Melanoma

Data Definitions for the National Minimum Core Dataset to support the introduction of Melanoma Quality Performance Indicators

Definitions developed by ISD Scotland in Collaboration with the Melanoma Quality Performance Indicator Development Group

Version 2.3: July 2017

To be used in conjunction with:

1. Melanoma Clinical Quality Performance Indicators
2. Melanoma QPI Dataset Validations (Latest Published Version)
3. Melanoma Measurability of Quality Performance Indicators (Latest Published Version)
## DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

### Key Information

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<td>Information Services Division of NHS National Services Scotland</td>
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### Revision History

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<td>October 2014</td>
<td>Changes agreed out with review to support data collection.</td>
<td>Jane Garrett</td>
<td>See page iii</td>
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Data Definitions for the National Minimum Core Data Set for Melanoma.  
Developed by ISD Scotland  
1st July 2014
Data Definitions for the National Minimum Core Data Set for Melanoma.
Developed by ISD Scotland
1st July 2014
PREFACE

Following the publication of Better Cancer Care: An Action Plan in October 2008, the Scottish Government established the Scottish Cancer Taskforce to oversee its implementation. The NHS Scotland Healthcare Quality Strategy in 2010 expands on this by articulating quality ambitions. A quality measurement framework has been developed setting out measures and targets which will be used to monitor, challenge, manage and report progress. Part of this strategy is the development of quality performance indicators (QPIs) to drive quality improvement in cancer care throughout NHS Scotland.

As high quality data are required to enable comparisons over time and between regions, it is important that national data definitions are used to facilitate consistent data collection. National data definitions already in use have been used as much as possible to allow electronic data capture, thereby minimising duplication of data collection. Where national data definitions do not already exist, definitions used in other systems have been incorporated.

To ensure that findings are comparable across Scotland, the national dataset and data definitions in conjunction with the final quality performance indicators were agreed through public engagement and are now ready for implementation for patients diagnosed from 1st July 2014.
NOTES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CHANGES

The following changes should be implemented for all patients who are diagnosed with Melanoma on or after 1st July 2015, who are eligible for inclusion in the Melanoma cancer audit.

Changes to definitions fall into the following categories:

- to address problems with ongoing audit and standardise data definitions, where feasible, between different cancer sites
- to address problems with existing definitions
- to allow Quality Performance Indicators to be measured and reported against

If you have difficulties in using individual definitions within this document please contact

General Enquiries on the Collection of the Minimum Core Data Set
If you have any comments on the attached data definitions ISD would welcome your feedback. Please contact:

NSS.ISDCANCERAUDIT@NHS.NET

CONVENTIONS

The layout for each item is standard as shown below where it is applicable:

Common Name(s):
Main Source of Data Item Standard:
Definition:
Field Name:
Field Type:
Field Length:
Notes for Users:
Codes and Values:
Related Data Item(s):

In addition the following two conventions have been used in the document:

- {curly brackets} - definition relates to one specific named data set
- 'described elsewhere' - indicates there is a definition for the named item within this document
REVISIONS TO DATASET:

The following changes have been made to facilitate the recording of data. Changes to take effect for patients diagnosed from 1st July 2015.

**Revisions to dataset outwith review (July 2017) (Query 1438)**

*Access to Lymphoedema Service (ALS)* – the following text has been inserted within notes for uses ‘Patients who did not develop lymphoedema would be classed as N/A.’

**Dataset (May 2016) Outwith Review**

Removed any reference to ‘TNM Nodal Classification: (Pathological) (Melanoma) and TNM Metastasis Classification (Pathological) (Melanoma)’ as they are not present within the dataset or validations.

*Disseminated Disease at Presentation {Melanoma} requires title changes to ‘Disseminated Disease at Presentation 1-5 {Melanoma}*

**Dataset (March 2016 following Baseline Review)**

*Criteria for Inclusion of Patients in Audit* – under include inserted - Multiple independent primary tumours should be recorded separately.

*Tumour Resectable* – the following text added to the Notes for Users ‘Where the origin of the primary lesion is not identifiable this would be classed as unresectable.’

