



LOUISIANA TUMOR REGISTRY
MEMO

Anal & Lip Cancers: A Reportability Issue

Please utilize the following info from SEER when determining reportability for these two sites:

1. **ANUS:** Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the anus IS REPORTABLE *UNLESS known or stated to be skin of anus (or perianal skin)*.

When stated specifically to involve the skin of anus (perianal skin/tissue) it is not reportable and should be coded to C44.5 (skin of anus) not C21x Anus and Anal Canal.--LTR

2. **LIP:** **Basal Cell Carcinoma** of lip, NOS is coded to C44.0 (skin of lip) because basal cell starts on skin cells, not mucous membranes. **Basal cell carcinoma of the skin is not reportable EXCEPT for genital sites, which are reportable.**

Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC) of lip, NOS can involve either skin or vermillion border [mucosa] of the lip (or both as an overlapping lesion):

- SCC of lip, NOS IS REPORTABLE and coded to C009-- **unless stated as skin of the lip**. Other stated lip sites (lower lip; upper lip, etc—codes C000-C008) are also REPORTABLE—**unless stated as skin of the lip**.
- If SCC is overlapping skin and vermillion border, go with the **area of greatest involvement**. If more than 50% of the lesion is on the vermillion border, code to the vermillion border (C00x) as this IS REPORTABLE.

When stated specifically to involve the skin of the lip it is not reportable and should be coded to C44.0 (skin of lip) not C00x Lip.--LTR

LTR Suggestions:

If no other info is available, read gross description in path report to determine what was excised by the specimen/lesion description—skin (yellow/tan/brown etc) vs mucosa (pink/red etc).--LTR

Also, documentation that the physician performed a “Wedge Resection” is a good indication that the cancer involves the vermillion border of the lip and not the skin of the lip (unless stated specifically to involve skin).--LTR

References: SEER SINQ #20061040; #20031110* and #20051049*

***Last updated March 5, 2008 by SEER Staff <http://seer.cancer.gov/seer inquiry>**

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