

Seminal vesicle/ejaculatory duct invasion (Recommended)

Reason/Evidentiary Support

Seminal vesicle invasion (SVI) is rarely identified in needle biopsies cores, hence its absence does not need to be explicitly stated. However, if seminal vesicle/ejaculatory duct invasion is present it should be recorded and the following comments apply.

SVI is defined as involvement of the muscular wall of the extraprostatic portion of the seminal vesicle.¹ If possible seminal vesicle tissue is present (either unintentionally or intentionally, as in a targeted biopsy) and involved by carcinoma, this may be significant since it indicates that the tumour could be pT3b in the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC)/Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) Staging system.^{2,3} However, assessment of SVI is problematic in needle biopsy specimens since it is impossible to reliably distinguish between extraprostatic seminal vesicle and intraprostatic seminal vesicle or ejaculatory duct tissue, therefore it is important not to over interpret invasion of the latter two structures as SVI since their involvement by tumour does not constitute pT3b disease. Unless one is dealing with a targeted seminal vesicle biopsy, it is recommended to report tumour involvement of such structures in a needle core biopsy as “seminal vesicle/ejaculatory duct invasion” rather than as SVI.

References

- 1 Berney DM, Wheeler TM, Grignon DJ, Epstein JI, Griffiths DF, Humphrey PA, van der Kwast T, Montironi R, Delahunt B, Egevad L, Srigley JR and ISUP Prostate Cancer Group (2011). International Society of Urological Pathology (ISUP) consensus conference on handling and staging of radical prostatectomy specimens. Working group 4: seminal vesicles and lymph nodes. *Mod Pathol* 24:39-47.
- 2 Amin M.B., Edge, S., Greene, F.L., Byrd, D.R., Brookland, R.K., Washington, M.K., Gershenwald, J.E., Compton, C.C., Hess, K.R., Sullivan, D.C., Jessup, J.M., Brierley, J.D., Gaspar, L.E., Schilsky, R.L., Balch, C.M., Winchester, D.P., Asare, E.A., Madera, M., Gress, D.M., Meyer, L.R. (Eds.) (2017). *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 8th ed.* Springer, New York.
- 3 Brierley JD, Gospodarowicz MK, Wittekind C (eds) (2016). *UICC TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 8th Edition.* Wiley-Blackwell.