



QPP 395: Lung Cancer Reporting (Biopsy/Cytology Specimens)

The pathology report for a case states, “left pleural mass, biopsy. Connective tissue with rare, mildly atypical cells; not diagnostic of malignancy.” Since this is a lung biopsy, would this be included in this measure?

No. The ICD-10 codes for this measure specify malignant neoplasms only. If a sample is determined to be a benign mass, it should not be included in the denominator of this measure.

The pathology report for a case of lung cancer states “carcinoma” as the type. Does that count as identification of histologic type?

Unfortunately, no. There are three main types of non-small cell lung cancer: giant cell, squamous cell carcinoma, and adenocarcinoma. Any of those are acceptable. Carcinoma alone is not specific enough. Code this as Performance Not Met: G9421

The pathology report for a case of lung cancer states “lepidic carcinoma” as the type. That is not on the list of main types, does that count as identification of histologic type?

Yes. Anything more specific than the three main histologic types counts as identification. Lepidic is a description of where the carcinoma occurred, this would count. Code this as Performance Met: G9418

The pathology report for a case of lung cancer states “pediatric pleuropulmonary blastoma” as the type. Does that count as identification of the histologic type?

While this is identification of the histologic type, pediatric pleuropulmonary blastoma is not considered a type of non-small cell lung cancer, so this case would not be part of the denominator of this measure. If this has ICD-10 and CPT codes that would include it in the denominator, code it as a Denominator Exception: G9419.

Why are my non-small cell lung cancer cases falling into the "Not Met" category when I have included histologic type to the lung cancer specimen per measure specification?

Practices (specifically, LIS practices) should use the phrase, “non-small cell lung cancer” or “NSCLC” as the diagnosis for the specimen that would put them in the denominator. Cases where only the histologic subtype of non-small cell lung cancer (i.e. adenocarcinoma of the lung) is documented in the pathology report (which meets the numerator requirement) will not be in the denominator. As a result, the case will be placed in the “Not Met” category.