*Excision Biopsy Clinician {Melanoma}* – amendment to Notes for Users definition list of skin cancer clinician from ‘A locally designated clinician with a specialist interest in skin cancer, and who is also a member of the melanoma MDT’ to ‘A locally designated clinician with a specialist interest in skin cancer who is also a member (or under the supervision of a member) of the Melanoma MDT’

*Histopathology Report Complete {Melanoma}* – removed reference to SNOMED code within Notes for Users.

*Regional Lymph Node Histopathology Report Complete {Melanoma}* – removed TNM Pathological (p) Stage, Localisation, SNOMED code and Localising marker from Notes for Users.

**Dataset Specification (changes June 2015)**

*Breslow Thickness* - change to 2 decimal points, change field length to 5

*Clark’s Level* – delete data item

*Disseminated Disease at Presentation {Melanoma}* - Change to 5 fields

**Dataset (changes June 2015)**

*Location of Diagnosis* – remove X1010=Not applicable
Location Code 1 – 4 – update National Reference Files hyperlink

Excision Biopsy Clinician {Melanoma} - add to Notes for users 'For nominated Clinician the responsible Clinician can be assumed to be named person on pathology form.

Smallest Clinical Margin of Excision - add to definition 'excision scar' / tumour from the resection margin and ‘and documented’ added to notes for users

Breslow Thickness - change to 2 decimal points, change field length to 5, change 'not applicable' to 96.99 and 'not recorded' to 99.99

Clark’s Level – delete data item

TNM Tumour Classification (Pathological) {Melanoma} – new data item added

Number of Sentinel Nodes Involved – correct under description 'no sentinel nodes involved rather than examined'

Number of Non-Sentinel Nodes Examined - change definition from 'surgery' to 'completion lymedentectomy'

Number of Non-Sentinel Nodes Involved – correct under description 'no sentinel nodes involved rather than examined'

Distance of Peripheral Margin (Invasive Component) - delete 2nd paragraph under notes for users and add 'This should be recorded from the first excisional biopsy'

Date B-RAF Status Checked {Melanoma} - in definition change 'checked' to 'reported' and delete 'usually' under notes for users

Disseminated Disease at Presentation {Melanoma} - Change to 5 fields

Dataset (changes March 2015)

Patient Postcode at Diagnosis - Field Length: 8
Date Draining Lymph Node Basins Examined - Field Type: Date (DD/MM/CCYY)

Dataset (changes November 2014)

Smallest Clinical Margin of Excision – table of codes changed to <1cm, 1-<2cm, 2-<3cm, ≥3cm

Site of Origin of Primary Tumour {Cancer} – remove gallbladder from explanatory notes

Dataset (changes October 2014)

Date Draining Lymph Node Basins Examined – Change to Notes for Users to include 'which means it would be after biopsy (which is diagnosis) but before Wide Local Excision.'
Site of Origin of Primary Tumour (Cancer) – Remove codes 52 Genital Mucosal and 53 Anal Mucosal

Date of First Cancer Treatment – Remove ‘Required for QPI(s) from Notes for Users.

Histology – Add to Notes for Users ‘This list is not exhaustive and if a code is not on the list please contact – NSS.isdCANCERAUDIT@nhs.net for advice.
CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION OF PATIENTS IN AUDIT

To facilitate national comparisons the same patients must be audited throughout Scotland. The following eligibility criteria have been documented for this purpose.

Include:
- All patients with a confirmed new cutaneous invasive melanoma (i.e. Breslow > 0), except eye. Including all patients who have had a previous primary malignancy of any site or a concurrent primary malignancy of another site.
- All patients with proven secondary melanoma in whom the origin of the primary lesion is not identifiable.

- Multiple independent primary tumours should be recorded separately.

Exclude:
- Patients with recurrent disease (as opposed to a new primary)
- Patients with cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma, primary cutaneous lymphoma and non-cutaneous melanoma (including ocular).
- Patients, at date of diagnosis, under 16 years of age i.e. up to 15 years 364 days.
- Patients where the only record of their cancer is from a death certificate (DCO).
- Patients with normal residence outwith Scotland.
- Patients whose definitive cancer treatment was privately funded or undertaken outwith NHS Scotland.

