

# **Pancreas (Exocrine)**

**Protocol applies to all carcinomas  
of the exocrine pancreas.**

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*Protocol revision date: January 2005  
Based on AJCC/UICC TNM, 6<sup>th</sup> edition*

## **Procedures**

- **Cytology** (No Accompanying Checklist)
- **Incisional Biopsy** (No Accompanying Checklist)
- **Partial Pancreatectomy**
- **Pancreaticoduodenectomy (Whipple Resection)**

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The College of American Pathologists offers these protocols to assist pathologists in providing clinically useful and relevant information when reporting results of surgical specimen examinations of surgical specimens. The College regards the reporting elements in the "Surgical Pathology Cancer Case Summary (Checklist)" portion of the protocols as essential elements of the pathology report. However, the manner in which these elements are reported is at the discretion of each specific pathologist, taking into account clinician preferences, institutional policies, and individual practice.

The College developed these protocols as an educational tool to assist pathologists in the useful reporting of relevant information. It did not issue the protocols for use in litigation, reimbursement, or other contexts. Nevertheless, the College recognizes that the protocols might be used by hospitals, attorneys, payers, and others. Indeed, effective January 1, 2004, the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons mandated the use of the checklist elements of the protocols as part of its Cancer Program Standards for Approved Cancer Programs. Therefore, it becomes even more important for pathologists to familiarize themselves with the document. At the same time, the College cautions that use of the protocols other than for their intended educational purpose may involve additional considerations that are beyond the scope of this document.

## Summary of Changes to Checklist(s)

*Protocol revision date: January 2005*

The following changes have been made to the data elements of the checklist(s) since the January 2004 protocol revision.

### **Resection Checklist**

#### **Microscopic**

Regional Lymph Nodes (pN): the subclassification of pN1 into pN1a and pN1b have been changed from required to not required, as shown below

##### Regional Lymph Nodes (pN)

\_\_\_ pNX: Cannot be assessed

\_\_\_ pN0: No regional lymph node metastasis

\_\_\_ pN1: Regional lymph node metastasis

\* \_\_\_ N1a: Metastasis in single regional lymph node

\* \_\_\_ N1b: Metastasis in multiple regional lymph nodes

Specify: Number examined \_\_\_

Number involved: \_\_\_

**Surgical Pathology Cancer Case Summary (Checklist)**

*Protocol revision date: January 2005  
Applies to invasive carcinomas only  
Based on AJCC/UICC TNM, 6<sup>th</sup> edition*

**PANCREAS (EXOCRINE): Resection**

Patient name:

Surgical pathology number:

<b>Note: Check 1 response unless otherwise indicated.</b>
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**MACROSCOPIC****Specimen Type**

- Pancreaticoduodenectomy (Whipple resection), partial pancreatectomy  
 Pancreaticoduodenectomy (Whipple resection), total pancreatectomy  
 Pylorus sparing pancreaticoduodenectomy, partial pancreatectomy  
 Pylorus sparing pancreaticoduodenectomy, total pancreatectomy  
 Partial pancreatectomy, pancreatic body  
 Partial pancreatectomy, pancreatic tail  
 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Not specified

**Tumor Site (check all that apply)**

- Pancreatic head  
 Uncinate process  
 Pancreatic body  
 Pancreatic tail  
 Not specified

**Tumor Size**

Greatest dimension: \_\_\_ cm

\*Additional dimensions: \_\_\_ x \_\_\_ cm

 Cannot be determined (see Comment)**\*Other Organs Resected**

- \*  None  
 \*  Spleen  
 \*  Gallbladder  
 \*  Other(s) (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**MICROSCOPIC****Histologic Type**

- Ductal adenocarcinoma
- Mucinous noncystic carcinoma
- Signet-ring cell carcinoma
- Adenosquamous carcinoma
- Undifferentiated (anaplastic) carcinoma
- Undifferentiated carcinoma with osteoclast-like giant cells
- Mixed ductal-endocrine carcinoma
- Serous cystadenocarcinoma
- Mucinous cystadenocarcinoma – invasive
- Invasive papillary-mucinous carcinoma
- Acinar cell carcinoma
- Acinar cell cystadenocarcinoma
- Mixed acinar-endocrine carcinoma
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Carcinoma, type cannot be determined

**Histologic Grade (ductal carcinoma only)**

- Not applicable
- GX: Cannot be assessed
- G1: Well differentiated
- G2: Moderately differentiated
- G3: Poorly differentiated
- G4: Undifferentiated
- Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Pathologic Staging (pTNM)**Primary Tumor (pT)

- pTX: Cannot be assessed
- pT0: No evidence of primary tumor
- pTis: Carcinoma in situ
- pT1: Tumor limited to the pancreas, 2 cm or less in greatest dimension
- pT2: Tumor limited to the pancreas, more than 2 cm in greatest dimension
- pT3: Tumor extends beyond the pancreas but without involvement of the celiac axis or the superior mesenteric artery
- pT4: Tumor involves the celiac axis or the superior mesenteric artery

Regional Lymph Nodes (pN)

- pNX: Cannot be assessed
  - pN0: No regional lymph node metastasis
  - pN1: Regional lymph node metastasis
  - \*  N1a: Metastasis in single regional lymph node
  - \*  N1b: Metastasis in multiple regional lymph nodes
- Specify: Number examined: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Data elements **with asterisks** are **not required** for accreditation purposes for the Commission on Cancer. These elements may be clinically important, but are not yet validated or regularly used in patient management. Alternatively, the necessary data may not be available to the pathologist at the time of pathologic assessment of this specimen.

Distant Metastasis (pM) pMX: Cannot be assessed pM1: Distant metastasis

\*Specify site(s), if known: \_\_\_\_\_

**Margins (check all that apply)** Cannot be assessed Margins uninvolved by invasive carcinoma

Distance of invasive carcinoma from closest margin: \_\_\_\_ mm

\*Specify margin (if possible): \_\_\_\_\_

 Carcinoma in situ absent at ductal margins Carcinoma in situ present at common bile duct margin Carcinoma in situ present at pancreatic parenchymal margin Margin(s) involved by invasive carcinoma Posterior retroperitoneal (radial) margin: posterior surface of pancreas Uncinate process margin (non-peritonealized surface of the uncinete process) Distal pancreatic margin Common bile duct margin Proximal pancreatic margin Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_**\*Venous/Lymphatic (Large/Small Vessel) Invasion (V/L)**\*  Absent\*  Present\*  Indeterminate**\*Perineural Invasion**\*  Absent\*  Present**\*Additional Pathologic Findings (check all that apply)**\*  None identified\*  Pancreatic intraepithelial neoplasia (highest grade: PanIN \_\_\_\_)\*  Chronic pancreatitis\*  Acute pancreatitis\*  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_**\*Comment(s)**