

Lung Equivalent Terms, Definitions, Charts, Tables and Illustrations
C340-C349
(Excludes lymphoma and leukemia M9590-9989 and Kaposi sarcoma M9140)

Introduction

Use these rules only for cases with primary lung cancer.

Lung carcinomas may be broadly grouped into two categories, small cell and non-small cell carcinoma. Frequently a patient may have two or more tumors in one lung and may have one or more tumors in the contralateral lung. The physician may biopsy only one of the tumors. Code the case as a single primary (See Rule M1, Note 2) unless one of the tumors is proven to be a different histology. It is irrelevant whether the other tumors are identified as cancer, primary tumors, or metastases.

Equivalent or Equal Terms

- Low grade neuroendocrine carcinoma, carcinoid
- Tumor, mass, lesion, neoplasm (for multiple primary and histology coding rules only)
- Type, subtype, predominantly, with features of, major, or with ___differentiation

Obsolete Terms for Small Cell Carcinoma (Terms that are no longer recognized)

- Intermediate cell carcinoma (8044)
- Mixed small cell/large cell carcinoma (8045) (Code is still used; however current accepted terminology is combined small cell carcinoma)
- Oat cell carcinoma (8042)
- Small cell anaplastic carcinoma (No ICD-O-3 code)
- Undifferentiated small cell carcinoma (No ICD-O-3 code)

Definitions

Adenocarcinoma with mixed subtypes (8255): A mixture of two or more of the subtypes of adenocarcinoma such as acinar, papillary, bronchoalveolar, or solid with mucin formation.

Adenosquamous carcinoma (8560): A single histology in a single tumor composed of both squamous cell carcinoma and adenocarcinoma.

Bilateral lung cancer: This phrase simply means that there is at least one malignancy in the right lung and at least one malignancy in the left lung. Do not base multiple primary decision on this phrase; bilateral does not mean this is a single primary. Use the multiple primary rules to decide whether to code bilateral lung cancers as a single or multiple primary.

Combined small cell carcinoma (8045): A small cell carcinoma that is combined with a non-small cell carcinoma. The combinations are small cell and adenocarcinoma, or squamous cell carcinoma, or large cell carcinoma.

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Large cell carcinoma (8012): Large cell is a diagnosis that is used when the tumor is a non-small cell carcinoma that is undifferentiated. Because the tumor is undifferentiated, the pathologist cannot find glandular (adeno), or squamous differentiation.

Large cell neuroendocrine carcinoma (8013): A non-small cell carcinoma with neuroendocrine differentiation proven by immunohistochemical stain, currently classified as large cell carcinoma. These tumors require further study before being included as a separate category in a histologic classification.

Most invasive: The tumor with the greatest continuous extension.

Neuroendocrine carcinoma (8246): Neuroendocrine carcinoma is a group of carcinomas that include typical carcinoid tumor and small cell carcinoma. Code the specific histology when given. Code neuroendocrine carcinoma, NOS (8246) when no specific histology is documented.

Non-small cell carcinoma (8046): The term non-small cell is used two ways, as a group term describing all carcinomas that are not small cell; and as a default diagnosis when there isn't enough tissue to classify the tumor beyond the exclusion of small cell.

Pancoast tumor: An anatomic designation (not a specific histology) for a lung cancer that starts in the upper lobe of the lung and extends outward to destroy the ribs and vertebrae. The tumor may compress or directly invade the brachial plexus (nerve bundles) of the neck, causing pain. Pancoast tumor may also be called **superior sulcus tumor**.

Pleomorphic carcinoma (8022): A poorly differentiated non-small cell carcinoma (squamous cell carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, or large cell carcinoma) containing spindle cells and/or giant cells or, a carcinoma containing only spindle cells and giant cells. These fall under the general category of **sarcomatoid carcinoma**.

