

Brain/Spinal Cord

Protocol applies to all neoplasms of the brain/spinal cord.

Excludes neoplasms of the pituitary gland.

No AJCC/UICC staging system

January 2003

Procedures

- **Cytology** (*No Accompanying Checklist*)
- **Biopsy**
- **Resection**

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The College of American Pathologists offers these protocols to assist pathologists in providing clinically useful and relevant information in the reporting of the results of their examinations of surgical specimens. The College regards the reporting elements in the Surgical Pathology Cancer Case Summary portion of the protocols as essential elements of the pathology report. However, the manner in which these elements are reported is at the discretion of each specific pathologist – taking into account clinician preferences, institutional policies, and individual practice.

The College developed these protocols as an educational tool to assist pathologists in the useful reporting of relevant information. It did not issue the protocols for use in litigation, reimbursement, or other contexts. Nevertheless, the College recognizes that the protocols might be used by hospitals, attorneys, payers, and others. Indeed, effective January 1, 2004, the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons has mandated the use of the checklist elements of the protocols as part of its Cancer Program Standards for Approved Cancer Programs. Therefore, it becomes even more important for pathologists to familiarize themselves with the document. At the same time, the College cautions that use of the protocols other than for their intended educational purpose may involve additional considerations that are beyond the scope of this document.

Summary of Changes

- The Surgical Pathology Cancer Case Summary (Checklist) has been modified to indicate with an asterisk (*) those items that are not required for accreditation purposes for the Commission on Cancer. These elements may be clinically important, but are not yet validated or regularly used in patient management. Alternatively, the necessary data may not be available to the pathologist at the time of pathologic assessment of this specimen.

Surgical Pathology Cancer Case Summary (Checklist)

*Applies to all brain/spinal cord neoplasms
Excludes neoplasms of the pituitary gland
No AJCC/UICC staging system
January 2003*

BRAIN/SPINAL CORD: Biopsy/Resection

Patient name:

Surgical pathology number:

Note: Check 1 response unless otherwise indicated.

MACROSCOPIC

SPECIMEN TYPE

- Open biopsy
 Stereotactic needle core biopsy
 Subtotal/partial resection
 Total resection
 Other (specify): _____
 Not specified

SPECIMEN SIZE

Greatest dimension: ___ cm

*Additional dimensions: ___x___ cm

TUMOR SITE (check all that apply)

- Cerebral meninges
 Cerebrum (specify lobe(s), if known): _____
 Basal ganglia
 Thalamus
 Hypothalamus
 Suprasellar
 Pineal
 Cerebellum
 Cerebellopontine angle
 Ventricle
 Brain stem
 Spinal cord
 Nerve root
 Other (specify): _____
 Not specified

4

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TUMOR SIZE

Largest dimension: ___ cm

*Additional dimensions: ___x___ cm

___ Cannot be determined (see Comment)

MICROSCOPIC

HISTOLOGIC TYPE

- ___ Astrocytoma, not otherwise characterized
- ___ Astrocytoma, diffuse
- ___ Astrocytoma, pilocytic
- ___ Astrocytoma, pleomorphic xanthoastrocytoma
- ___ Astrocytoma, anaplastic
- ___ Astrocytoma, other (specify): _____
- ___ Glioblastoma
- ___ Gliosarcoma
- ___ Oligodendroglioma, not otherwise characterized
- ___ Oligodendroglioma, anaplastic
- ___ Oligoastrocytoma, not otherwise characterized
- ___ Oligoastrocytoma, anaplastic
- ___ Ependymoma, not otherwise characterized
- ___ Ependymoma, tanycytic
- ___ Ependymoma, myxopapillary
- ___ Ependymoma, anaplastic
- ___ Ependymoma, other (specify): _____
- ___ Subependymoma
- ___ Choroid plexus papilloma
- ___ Choroid plexus carcinoma
- ___ Gangliocytoma
- ___ Ganglioglioma
- ___ Dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumor
- ___ Desmoplastic infantile ganglioglioma/astrocytoma
- ___ Pineocytoma
- ___ Pineoblastoma
- ___ Pineal parenchymal tumor of intermediate differentiation
- ___ Medulloblastoma, not otherwise characterized
- ___ Medulloblastoma, desmoplastic
- ___ Medulloblastoma, large cell
- ___ Medulloblastoma, melanotic
- ___ Medulloblastoma, other (specify): _____
- ___ Primitive neuroectodermal tumor (PNET)
- ___ Neuroblastoma
- ___ Atypical teratoid/rhabdoid tumor

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- Schwannoma, not otherwise characterized
- Schwannoma, cellular
- Schwannoma, plexiform
- Schwannoma, melanotic
- Schwannoma, other (specify): _____
- Neurofibroma, not otherwise characterized
- Neurofibroma, plexiform
- Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor (MPNST), not otherwise characterized
- Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor (MPNST), epithelioid
- Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor (MPNST), melanotic
- Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor (MPNST), other (specify): _____
- Meningioma, not otherwise characterized
- Meningioma, atypical
- Meningioma, papillary
- Meningioma, rhabdoid
- Meningioma, chordoid
- Meningioma, clear cell
- Meningioma, anaplastic
- Meningioma, other (specify): _____
- Malignant lymphoma (specify type): _____
- Hemangioblastoma
- Craniopharyngioma, not otherwise characterized
- Craniopharyngioma, adamantinomatous
- Craniopharyngioma, papillary
- Craniopharyngioma, other (specify): _____
- Germinoma
- Embryonal carcinoma
- Yolk sac tumor
- Choriocarcinoma
- Teratoma, mature
- Teratoma, immature
- Teratoma with malignant transformation
- Mixed germ cell tumor (specify): _____
- Other(s) (specify): _____
- Malignant neoplasm, type cannot be determined

HISTOLOGIC GRADE

- Not applicable
- Cannot be determined
- WHO Grade I
- WHO Grade II
- WHO Grade III
- WHO Grade IV
- Other (specify): _____

MARGINS

- Cannot be assessed
- Not applicable
- Margins uninvolved by tumor
- Margin(s) involved by tumor
Specify which margin(s): _____

*ADDITIONAL STUDIES (check all that apply)

- * None performed
- * Electron microscopy
- * Cytogenetics
- * Molecular testing (specify): _____
- * Other (specify): _____

*ADDITIONAL PATHOLOGIC FINDINGS

*Specify: _____

*COMMENT(S)

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