

Quality ID #250 (NQF 1853): Radical Prostatectomy Pathology Reporting – National Quality Strategy  
Domain: Effective Clinical Care

**2018 OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL MEASURES:**  
**REGISTRY ONLY**

**MEASURE TYPE:**  
Process

**DESCRIPTION:**  
Percentage of radical prostatectomy pathology reports that include the pT category, the pN category, the Gleason score and a statement about margin status

**INSTRUCTIONS:**  
This measure is to be submitted **each time** a radical prostatectomy surgical pathology examination is performed during the performance period for prostate patients. It is anticipated that eligible clinicians who examine prostate tissue specimens following resection in a laboratory or institution will submit this measure.

**Measure Submission:**  
The listed denominator criteria is used to identify the intended patient population. The numerator options included in this specification are used to submit the quality actions allowed by the measure. The quality-data codes listed do not need to be submitted for registry submissions; however, these codes may be submitted for those registries that utilize claims data.

**DENOMINATOR:**  
All radical prostatectomy surgical pathology examinations performed during the measurement period for prostate cancer patients

**Denominator Criteria (Eligible Cases):**  
Diagnosis for malignant neoplasm of prostate (ICD-10-CM): C61  
**AND**  
Patient procedure during the performance period (CPT): 88309  
**AND NOT**  
**DENOMINATOR EXCLUSION:**  
Specimen site other than anatomic location of prostate: G8798

**NUMERATOR:**  
Radical Prostatectomy reports that include the pT category, the pN category, Gleason score and a statement about margin status

**Numerator Options:**  
*Performance Met:* Pathology report includes pT category, pN category, Gleason score and statement about margin status **(3267F)**

**OR**

*Denominator Exception:* Documentation of medical reason(s) for not including pT category, pN category, Gleason score and statement about margin status in the pathology report (e.g., specimen originated from other malignant neoplasms, transurethral resections of the prostate (TURP), or secondary site prostatic carcinomas) **(3267F with 1P)**

**OR**

**Performance Not Met:**

pT category, pN category, Gleason score and statement about margin status were not documented in pathology report, reason not otherwise specified (3267F with 8P)

**RATIONALE:**

Therapeutic decisions for prostate cancer management are stage driven and cannot be made without a complete set of pathology descriptors. Incomplete pathology reports for prostate cancer may result in misclassification of patients, rework and delays, and suboptimal management. The College of American Pathologists Cancer Committee has produced an evidence-based protocol/checklist of essential pathologic parameters that are recommended to be included in prostate cancer resection pathology reports. Conformance of pathology reports with the CAP checklist is a requirement for Cancer Center certification by the ACS.

The protocol recommends the use of the TNM Staging System for carcinoma of the prostate of the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) and the International Union Against Cancer (UICC). The radical prostatectomy checklist also includes extraprostatic extension.

In a study of cancer recurrence following radical prostatectomy, it was noted that "The relatively high proportion of patients who have biopsy-proven local recurrence who have organ-confined disease is probably inaccurate and, in large part, reflects under sampling and under recognition of extraprostatic extension".

The CAP Q probes data (2006) indicates that 11.6% of prostate pathology reports had missing elements. Extent of invasion (pTNM) was most frequently missing (52.1% of the reports missing elements), and extraprostatic extension was the second most frequently missing (41.7% of the reports missing elements). Margin status was missing in 8.3% of reports.

A sampling from prostate cancer cases in 2000 through 2001 from the College of Surgeons National Cancer Data Base found only 48.2% of surgical pathology reports for prostate cancer documented pathologic stage similar to the more recent data from the CAP Q probes study. The NCDB data showed the Gleason score was present 86.3% of the time, slightly less than the 100% compliance found in the CAP Q probes study and that margin status was present in 84.9% of reports.

**CLINICAL RECOMMENDATION STATEMENTS:**

Patient management and treatment guidelines promote an organized approach to providing quality care. The (American College of Surgeons Committee on Cancer) CoC requires that 90% of pathology reports that include a cancer diagnosis contain the scientifically validated data elements outlined in the surgical case summary checklist of the College of American Pathologists (CAP) publication Reporting on Cancer 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.

Pathologic staging is usually performed after surgical resection of the primary tumor. Pathologic staging depends on pathologic documentation of the anatomic extent of disease, whether or not the primary tumor has been completely removed.

