PanNETs: A Reportability Issue

Per SEER, ALL Pancreatic (neuro)endocrine neoplasms (PanNETs) ARE REPORTABLE and should be coded to 8240/3. Code grade/differentiation as specified by the pathologist. For example, a well differentiated PanNET should be coded to 8240/3 with a grade of 1. If the grade/differentiation is not stated on the pathology report, code grade to 9.

Per SEER, Pancreatic endocrine and neuroendocrine neoplasms are essentially the same thing. However, they are described in two different World Health Organization (WHO) classifications; the endocrine classification and the digestive system classification. The digestive system classification is more recent, and is preferred by SEER’s expert pathologist consultant. The term "neuroendocrine" is to be used now, rather than "endocrine." Thus in the pancreas, a "well differentiated endocrine tumor" is synonymous with "neuroendocrine tumor (NET) Grade 1" and is coded to 8240/3 with a grade of 1.

All PanNETS are considered malignant by SEER and are to be reported as such regardless of whether the pathology report provides the WHO Classification stating “uncertain behavior.”

Sources: SEER Sinq 20120060 and 20120035.