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# Nodal Excisions and Neck Dissection Specimens for Head & Neck Tumours 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](#)

## OPERATIVE PROCEDURE (select all that apply)

- Not specified
- Selective neck dissection
  - Supraomohyoid
  - Lateral
  - Posterolateral
  - Central (anterior) compartment
- Comprehensive neck dissection
  - Modified radical neck dissection
  - Radical neck dissection
  - Extended radical neck dissection

Lymph node biopsy, *specify site*

Other, *specify*

Left

- Lymph nodes
  - Not specified
  - Submental (IA)
  - Submandibular (IB)
  - Upper jugular (II)
  - Middle jugular (III)
  - Lower jugular (IV)
  - Posterior triangle (V)
  - Retropharyngeal
  - Parotid/periparotid
  - Perifacial
  - Other, *specify*

- Non-lymphoid tissue
  - Nerve
  - Muscle
  - Vein
  - Salivary gland
  - Other, *specify*

## SPECIMENS SUBMITTED (select all that apply)


Right

- Lymph nodes
  - Not specified
  - Submental (IA)
  - Submandibular (IB)
  - Upper jugular (II)
  - Middle jugular (III)
  - Lower jugular (IV)
  - Posterior triangle (V)
  - Retropharyngeal
  - Parotid/periparotid
  - Perifacial
  - Other, *specify*

- Non-lymphoid tissue
  - Nerve
  - Muscle
  - Vein
  - Salivary gland
  - Other, *specify*

Central compartment (VI +/- VII)

- Non-lymphoid tissue
  - Thymus
  - Parathyroid
  - Other, *specify*

**HISTOLOGICAL TUMOUR TYPE** (select all that apply)   
 (Value list from the World Health Organization Classification of Head and Neck Tumours (2017))

**Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC)**

- Squamous cell carcinoma, conventional
- HPV-mediated/p16 positive oropharyngeal carcinoma
- Basaloid squamous cell carcinoma
- Papillary squamous cell carcinoma
- Spindle cell squamous carcinoma (sarcomatoid carcinoma)
- Adenosquamous cell carcinoma
- Acantholytic squamous cell carcinoma
- Carcinoma cuniculatum
- Undifferentiated (lymphoepithelial) carcinoma

**Salivary gland carcinoma**

- Acinic cell carcinoma
- Secretory carcinoma
- Mucoepidermoid carcinoma
  - Low grade mucoepidermoid carcinoma
  - Intermediate grade mucoepidermoid carcinoma
  - High grade mucoepidermoid carcinoma

- Adenoid cystic carcinoma
  - Tubular/cribriform pattern predominant
  - Solid pattern >30%

- Polymorphous adenocarcinoma
  - Classic
  - Cribriform

Grade, specify

- Epithelial-myoepithelial carcinoma
- (Hyalinizing) Clear cell carcinoma
- Basal cell adenocarcinoma
- Sebaceous adenocarcinoma
- Intraductal carcinoma
  - Low grade
  - High grade
- Cystadenocarcinoma
- Adenocarcinoma, not otherwise specified (NOS)
- Salivary duct carcinoma
- Myoepithelial carcinoma
- Carcinoma ex pleomorphic adenoma

Type(s), specify

- Carcinosarcoma
- Poorly differentiated carcinoma: Neuroendocrine and non-neuroendocrine
  - Undifferentiated carcinoma
  - Large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma
  - Small cell neuroendocrine carcinoma

- Lymphoepithelial carcinoma
- Squamous cell carcinoma
- Oncocytic carcinoma

Other, specify

**Neuroendocrine carcinoma**

- Well-differentiated (typical carcinoid)
- Moderately differentiated (atypical carcinoid)
- Poorly differentiated (high grade neuroendocrine carcinoma), large cell type
- Poorly differentiated (high grade neuroendocrine carcinoma), small cell type

**Mucosal melanoma**

**Nasopharyngeal carcinoma**

- Squamous cell carcinoma, keratinizing
- Squamous cell carcinoma, non-keratinizing, differentiated
- Squamous cell carcinoma, non-keratinizing, undifferentiated
- Squamous cell carcinoma, basaloid
- Nasopharyngeal papillary adenocarcinoma

Other (e.g. primary adnexal skin cancers), specify type

**Primary tumour site**

- Not specified/unknown
- Specify site (e.g. oral cavity, larynx)

**MARGIN STATUS** 

**Involvement of perinodal surgical margin**

- Not involved by carcinoma
- Involved by carcinoma
  - Left
  - Right
  - Central
  - Laterality not specified
- Cannot be assessed, specify

**ANCILLARY STUDIES** 

- Not performed
- Performed, specify test, result, method

**LYMPH NODE STATUS** 

**Right sided lymph nodes**

Node level	Number of nodes examined*	Number of nodes positive*	Extranodal extension (ENE)** <input type="radio"/> Not identified <input type="radio"/> ENEmi ( $\leq 2$ mm) <input type="radio"/> ENEmi ( $> 2$ mm)	Number of nodes with ENE*
Submental IA				
Submandibular IB				
Upper jugular II				
Middle jugular III				
Lower jugular IV				
Posterior triangle V				

\* Insert "cannot be determined" when applicable.

