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# Carcinomas of the Nasopharynx and Oropharynx Histopathology Reporting Guide



Family/Last name

Date of birth

Given name(s)

Patient identifiers

Date of request

Accession/Laboratory number

Elements in **black text** are CORE. Elements in **grey text** are NON-CORE.

[SCOPE OF THIS DATASET](#)

## NEOADJUVANT THERAPY

- Information not provided
- Not administered
- Administered, *specify type*

- Chemotherapy
- Radiotherapy
- Chemoradiotherapy
- Targeted therapy, *specify if available*

- Immunotherapy, *specify if available*

## OPERATIVE PROCEDURE (select all that apply)

- Not specified
- Resection, *specify*
  - Transoral laser microsurgical resection
  - Transoral robotic surgical resection
  - Other, *specify*

- Biopsy (excisional, incisional), *specify*

- Neck (lymph node) dissection\*, *specify*

- Other, *specify*

\* If a **neck dissection** is submitted, then a separate dataset is used to record the information.

## SPECIMENS SUBMITTED (select all that apply)

- Not specified
- Oropharynx
  - Palatine tonsil
  - Base of tongue/lingual tonsil
  - Soft palate
  - Uvula
  - Pharyngeal wall (posterior)
  - Pharyngeal wall (lateral)
  - Other, *specify*

- Nasopharynx, *specify if necessary*

- Other, *specify*

## TUMOUR SITE (select all that apply)

- Cannot be assessed
- Oropharynx
  - Left  Right
  - Midline  Laterality not specified

- Palatine tonsil
- Base of tongue/lingual tonsil
- Soft palate
- Uvula
- Pharyngeal wall (posterior)
- Pharyngeal wall (lateral)
- Other, *specify*

- Nasopharynx

- Left  Right
- Midline  Laterality not specified

- Nasopharyngeal tonsils (adenoids)
- Fossa of Rosenmüller
- Lateral wall
- Other, *specify*

- Other, *specify including laterality*

### TUMOUR DIMENSIONS

Maximum tumour dimension (largest tumour)

Additional dimensions (largest tumour)

 x 

Cannot be assessed, *specify*

### HISTOLOGICAL TUMOUR TYPE

(Value list from the World Health Organization Classification of Head and Neck Tumours (2017))

**Salivary gland carcinoma, specify type**

**Neuroendocrine carcinoma, specify type**

**Other, specify type**

#### Carcinomas of the oropharynx

- Squamous cell carcinoma, conventional
  - Keratinizing
  - Nonkeratinizing
  - Nonkeratinizing with maturation ("partially keratinizing")
- Acantholytic squamous cell carcinoma
- Adenosquamous carcinoma
- Basaloid squamous cell carcinoma
- Papillary squamous cell carcinoma
- Spindle cell carcinoma
- Verrucous carcinoma
- Lymphoepithelial carcinoma

#### Carcinomas of the nasopharynx

- Nonkeratinizing squamous cell carcinoma
  - Differentiated
  - Undifferentiated (lymphoepithelial)
- Keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma
- Basaloid squamous cell carcinoma
- Nasopharyngeal papillary adenocarcinoma
- Cannot be assessed, *specify*

### HISTOLOGICAL TUMOUR GRADE

- Not applicable
- GX: Cannot be assessed
- G1: Well differentiated
- G2: Moderately differentiated
- G3: Poorly differentiated
- Other, *specify*

Cannot be assessed, *specify*

### DEPTH OF INVASION

- Not applicable
- Cannot be assessed, *specify*

### PERINEURAL INVASION

(Not applicable for nasopharynx)

- Not identified
- Present
- Cannot be assessed, *specify*

### LYMPHOVASCULAR INVASION

(Not applicable for nasopharynx)

- Not identified
- Present
- Cannot be assessed, *specify*

### MARGIN STATUS

**Invasive carcinoma\*\***

Involved

Specify margin(s), if possible

Not involved

Distance of tumour from closest margin

Distance not assessable

Specify closest margin, if possible

**Carcinoma in situ/high-grade dysplasia\*\*\***

Involved

Specify margin(s), if possible

Not involved

Distance of tumour from closest margin

Distance not assessable

Specify closest margin, if possible

Not applicable \*\*\*

Cannot be assessed, *specify*

\*\* There is no clear morphologic distinction between invasive and in situ carcinoma for HPV-positive oropharyngeal and EBV-positive nasopharyngeal carcinomas, so all carcinoma at margin should be included in evaluation simply as "involved by carcinoma".

