

2013 UPDATE: Multiple Tumor & Ambiguous Terminology Data Items

For cases **DIAGNOSED January 1st 2013 forward**, the Multiple Tumor & Ambiguous Terminology Data Items have been made **OPTIONAL** by both SEER and the CoC. *Please note that this is based on **diagnosis date**, not the date the case was abstracted.* These data items made optional include the following:

- Multiplicity Counter
- Date of Multiple Tumors
- Type of Multiple Tumors Reported as One Primary
- Ambiguous Terminology
- Date of Conclusive Terminology

Because these data items have been made optional, your hospital registry may chose to continue collecting them for internal purposes. If your facility wishes to continue to do so, please utilize the coding guidelines found in the [Multiple Primary Data Items Quick Reference \(Revised 2013\)](#). However, if your registry chooses NOT TO CONTINUE COLLECTION on cases **diagnosed 01/01/2013 forward**, the above data fields **may be left BLANK**.

For older cases diagnosed between 2007-2012, the Multiple Tumor & Ambiguous Terminology Data Items ARE STILL REQUIRED and cannot be left blank.

To make it easier for you to keep track of the changes related to these data items, I have included the following reference table from SEER:

Multiple Tumor & Ambiguous Terminology Data Items		
DIAGNOSIS Year	Status	Comments
Prior to 2007	Not applicable	Leave data items blank
2007-2012	REQUIRED	Data items cannot be blank
2013 forward	Optional	Data items can be blank or collected