NB:
- Only treatments as part of the initial treatment plan should be recorded.
- Patients treated within 6 months of a patient initially refusing further investigation or whose initial treatment is ‘Watch and Wait’ can also be recorded.
DOWNLOAD FORMAT
To assist with downloading data to ISD for the National Quality Assurance Programme and other agreed activities, all sites should be able export data according to the following specification.

DATABASE SPECIFICATION

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## Section 5: Non-Surgical Treatment

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<td>Access to Lymphoedema Service</td>
<td>ALS</td>
<td>Integer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 6: Clinical Trial Entry**

Patient Entered into Clinical Trial {Cancer} | TRIAL | Integer | 2 | 56 |

**Section 7: Metastases and Death Details**

Site of Metastases at Presentation {Melanoma} | LOCDIS | Integer | 2 | 58 |
Local Nodes at Presentation {Melanoma} | LOCNODE | Integer | 2 | 59 |
Disseminated Disease at Presentation 1-5 {Melanoma} | ISSEM1 | Integer | 2 | 60 |
Disseminated Disease at Presentation 1-5 {Melanoma} | ISSEM2 | Integer | 2 | 60 |
Disseminated Disease at Presentation 1-5 {Melanoma} | ISSEM3 | Integer | 2 | 60 |
Disseminated Disease at Presentation 1-5 {Melanoma} | ISSEM4 | Integer | 2 | 60 |
Disseminated Disease at Presentation 1-5 {Melanoma} | ISSEM5 | Integer | 2 | 60 |
Date of Death | DOD | Date (DD/MM/CCYY) | 10 | 61 |
Section 1: Demographic Items
Person Family Name (at Diagnosis)

**Common Name(s):** Surname, Family name

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** Government Data Standards Catalogue

**Definition:**
That part of a person's name which is used to describe family, clan, tribal group, or marital association at the time of diagnosis.

**Field Name:** PATSNAME
**Field Type:** Characters
**Field Length:** 35

**Notes for Users:**
The surname of a person represents that part of the name of a person indicating the family group of which the person is part. It should be noted that in Western culture this is normally the latter part of the name of a person. However, this is not necessarily true of all cultures. This will, of course, give rise to some problems in the representation of the name. This is resolved by including the data item Name Element Position in the structured name indicating the order of the name elements.

From SMR Definitions and Codes
Person Given Name

**Common Name(s):** Forename, Given Name, Personal Name

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** Government Data Standards Catalogue  
**Definition:** The forename or given name of a person.

**Field Name:** PATFNAME  
**Field Type:** Characters  
**Field Length:** 35

**Notes for Users:**  
Main Source of Standard:  
The first forename of a person represents that part of the name of a person which after the surname is the principal identifier of a person.

Where the person's preferred forename is not the first forename, the related data item 'Preferred Forename' should be used to indicate this.
Patient Postcode at Diagnosis

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** [Government Data Standards Catalogue](#)

**Definition:** Postcode of patient's usual place of residence on the date of diagnosis

**Field Name:** PATPCODE  
**Field Type:** Characters  
**Field Length:** 8

**Notes for Users:**  
Postcode is included in BS7666 Address (GDSC) but there is also a separate Post Code standard which will be populated from BS7666 Address Post Code.

This item can be derived from the date of diagnosis and patient address at that time

**Related Data Item(s):**  
Date of Diagnosis
**Date of Birth**

**Main source of Data Item Standard:** [Government Data Standards Catalogue](#)

**Definition:** The date on which a person was born or is officially deemed to have been born, as recorded on the Birth Certificate.

**Field Name:** DOB  
**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY)  
**Field Length:** 10

**Notes for Users:**  
If the patient's date of birth is recorded differently on different occasions, the most frequently used or latest date should be recorded.

The patient's full date of birth inclusive of the century should be recorded. The format should be DD/MM/CCYY e.g. 01/02/2011.

**Related Data Item(s):**  
CHI Number
Person Sex at Birth

**Common Name(s):** Sex at Birth

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** Derived from the nearest equivalent Government Data Standards Catalogue standard ‘Person Gender at Registration’

**Definition:** This is a factual statement, as far as is known, about the phenotypic (biological) sex of the person at birth

**Field Name:** SEX  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:**  
A person’s sex has clinical implications, both in terms of the individual’s health and the health care provided to them.

