CAAnswer Forum…A Deeper Look

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Learning Objectives

• Provide practical approach to coding and abstracting
  – FORDS/NCDB
  – AJCC & Collaborative Stage

• Tips on navigating the forum
FORDS / NCDB
Hospital Expansion

• Here vs. elsewhere
• Dates
• Responsibilities
Multiple Treatment Procedures

- Chemotherapy drug change
- Repeat surgeries
- Corrected diagnosis
When is it a Diagnosis?

- Ambiguous terminology
- Case-finding vs. information-gathering
- Transplants
What are Confidence Intervals?

- Statistical concept: probability
AJCC / CS
No Residual on (Subsequent) Surgery

CLINICAL (workup)

PATHOLOGIC (clinical + surgery)

Biopsy of tumor

Surgical resection—no residual ca found—not T0 or CS Ext 950

CLINICAL (workup)

PATHOLOGIC (clinical + surgery)

Biopsy of tumor

Surgical excision

Surgical re-excision—No residual ca found— not T0 or CS Ext 950
Type of Surgery for Pathologic Stage

- AJCC defines surgical procedures for pathologic

- Different for each AJCC site/CS schema based on:
  - Anatomy
  - Information needed to assign T category
  - Rare situations of adequate info without that procedure

- Not the same as FORDS surgery codes
Node Biopsy Used for Both Stages

Node Bx

Diagnostic workup

Clinical Stage
Always in cases with cT

Pathologic Stage
May if highest N category
May with subsequent pT
Rules for Surveillance vs. Patient Care

• Multiple primaries in single organ
  – Surveillance: abstracted separately
  – Patient care: treatment based on highest stage
    only 1 stage needed for Rx decisions & prognosis

• Multiple primaries in contiguous sites
  – Surveillance: abstracted as one, site is generic/NOS
  – Patient care: treatment based on highest stage
    specific staging allows Rx guidelines & prognosis
You Tube – Stage Coach

• Stage Coach
  – CAnswer Forum questions
  – You Tube style

• Available on AJCC Web site, CS page
NAVIGATING TIPS
Tips

• Search Before you Submit
  – 4,807 Threads and 14,362 Posts as of 3/22/13
How to Search

Advanced Search

Search Single Content Type

Search Multiple Content Types

Search In

Search Type: 

Posts

Search for Posts

Keyword(s):

Search Entire Posts

User Name:

Find Posts by User

Tag:

Exact name

Additional Options

Search in Forum(s):

Search All Open Forums
Search Subscribed Forums
AJCC TNM Staging
General Rules – Chapters 1-2
Head and Neck – Chapters 3-9

Also search in child forums

Find Threads with:

At Least

Replies

Find Posts:

A Year Ago

and Newer

Sort Results by:

Number of Views

in Descending Order

Show Results as:

Threads

Posts

Save Search Preferences

Go

Search Now

Reset
Tips

• Narrow Your Search Field
  – Choose specific forum or subforum
  – Choose multiple subforums by holding “Ctrl”
Search Results – colon nodes

All Forums-68

- AJCC-23
- Standards-5
- CS-28
- NCDB/FORDS-11

- Digestive-18
- Outcomes-4
- Colon-18
- CP³R-6
Questions

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