\*\* Non-core item for HPV-related/p16 positive oropharyngeal cancer and nasopharyngeal cancer.

**Maximum dimension of largest lymph node metastasis** (if applicable)  mm

**Maximum dimension of largest involved lymph node** (if applicable)  mm

Specify site (level)

**Greatest extent of ENE** (if applicable)  mm

Specify site (level)

**Soft tissue metastasis**

- Not identified  
 Present, specify site (level)

**Non-lymphatic structures involved**

- Not identified  
 Present, specify

**Left sided lymph nodes**

Node level	Number of nodes examined*	Number of nodes positive*	ENE** <input type="radio"/> Not identified <input type="radio"/> ENEmi ( $\leq 2$ mm) <input type="radio"/> ENEmi ( $> 2$ mm)	Number of nodes with ENE*
Submental IA				
Submandibular IB				
Upper jugular II				
Middle jugular III				
Lower jugular IV				
Posterior triangle V				

\* Insert "cannot be determined" when applicable.

\*\* Non-core item for HPV-related/p16 positive oropharyngeal cancer and nasopharyngeal cancer.

**Maximum dimension of largest lymph node metastasis** (if applicable)  mm

**Maximum dimension of largest involved lymph node** (if applicable)  mm

Specify site (level)

**Greatest extent of ENE** (if applicable)  mm

Specify site (level)

**Soft tissue metastasis**

- Not identified  
 Present, specify site (level)

**Non-lymphatic structures involved**

- Not identified  
 Present, specify

Central compartment lymph nodes

Number of lymph nodes examined\*

Number of lymph nodes positive\*

**ENE\*\***

- Not identified  
 ENEmi ( $\leq 2$  mm)  
 ENEMA ( $> 2$  mm)

Number of lymph nodes with ENE\*

Maximum dimension of largest lymph node metastasis (if applicable)  mm

Maximum dimension of largest involved lymph node (if applicable)  mm

Specify site (level)

Greatest extent of ENE (if applicable)  mm

Specify site (level)

**Soft tissue metastasis**

- Not identified  
 Present, specify site (level)

**Non-lymphatic structures involved**

- Not identified  
 Present, specify

\* Insert "cannot be determined" when applicable.

\*\* Non-core item for HPV-related/p16 positive oropharyngeal cancer and nasopharyngeal cancer.

**REGIONAL LYMPH NODE CATEGORISATION (UICC TNM 8th edition)\*\*** 

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

- r - recurrent  
 y - post-therapy

*For primary carcinomas of the lip and oral cavity, major salivary glands, nasal cavity and paranasal sinuses, oropharynx (p16 negative), hypopharynx, larynx, cutaneous head and neck carcinomas (with the exception of Merkel cell carcinoma) and unknown primary squamous cell carcinomas that are p16 and EBV-negative.*

- NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed  
 N0 No regional lymph node metastasis  
 N1 Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node, 3 cm or less in greatest dimension without ENE  
N2 Metastasis described as:  
 N2a Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node, 3 cm or less in greatest dimension with ENE or more than 3 cm but not more than 6 cm in greatest dimension without ENE  
 N2b Metastasis in multiple ipsilateral nodes, none more than 6 cm in greatest dimension, without ENE  
 N2c Metastasis in bilateral lymph nodes, none more than 6 cm in greatest dimension, without ENE  
 N3a Metastasis in a lymph node more than 6 cm in greatest dimension without ENE  
 N3b Metastasis in a lymph node more than 3 cm in greatest dimension with ENE or, multiple ipsilateral, or any contralateral or bilateral node(s) with ENE

**HPV-mediated (p16+) oropharyngeal carcinoma**

- NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed  
 N0 No regional lymph node metastasis  
 N1 Metastasis in 1 to 4 lymph node(s)  
 N2 Metastasis in 5 or more lymph node(s)

**Nasopharyngeal carcinoma**

- NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed  
 N0 No regional lymph node metastasis  
 N1 Unilateral metastasis in cervical lymph node(s) and/or unilateral or bilateral metastasis in retropharyngeal lymph node(s), 6 cm or smaller in greatest dimension, above the caudal border of cricoid cartilage  
 N2 Bilateral metastasis in cervical lymph node(s), 6 cm or smaller in greatest dimension, above the caudal border of cricoid cartilage  
 N3 Metastasis in cervical lymph node(s), greater than 6 cm in dimension, and/or extension below the caudal border of the cricoid cartilage

**Mucosal melanoma**

- NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed  
 N0 No regional lymph node metastasis  
 N1 Regional lymph node metastasis present

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