In the majority of cases, the phenotypic (biological) sex and genotypic sex are the same and the phenotypic sex is usually easily determined. In a small number of cases, accurate determination of genotype may be required

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Not specified/Indeterminate</td>
<td>Where it has not been possible to determine if the person is male or female at birth, e.g. intersex / hermaphrodite.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Item(s):**  
CHI Number
CHI Number

Main Source of Data Item Standard: Scottish Executive Health Department.

Definition: The Community Health Index (CHI) is a population register, which is used in Scotland for health care purposes. The CHI number uniquely identifies a person on the index.

Field Name: CHINUM
Field Type: Characters
Field Length: 10

Notes for Users:
The Community Health Index (CHI) is a computer based population index whose main function at present is to support primary care services. CHI contains details of all Scottish residents registered with a General Practitioner and was originally envisaged and implemented as a population-based index to help assess the success of immunisation and screening programmes. It is therefore closely integrated with systems for child health, cervical cytology and breast screening call and recall...It is intended that this number, the Scottish equivalent of the new NHS number in England and Wales, should become the Unique Patient Identifier throughout the NHS in Scotland.
From Designed to Care - Scottish Office

The CHI number is a unique numeric identifier, allocated to each patient on first registration with the system. The CHI number is a 10-character code consisting of the 6-digit date of birth (DDMMYY), two digits, a 9th digit which is always even for females and odd for males and an arithmetical check digit.
(ISD, Information Services, NHS National Services Scotland)

The CHI number should always be used to identify a patient. However, Health record identifiers, such as hospital numbers in Patient Administration Systems (PAS), may be used locally, in conjunction with the CHI number or in the absence of the CHI number, to track patients and their records.

Although there may be no number when a patient presents for treatment, there must be an allocation at some point in the episode of care as CHI is mandatory on all clinical communications.

Non-Scottish patients and other temporary residents can have a CHI number allocated if required but it is envisaged that future development may allow the identifying number used in other UK countries to be used in Scotland.

Related Data Item(s):
Date of Birth,
Person Sex at Birth.
Source of Cancer Referral

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Datasets developed by the Cancer Networks supported by ISD.

**Definition:** This denotes the route by which the patient was referred for investigation of signs or symptoms that lead to a diagnosis of cancer.

**Field Name:** MREFER
**Field Type:** Integer
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

A primary care clinician will usually be a general practitioner (GP) but may be any member of the primary care team, e.g. practice nurse (code 01). After attending for routine screening in a screening programme, a patient may be referred for further investigation, (code 02).

Some patients may be attending or referred to hospital for investigation or treatment of a condition unrelated to their cancer and a tumour is diagnosed (code 03).

Patients presenting at A&E or acute admissions are often referred by their GP (code 07), or may already have an outstanding primary care referral for cancer (code 08).

Patients self-referring to A&E without any formal referral should be recorded as code 06.

Patients may attend an outpatient cancer clinic as they are being followed up for benign disease or a previous cancer of the same site as diagnosed (code 04) or because of a strong family history of cancer (code 05).

13 (Other) includes following a domiciliary visit by a hospital clinician.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Primary care clinician (GP, Nurse practitioner)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Screening service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Incidental finding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Review clinic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Cancer genetic clinic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Self-referral to A&amp;E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>GP referral directly to hospital</td>
<td>A&amp;E or other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Previous GP referral but subsequently admitted to hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Primary care clinician (dental)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Referral from private healthcare</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**

*Data Definitions for the National Minimum Core Data Set for Melanoma. Developed by ISD Scotland 1st July 2014*
Section 2: Pre-treatment Imaging & Staging Investigations
Location of Diagnosis (Cancer)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Audit Cancer Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** The patient's hospital of investigation in which the diagnosis of cancer was first made.

**Field Name:** HOSP  
**Field Type:** Characters  
**Field Length:** 5

**Notes for Users:** Required for analysis purposes and clarifying responsibility for data collection.

Details of location codes for hospitals can be found in the "Definitions and Codes for the NHS in Scotland" manual produced by ISD Scotland.

