Adrenal Gland

Protocol applies to adrenal cortical carcinoma. Pheochromocytoma, neuroblastoma, and other adrenal medullary tumors of childhood are excluded.

Protocol revision date: January 2005
No AJCC/UICC staging system

Procedures
• Cytology (No Accompanying Checklist)
• Incisional Biopsy
• Excisional Biopsy
• Adrenalectomy

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The College of American Pathologists offers these protocols to assist pathologists in providing clinically useful and relevant information when reporting results of surgical specimen examinations of surgical 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.

The College developed these protocols as an educational tool to assist pathologists in the useful reporting of relevant information. It did not issue the protocols for use in litigation, reimbursement, or other contexts. Nevertheless, the College recognizes that the protocols might be used by hospitals, attorneys, payers, and others. Indeed, effective January 1, 2004, the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons mandated the use of the checklist elements of the protocols as part of its Cancer Program Standards for Approved Cancer Programs. Therefore, it becomes even more important for pathologists to familiarize themselves with the document. At the same time, the College cautions that use of the protocols other than for their intended educational purpose may involve additional considerations that are beyond the scope of this document.
Summary of Changes to Checklist(s)

Protocol revision date: January 2005

No changes have been made to the data elements of the checklist(s) since the January 2004 protocol revision.
Surgical Pathology Cancer Case Summary (Checklist)

Protocol revision date: January 2005
Applies to adrenal cortical carcinomas only
No AJCC/UICC staging system

ADRENAL GLAND: Resection

Patient name:
Surgical pathology number:

Note: Check 1 response unless otherwise indicated.

MACROSCOPIC

Specimen Type
___ Subtotal adrenalectomy
___ Total adrenalectomy
___ Other (specify): ____________________________
___ Not specified

Laterality
___ Right
___ Left
___ Not specified

Tumor Size
Greatest dimension: ___ cm
*Additional dimensions: ___ x ___ cm
___ Cannot be determined (fragmented specimen)

Tumor Weight
Specify: ___ g

MICROSCOPIC

Pathologic Staging

Primary Tumor
___ I: Confined to gland, 5 cm or less
___ II: Confined to gland, greater than 5 cm
___ III: Extraglandular extension without other organ involvement
___ IV: Distant metastasis or extension into other organs
___ Cannot be determined

* Data elements with asterisks are not required for accreditation purposes for the Commission on Cancer. These elements may be clinically important, but are not yet validated or regularly used in patient management. Alternatively, the necessary data may not be available to the pathologist at the time of pathologic assessment of this specimen.
Regional Lymph Nodes
___ Cannot be assessed
___ No regional lymph node metastasis
___ Regional lymph node metastasis
Specify: Number examined: ___
          Number involved: ___

Distant Metastasis
___ Cannot be assessed
___ Distant metastasis
     *Specify site(s), if known: _______________________________

Margins
___ Margins uninvolved by tumor
___ Margin(s) involved by tumor
     Specify margin(s): _______________________________
___ Cannot be determined

*Venous (Large Vessel) Invasion
*___ Absent
*___ Present
*___ Indeterminate

*Additional Pathologic Findings (check all that apply)
*___ None identified
*___ Tumor necrosis
*___ Hyperplasia
*___ Adenoma
*___ Other (specify): _______________________________

*Comment(s)

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