Sarcomatoid carcinoma: A group of tumors that are non-small cell in type and contain spindle cells and/or giant cells. Depending on the histologic features the tumor may be designated: pleomorphic carcinoma (8022); spindle cell carcinoma (8032); giant cell carcinoma (8031), carcinosarcoma (8980); or pulmonary blastoma (8972)

Small cell carcinoma: Malignant epithelial tumor consisting of small cells. There are many types of lung cancer, but most can be categorized into one of two basic types, "small cell carcinoma" or "non-small cell carcinoma"

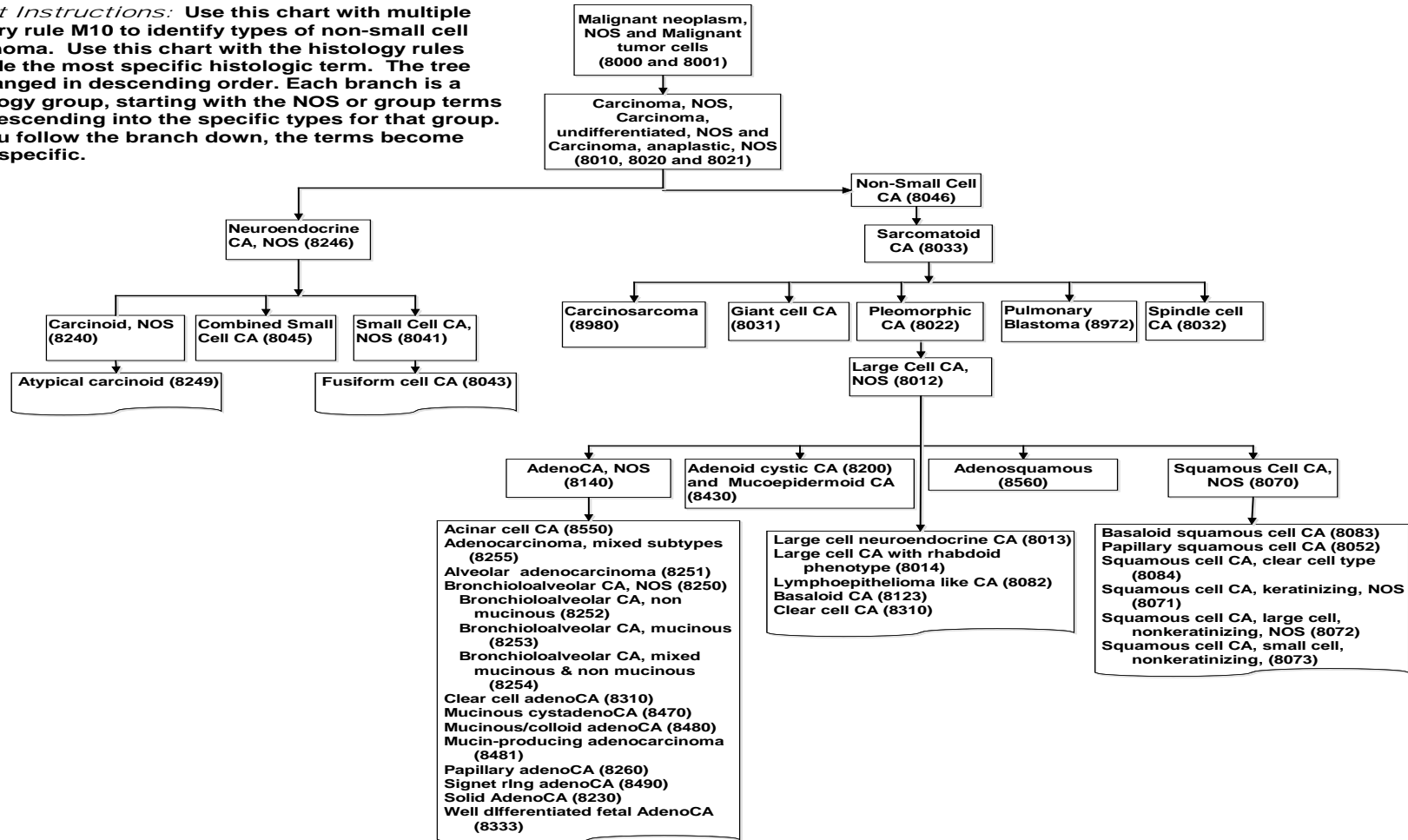
Undifferentiated carcinoma (8020): A high grade malignancy lacking glandular structures or other specific features that can be used to better classify the tumor. Undifferentiated carcinoma is used by pathologists when they believe the tumor is a carcinoma (not lymphoma, melanoma, or sarcoma) but they are not sure if the tumor is small cell or non-small cell.

