- Laterality, if applicable
- Explain the “why” and “because” to support medical necessity
- Any tobacco use, abuse, dependence, history of smoke exposure (e.g., second hand, occupational, etc.)