Location codes for hospitals are five character codes maintained by ISD Scotland and the General Register Office (Scotland). The first character denotes the health board, the next three are assigned and the fifth denotes the type of location (H=hospital) e.g.

- A111H=Crosshouse Hospital  
- G107H=Glasgow Royal Infirmary  
- X9999=Not recorded

If a patient was provisionally diagnosed at one hospital but transferred to another for confirmation of the diagnosis only e.g. biopsy, then returns to the original hospital, the first hospital should be recorded as the Location of diagnosis.

**Codes and Values:**

**Related Data Items:**  
Date of Diagnosis {Melanoma}
Date of Diagnosis {Melanoma}

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

Definition: The date of diagnosis is the date on which there was confirmation of the diagnosis of cutaneous invasive melanoma by histology.

Field Name: DIAGDATE
Field Type: Date (DD/MM/CCYY)
Field length: 10

Notes for Users: Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

If multiple histological findings have been carried out, the date of the first procedure that confirmed a positive diagnosis of melanoma is taken.

If the exact date is not documented, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

The date recorded is the date the procedure was performed, not the date the report was issued.

Codes and Values:

Related Data Items:
Location of Diagnosis {Cancer}
Date of CT Scan

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the date of the CT or PET/CT scan was performed for staging and assessment prior to surgery.

**Field Name:** CTDATE
**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY)
**Field length:** 10

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 9

If the patient has more than one CT or PET/CT scan the date of the first procedure is recorded.

If the exact date of the CT or PET/CT Scan is not documented, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If CT or PET/CT scan was not performed, record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

The date recorded is the date the procedure was performed, not the date the report was issued.

**Related Data Items:**
Side of Origin of Primary Tumour (Cancer)

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

Definition: This indicates the side or laterality (i.e. left or right) of the body in which the tumour is located.

Field Name: SIDE
Field Type: Integer
Field length: 2

Notes for Users: Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

It is important that this be recorded for paired organs (e.g. breast, kidney, limb, lung, ovary, testis).

Codes and Values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Bilateral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Midline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable (non-paired organs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Data Items:
Site of Origin of Primary Tumour {Cancer}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the anatomical site of origin of the primary tumour.

**Field Name:** SITE  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

Codes used were as supplied by the Scottish Melanoma Group (SMG).

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Face</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Vermilion border of lip</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Scalp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Neck</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Ears</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Trunk anterior</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Trunk anterior above waist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Trunk anterior below waist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Trunk posterior</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Trunk posterior above waist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Trunk posterior below waist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Arm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Arm above elbow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Arm below elbow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Leg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Leg above knee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Leg below knee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Dorsum of foot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Dorsum of hand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Palm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Sole</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Subungual hand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Subungual toe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Includes non-mucosal sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>Metastatic Disease only</td>
<td>No primary found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Clinical Largest Diameter {Melanoma}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the Scottish Pathology Network supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the size of the tumour as determined by a physical examination.

**Field Name:** CLINDIA  
**Field Type:** Number (nn.nn)  
**Field Length:** 5

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

This is the size of the tumour as determined by the Clinician after a physical examination.

The size should be measured in centimetres.

If no measurement has been recorded code as 99.99.

If the patient presents with disease where no identifiable primary lesion can be found, code as not applicable 96.99.

**Related data items:**
Date Draining Lymph Node Basins Examined

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the Scottish Pathology Network supported by Information Services.

Definition: This the date that relevant draining lymph node basins were clinically examined.

Field Name: DBASINS
Field Type: Date (DD/MM/CCYY)
Field length: 10

Notes for Users: Required for QPI(S): 4

Before any surgical endeavour is undertaken for a malignancy, palpation of regional lymph nodes and basins should be performed as it is an important predictor of outcome and prognosis.

This will be the first date the relevant draining lymph node basins were clinically examined (palpated in clinic) after diagnosis, which means it would be after biopsy (which is diagnosis) but before Wide Local Excision.

The date should be recorded in clinic notes, letters, or MDM summary.