\*\*\* Only applicable for HPV-negative oropharyngeal and EBV-negative nasopharyngeal tumours and for tonsillar surface disease. High-grade dysplasia is synonymous with moderate/severe dysplasia.

**COEXISTENT PATHOLOGY** (select all that apply) 

- None identified
- Dysplasia<sup>^</sup>
  - Mild
  - Moderate
  - Severe
- Carcinoma in situ
  - Focal  Multifocal
  - Discontinuous with the primary site
- Other, *specify*

<sup>^</sup> Applicable for oropharyngeal surface mucosal disease only; not for tonsillar crypt epithelium.

**ANCILLARY STUDIES** 

**Viral testing/Viral tumour markers**

OROPHARYNX

- Not performed/unknown
  - Performed (select all that apply)
    - p16 immunohistochemistry
      - Positive
        - >70% nuclear and cytoplasmic staining of at least moderate to strong intensity
        - Other criterion used, *specify*
      - Negative
- Criteria used to determine results, *specify*

- High risk HPV specific testing
  - DNA PCR
    - Not identified  Present
  - DNA in situ hybridization
    - Not identified  Present
  - E6/E7 mRNA in situ hybridization
    - Not identified  Present
  - E6/E7 mRNA RTPCR
    - Not identified  Present

**Viral testing/Viral tumour markers**

NASOPHARYNX

- Not performed/unknown
- Performed
  - EBV (EBER) in situ hybridization - Positive
  - EBV (EBER) in situ hybridization - Negative

**Other ancillary studies**

- Not performed
- Performed, *specify*

**PATHOLOGICAL STAGING (UICC TNM 8th edition)**<sup>##</sup> 

**TNM Descriptors** (only if applicable) (select all that apply)

- m - multiple primary tumours
- r - recurrent
- y - post-therapy

**Primary tumour (pT)**<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>

**p16 Positive oropharynx**

- T0 No evidence of primary tumour, but p16 positive cervical node(s) involved
- T1 Tumour 2 cm or less in greatest dimension
- T2 Tumour more than 2 cm but not more than 4 cm in greatest dimension
- T3 Tumour more than 4 cm in greatest dimension or extension to lingual surface of epiglottis
- T4 Tumour invades any of the following: larynx<sup>^^</sup>, deep/extrinsic muscle of tongue (genioglossus, hyoglossus, palatoglossus, and styloglossus), medial pterygoid, hard palate, mandible<sup>^^</sup>, lateral pterygoid muscle, pterygoid plates, lateral nasopharynx, skull base; or encases carotid artery

**p16 Negative oropharynx**

- Tis Carcinoma in situ
- T1 Tumour 2 cm or less in greatest dimension
- T2 Tumour more than 2 cm but not more than 4 cm in greatest dimension
- T3 Tumour more than 4 cm in greatest dimension or extension to lingual surface of epiglottis
- T4a Moderately advanced local disease  
Tumour invades any of the following: larynx<sup>^^</sup>, deep/extrinsic muscle of tongue (genioglossus, hyoglossus, palatoglossus, and styloglossus), medial pterygoid, hard palate, or mandible
- T4b Very advanced local disease  
Tumour invades any of the following: lateral pterygoid muscle, pterygoid plates, lateral nasopharynx, skull base; or encases carotid artery

**Nasopharynx**

- T0 No evidence of primary tumour, but EBV-positive cervical node(s) involved
- T1 Tumour confined to the nasopharynx, or extends to oropharynx and/or nasal cavity without parapharyngeal involvement
- T2 Tumour with extension to parapharyngeal space and/or infiltration of the medial pterygoid, lateral pterygoid, and/or prevertebral muscles
- T3 Tumour invades bony structures of skull base cervical vertebra, pterygoid structures, and/or paranasal sinuses
- T4 Tumour with intracranial extension and/or involvement of cranial nerves, hypopharynx, orbit, parotid gland, and/or infiltration beyond the lateral surface of the lateral pterygoid muscle

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> If a lymph node/neck dissection is submitted, then a separate dataset is to be completed for the corresponding neck nodal disease specimen(s).

<sup>^^</sup> Mucosal extension to lingual surface of epiglottis from primary tumours of the base of the tongue and vallecula does not constitute invasion of the larynx.

<sup>##</sup> Reproduced with permission. Source: UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 8th Edition, eds James D. Brierley, Mary K. Gospodarowicz, Christian Wittekind. 2017, Publisher Wiley-Blackwell.