Lesson 19
Stage Group

Donna M. Gress, RHIT, CTR
M Category for Pathologic Stage

• pM not required to assign pathologic stage group

• Pathologic stage group options with cM
  – pT  pN  cM0
  – pT  pN  cM1

• Pure clinical and pure pathologic stage groups
  – Refers to following AJCC rules for that classification
  – Does NOT refer to using all “c” or all “p” for each category
pM1 Special Rules

• pM1
  – Microscopic confirmation of distant mets during diagnostic workup (clinical stage)
  – Sanctions both clinical and pathologic stage group assignment
  – Do not need to meet resection criteria for pathologic stage

• Stage group options – pM1 found during diagnostic workup
  – cT  cN  pM1 clinical stage IV
  – cT  cN  pM1 pathologic stage IV
In Situ Neoplasm

• CIS definition
  – Has not involved any structures in primary organ that
  – Allows tumor cells to spread to regional nodes or distant sites

• CIS exception to stage group guidelines
  – Clinical stage
    • pTis cN0 cM0 clinical stage 0
  – Pathologic stage
    • pTis cN0 cM0 pathologic stage 0

• Caution for pathologic stage
  – Cannot use CIS rule in isolation
  – Must also meet pathologic stage resection criteria
    • Avoids sampling error when resection might show invasion
    • Example: TURB
Thank you

Donna M. Gress, RHIT, CTR
AJCC Technical Specialist

AJCC
American Joint Committee on Cancer
Validating science. Improving patient care.

633 N. Saint Clair, Chicago, IL 60611-3211
cancerstaging.org

No materials in this presentation may be repurposed without the express written permission of the American Joint Committee on Cancer. Permission requests may be submitted at CancerStaging.net