

Lesson 16

T Category

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AJCC

American Joint Committee on Cancer

Validating science. Improving patient care.

T0

- No evidence of primary tumor
- Site of primary tumor is unknown
- T0 assigned in above cases
 - Based on clinical suspicion of primary site
 - Nodes or distant metastasis pathologically c/w primary site
- Examples
 - Axillary nodes c/w ductal ca, no apparent breast tumor
 - T0 N1 M0 stage IIA
 - Lung mass c/w renal cell ca, no apparent kidney tumor
 - T0 N0 M1 stage IV



Multiple Tumors

- Synchronous tumors of same histology in **one** organ
 - Simultaneous multiple tumors
 - Assign T by most advanced tumor, highest T category
- Indicate multiplicity
 - (m) suffix, T2(m)
 - (number) suffix, T2(5)
- Example: two T2 and one T3 tumors in one organ
 - Assign T3(m) or T3(3)
- Registries must record (m) in AJCC stage descriptor
 - Data field for AJCC y prefix or m, E, S, suffixes
 - Indicates burden of disease for data analysis



Multiple Tumors

- Synchronous primary tumors in **paired** organs
 - Simultaneous multiple tumors
 - Stage and report independently

- Example: T2 tumor in lt adrenal, T3 tumor in rt adrenal
 - Report as two cancers
 - Do **NOT** use (m) suffix
 - Report lt adrenal cancer and assign T2
 - Report rt adrenal cancer and assign T3



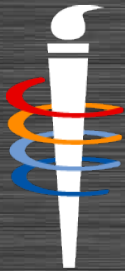
Multiple Tumors

- Multiplicity is criterion for T category in following sites
 - Thyroid
 - Assign T1 – T4 and add (s) for solitary or (m) for multifocal
 - Liver
 - T3 and T4 used for multiple tumors
 - Ovary
 - T1b or higher for both ovaries
- Do not use (m) suffix rules for these sites
 - Thyroid is (s) or (m), not just the (m) or (number)
- Do not consider as separate independent primaries



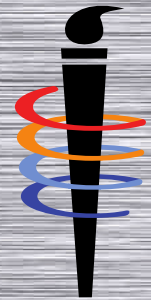
Thank you

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