If the exact date is not documented, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If the relevant draining lymph node basins have not been clinically examined then record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

Related data items:
Date Discussed by Care Team (MDT)

**Common name:** Date discussed by multidisciplinary team (MDT) {Cancer}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the date the care team meeting was held to discuss the management of the patient's care.

**Field Name:** MDTDATE  
**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY)  
**Field Length:** 10

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 3

A cancer multidisciplinary care team may include surgeons, oncologists, radiologists, pathologists, dermatologists, nurses, and others relevant to the treatment of a specific cancer. The team meets on a regular basis to discuss optimal patient management. Documentation of the discussion should be included in the case-note or other formal documentation.

The first MDT meeting date will be recorded, which may be after first treatment, e.g. excision biopsy.

If the patient has not been discussed by the MDT record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

If the date of the MDT meeting is unknown record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded)

**Related data Item(s):**
Type of First Cancer Treatment

**Common name:** Mode of first treatment

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the first specific treatment modality administered to a patient.

**Field Name:** FIRSTTREATTYPE

**Field Type:** Integer

**Field length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 3

For any particular modality it is the first treatment and not specifically the definitive treatment i.e. this does not include purely diagnostic biopsies such as incisional biopsies, needle biopsies or core biopsies.

Record patients as having ‘supportive care only’ if a decision was taken not to give the patient any active treatment as part of their primary therapy. No active treatment includes watchful waiting and supportive care but not palliative chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Radiotherapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Chemotherapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Biological therapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Supportive care</td>
<td>No active</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Watchful waiting</td>
<td>No active</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Other therapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Patient died before treatment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Patient refused all therapies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Item(s):**

Date of First Cancer Treatment
Date of Definitive Treatment (Melanoma)
Date of First Cancer Treatment

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the date the type of first cancer treatment was given to the patient.

**Field Name:** FIRSTTREATDATE  
**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY)  
**Field Length:** 10

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

This field should be recorded for all patients including those with supportive care only (‘No active treatment’) (see below).

If type of first cancer treatment is ‘supportive care only’, the date recorded should be the first date the decision was taken not to give the patient treatment as part of their primary therapy. The aim of this date is to distinguish between patients who have initially had no treatment but receive some therapy when symptoms develop.

The date recorded should be that of the first type of cancer treatment.

If the exact date is not documented, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If the patient died before treatment or the patient refused treatment, record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

**Related Data Item(s):**  
Type of First Cancer Treatment  
Date of Definitive Treatment (Melanoma)
Date of Definitive Treatment {Melanoma}

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

Definition: This denotes the date definitive cancer treatment was given to the patient.

Field Name:  DEFTREATDATE
Field Type:  Date (DD/MM/CCYY)
Field Length:  10

Notes for Users: Required for QPI: 3

For patients with Cutaneous Melanoma definitive treatment will be either:

- Wide local excision
- Chemotherapy/SACT or
- Radiotherapy

It is the date of this treatment that should be recorded.

If a patient receives more than one of the treatments listed it is the first which should be recorded.

For patients who undergo diagnostic excision biopsy with no further treatment, date of excision biopsy should be recorded.

For patients undergoing no active treatment (e.g. supportive care only) the date recorded should be the first date the decision was taken not to give the patient treatment as part of their primary therapy. This will therefore be the same date as the First Treatment Date for these patients.

If the exact date is not documented, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If the patient died before treatment or the patient refused treatment, record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

Related Data Item(s):
Date of First Cancer Treatment
Type of First Cancer Treatment
Tumour Resectable

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes whether or not the tumour is resectable or not.

**Field Name:** TUMRESECT  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 8, 10

Unresectable melanoma is such that all sites of melanoma tumours cannot be completely removed surgically.

It should be documented on the MDM summary whether or not the tumour is resectable and should not be deduced.

Where the origin of the primary lesion is not identifiable this would be classed as unresectable.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Yes - resectable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>No - unresectable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Item(s):**
Section 3: Surgery
**Common Name(s):** Location, Location of Contact.

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** NHS National Reference Files.

**Definition:** This is the reference number of any building or set of buildings where events pertinent to NHS Scotland take place. Locations include hospitals, health centres, GP surgeries, clinics, NHS board offices, nursing homes, schools and patient/client’s home.