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Chart 1 – Lung Histology Groups and Specific Types

Note: This chart is based on the *WHO Classification of Tumors* for tumors of the lung. The chart is not a complete listing of histologies that may occur in the lung.

Chart Instructions: Use this chart with multiple primary rule M10 to identify types of non-small cell carcinoma. Use this chart with the histology rules to code the most specific histologic term. The tree is arranged in descending order. Each branch is a histology group, starting with the NOS or group terms and descending into the specific types for that group. As you follow the branch down, the terms become more specific.



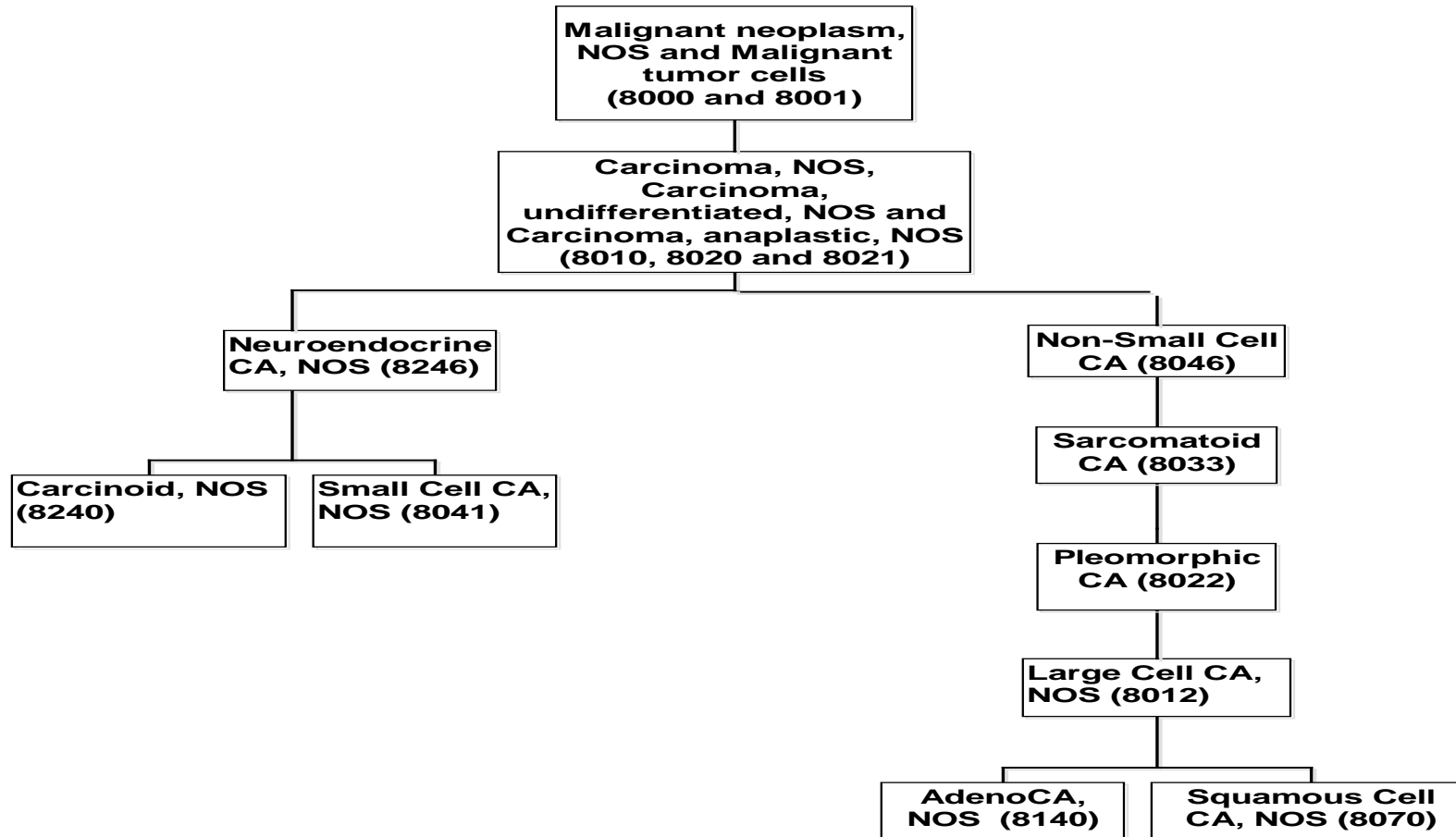
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Chart 2 – Most Common Lung Histology Groups

