



ICD-10 Diagnosis Documentation Tips – Surgical Oncology

ICD-10 code expansion:

- ❖ ICD-10 codes include **LATERALITY**
- ❖ ICD-10 codes include etiology, pathophysiology and/or anatomy
 - Example: Malignant neoplasms of the adrenal gland
Anatomic specificity: cortex, medulla, unspecified
 - Laterality: right, left, unspecified
- ❖ ICD-10 codes include pathophysiologic specificity

Malignant Neoplasm of Breast:

- ❖ Describe anatomic location
 - Nipple and areola, central portion, upper-inner, lower-inner, upper-outer, lower-outer, axillary tail, **overlapping sites**
- ❖ Secondary axis: male or female
- ❖ Tertiary axis: **laterality**

Malignant Neoplasm of Liver: added specificity due to type:

- ❖ Hepatoblastoma, angiosarcoma of liver, Kupffer cell sarcoma, other sarcomas of liver, other specified carcinomas of liver, etc.

Malignant Neoplasm of Esophagus: anatomic description

- ❖ ICD-9 terms
 - Cervical, thoracic and abdominal esophagus eliminated
- ❖ ICD-10 terminology
 - Upper third, middle third, lower third
 - **Overlapping sites** – new codes for various anatomic regions if the surgeon describes the neoplasm as extending across specified body parts (see breast above)



ICD-10 [INPATIENT] Procedural Coding Tips – Surgical Oncology

Characters:

- ❖ Section – almost always medical/surgical, don't need to state
- ❖ Body system – should be self evident from your description
- ❖ Root operation – describes the intent of the procedure
 - Resection – removal of all of a body part
 - Excision – removal of a portion of a body part
- ❖ Body part – describe with anatomic specificity, laterality if applies
- ❖ Approach – open, percutaneous, percutaneous endoscopic, via natural orifice, via natural orifice endoscopic, via natural orifice endoscopic with percutaneous endoscopic assistance
 - Device: Describe as specifically as possible any device left in the patient
- ❖ Qualifier – If diagnostic procedure be sure to state so

Lymphadenectomy:

- ❖ Key documentation tip: (the entire lymphatic chain is the body part)
 - document **resection** for removal of entire lymphatic chain
 - document **excision** for partial removal of lymphatic chain

Recommendations:

- ❖ List each distinct part of a procedure separately at the beginning of your operative note (component documentation)
- ❖ Radical Trachelectomy: *“radical trachelectomy is a complex surgical procedure that removes: the cervix, parametrium, pelvic lymph nodes, a portion of the vagina, and then connects the uterus to the vagina”*
- ❖ Component documentation results in coding of:
 - Resection cervix
 - Resection pelvic lymph nodes
 - Excision (part of) vagina