Multiple Primary Rules for Meningiomas
Date of clarification: March 2004

A. **Laterality** is coded on cerebral meninges. The benign CNS tumor rules indicate that if there are multiple tumors in "**different sites**" defined as cerebral (C70.0) versus spinal (C70.1) or "**different laterality**" within cerebral meninges, they are **separate tumors**.

**Examples:**

1. Patient has a benign cerebral meningioma, NOS over the left parietal lobe. Site code: C70.0; Laterality: Left only, M9530/0. The patient is subsequently diagnosed with a benign cerebral meningioma, NOS on the right side of the brain. Site code: C70.0; Laterality: Right only; M9530/0. Because these benign tumors are located on different sides of the brain, they are considered separate primary tumors. Two abstracts should be completed.

2. Patient has a benign cerebral meningioma, NOS over the left parietal lobe. Site code: C70.0; Laterality: Left only, M9530/0. The patient is subsequently diagnosed with a benign spinal meningioma, NOS. Site code: C70.1; Laterality: Not a paired site; M9530/0. Because these tumors are located in different subsites, they are considered separate primary tumors. Two abstracts should be completed.

B. Conversely, if they are in the "**same site**" (**subsite and laterality**), they are the **same tumor regardless of the timing**.

**Example:** Patient has a benign cerebral meningioma, NOS over the left parietal lobe. Site code: C70.0; Laterality: Left only, M9530/0. The patient is subsequently diagnosed with a benign cerebral meningioma, NOS also on the left side of the brain. Site code: C70.0; Laterality: Left only; M9530/0. Because these tumors are in the same site (C70.0), same histology (M9530/0), and located on the same side of the brain, they are considered the same primary tumor regardless of the timing of the diagnosis. Only one abstract should be completed.

C. **If one meningioma is benign** (/0 or /1) and **one is malignant** (/3), they are **always considered separate tumors and two abstracts are completed**.

Source: NPCR/CDC Brain Tumor Reporting Training Material at http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/npcr/training/btr/clarification.htm#1