[CAP June 2017 Protocol for the Examination of Specimens From Patients With Carcinoma of the Prostate Gland](#)

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## 2018 Registry Flow for Quality ID #250 NQF #1853 Radical Prostatectomy Pathology Reporting



### SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:

#### Data Completeness=

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 procedures)} + \text{Denominator Exception (b=10 procedures)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c=20 procedures)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 procedures)}} = \frac{70 \text{ procedures}}{80 \text{ procedures}} = 87.50\%$$

#### Performance Rate=

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 procedures)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 procedures) - Denominator Exception (b=10 procedures)}} = \frac{40 \text{ procedures}}{60 \text{ procedures}} = 66.67\%$$

\*See the posted Measure Specification for specific coding and instructions to submit this measure.  
NOTE: Submission Frequency - Procedure

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The measure diagrams were developed by CMS as a supplemental resource to be used in conjunction with the measure specifications. They should not be used alone or as a substitution for the measure specification.

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**2018 Registry Flow for Quality ID  
#250 NQF #1853: Radical Prostatectomy Pathology Reporting**

Please refer to the specific section of the specification to identify the denominator and numerator information for use in submitting this Individual Specification. This flow is for registry data submission.

1. Start with Denominator
2. Check Patient Diagnosis:
  - a. If Diagnosis of Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Diagnosis of Malignant Neoplasm of Prostate as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to check Procedure Performed.
3. Check Procedure Performed:
  - a. If Procedure as Listed in the Denominator equals No, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Procedure as Listed in the Denominator equals Yes, proceed to Specimen site other than Anatomic Location of Prostate.
4. Check Specimen Site other than Anatomic Location of Prostate:
  - a. If Specimen Site other than Anatomic Location of Prostate equals Yes, do not include in Eligible Patient Population. Stop Processing.
  - b. If Specimen Site other than Anatomic Location of Prostate equals No, include in the Eligible Population.
5. Denominator Population:
  - a. Denominator population is all Eligible Procedures in the denominator. Denominator is represented as Denominator in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter d equals 80 procedures in the Sample Calculation.
6. Start Numerator
7. Check Pathology Report includes pT category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement about Margin Status:
  - a. If Pathology Report includes pT category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement about Margin Status equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Performance Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter a equals 40 procedures in Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Pathology Report includes pT category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement about Margin Status equals No, proceed to Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for not including pT Category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement about Margin Status in the Pathology Report.
8. Check Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for not including pT Category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement about Margin Status in the Pathology Report:

- a. If Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for not including pT Category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement about Margin Status in the Pathology Report equals Yes, include in Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exception.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Denominator Exception letter is represented in the Data Completeness and Performance Rate in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter b equals 10 procedures in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If Documentation of Medical Reason(s) for not including pT Category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement about Margin Status in the Pathology Report equals No, proceed to pT category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement About Margin Status Not Documented in Pathology Report, Reason Not Specified.
9. Check pT category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement About Margin Status Not Documented in Pathology Report, Reason Not Specified:
- a. If pT category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement About Margin Status Not Documented in Pathology Report, Reason Not Specified equals Yes, include in the Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met.
  - b. Data Completeness Met and Performance Not Met letter is represented in the Data Completeness in the Sample Calculation listed at the end of this document. Letter c equals 20 procedures in the Sample Calculation.
  - c. If pT category, pN category, Gleason Score and Statement About Margin Status Not Documented in Pathology Report, Reason Not Specified equals No, proceed to Data Completeness Not Met.
10. Check Data Completeness Not Met
- a. If Data Completeness Not Met equals No, Quality Data Code or equivalent not submitted. 10 procedures have been subtracted from Data Completeness Numerator in the Sample Calculation.

**SAMPLE CALCULATIONS:**

**Data Completeness=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 procedures)} + \text{Denominator Exception (b=10 procedures)} + \text{Performance Not Met (c=20 procedures)}}{\text{Eligible Population / Denominator (d=80 procedures)}} = \frac{70 \text{ procedures}}{80 \text{ procedures}} = 87.50\%$$

**Performance Rate=**

$$\frac{\text{Performance Met (a=40 procedures)}}{\text{Data Completeness Numerator (70 procedures) – Denominator Exception (b=10 procedures)}} = \frac{40 \text{ procedures}}{60 \text{ procedures}} = 66.67\%$$