Chart Instructions: Use this chart to identify the most common group terms and histology types.

Note: This chart is based on the *WHO Classification of Tumors* for tumors of the lung. The chart is **not** a complete listing of histologies that may occur in the lung.



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Table 1 –Combination/Mixed Codes for Lung Histologies

Table Instructions: Use this table to select combination/mixed histology codes. Compare the terms in the diagnosis to the terms in columns 1 and 2. If the terms match, abstract the case using the ICD-O-3 histology code in column 4. Use the combination/mixed codes listed in this table only when the histologies in the tumor match the histologies listed below. Use the combination/mixed codes for a **single tumor** when all histologies are present in a single tumor.

Note: This table is not a complete listing of histologies that may occur in the lung.

Column 1: Required Terms	Column 2: Additional Required Terms	Column 3: ICD-O-3 Term	Column 4: ICD-O-3 Code
Giant cell carcinoma AND spindle cell carcinoma		Giant cell and spindle cell carcinoma	8030
Small cell carcinoma AND one of the histologies in Column 2 <i>Note: Diagnosis must be small cell carcinoma (NOS), not a subtype of small cell</i>	Adenocarcinoma	Combined small cell carcinoma Mixed small cell carcinoma	8045
	Large cell carcinoma		
	Squamous cell carcinoma		
Squamous cell carcinoma* AND large cell nonkeratinizing		Squamous cell carcinoma, large cell, nonkeratinizing	8072
Squamous cell carcinoma AND small cell nonkeratinizing		Squamous cell carcinoma, small cell, nonkeratinizing	8073
Squamous cell carcinoma* AND one of the histologies in Column 2	Spindle cell carcinoma	Squamous cell carcinoma, spindle cell	8074
	Sarcomatoid	Squamous cell carcinoma, sarcomatoid	
A combination of at least two of the histologies in Column 2**	Acinar	Adenocarcinoma with mixed subtypes**	8255**
	Bronchioloalveolar carcinoma		
	Bronchioloalveolar carcinoma non mucinous (Clara cell/type II pneumocyte)		
	Bronchioloalveolar carcinoma mucinous (goblet cell)		
	Bronchioloalveolar carcinoma mixed mucinous and non-mucinous		
	Clear cell adenocarcinoma		
	Papillary adenocarcinoma		
	Solid adenocarcinoma		
Well-differentiated fetal adenocarcinoma			

Lung Terms and Definitions

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Column 1: Required Terms	Column 2: Additional Required Terms	Column 3: ICD-O-3 Term	Column 4: ICD-O-3 Code
Adenocarcinoma AND squamous cell carcinoma <i>Note: Diagnosis must be adenocarcinoma (NOS), not a subtype of adenocarcinoma</i>		Adenosquamous carcinoma	8560
Epithelial carcinoma AND myoepithelial carcinoma		Epithelial-myoeplithelial carcinoma	8562

* Squamous cell carcinoma and epidermoid carcinoma are synonyms.

** **DO NOT USE** code **8255** for adenocarcinoma combined with mucinous subtypes such as mucinous “colloid” adenocarcinoma (8480) mucinous cystadenocarcinoma (8470) or signet ring adenocarcinoma (8490).

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