**Field Name:** HOSPSURG1
- HOSPSURG2
- HOSPSURG3
- HOSPSURG4

**Field Type:** Characters

**Field Length:** 5

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

A location should be recorded for each surgical procedure performed and should be recorded in the same chronological order as SURG 1-4 (Surgery Performed 1 - 4 {Melanoma}) All biopsies should be included.

Each location has a location code, which is maintained jointly by ISD and General Register Office (Scotland). National Reference Files – datafiles.

Location must be viewed as an address and not a code. If any new locations arise where NHS healthcare is delivered/administered, please ensure that the Reference Files Team at ISD is informed using form LOC-NEW (which can be downloaded from the website below) so that a new code may be issued as appropriate. National Reference Files

Information about location should be electronically stored, managed and transferred using the relevant location code. IT systems should allow the recording and display of locations on the user interface as the relevant location name and associated address, etc.

If the location code is not documented, record as X9999.

If surgery has not been performed or the patient has refused surgery, record as X1010 not applicable.

**Examples of codes are given below:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A111H</td>
<td>CROSSHOUSE HOSPITAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C418H</td>
<td>ROYAL ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F704H</td>
<td>VICTORIA HOSPITAL, KIRKCALDY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G107H</td>
<td>GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Item(s):**
- Surgery Performed 1 - 4 {Melanoma}
- Date of Surgery 1- 4 {Melanoma}
Surgery Performed 1 - 4 (Melanoma)

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

Definition: This denotes surgery performed on the patient for primary diagnosis or treatment of melanoma.

Field Name: SURG1
SURG2
SURG3
SURG4

Field Type: Characters
Field Length: 2

Notes for Users: Required for QPI(s): 1, 2, 6, 7

A patient may have up to four operations recorded covering diagnosis and treatment.

This field is linked to ‘Date of Surgery 1-4’ and should be recorded in the same chronological order.

If no surgery was undertaken record as ‘96’ (Not applicable).

Codes and Values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>FNA</td>
<td>Fine needle aspiration (FNA) involves cytological examination of cells obtained by FNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Diagnostic Excision Biopsy</td>
<td>Complete removal of the tumour at biopsy. This is usually followed by wide local excision to gain appropriate clearance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03A</td>
<td>Partial Biopsy</td>
<td>Incision/partial biopsy is where tissue is surgically removed for pathological examination. Both punch and shave biopsies should be recorded as 'partial biopsy'.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03B</td>
<td>Incision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03C</td>
<td>Curette</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03D</td>
<td>Shave</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Wide Local Excision</td>
<td>Complete removal of tumour with appropriate clearance (see SIGN guideline for levels by pathological tumour stage).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Amputation</td>
<td>Usually the removal of fingers or toes, or unusually a larger part of a limb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Metastectomy</td>
<td>Removal of distant skin, node and visceral metastases, or where the site of the primary is unknown, disseminated metastases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Re-excision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Patient died before treatment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Patient refused</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Data Item(s):
Date of Surgery 1-4 {Melanoma}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the date of surgery performed.

**Field Name:** DSURG1
DSURG2
DSURG3
DSURG4

**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY).

**Field Length:** 10

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 7

A patient may have up to four operations recorded covering diagnosis and treatment, this includes biopsies.

This field is linked to ‘Surgery Performed 1-4’ and should be recorded in the same chronological order.

If the exact date of surgery is not known, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If no surgery was performed, record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

**Related Data Items:**
Location Code 1 – 4 {Cancer Surgery}
Surgery Performed 1 - 4 {Melanoma}
Operating Surgeon (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Audit Cancer Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** The name of the clinician performing the diagnostic excision biopsy.

**Field Name:** OPSURG  
**Field Type:** Characters  
**Field Length:** 20

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

The GMC number of the clinician in charge at the operation should be recorded.

If the patient is operated on by a clinician who is working as a locum, record only that the clinician is a locum, “LOCUM”.

If the clinician’s name is not recorded code as 9999.

If no surgery was performed record as not applicable (1010).

**Related Data Item(s):**
Excision Biopsy Clinician (Melanoma)

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Audit Cancer Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

Definition: This denotes whether the patient’s diagnostic excision biopsy was carried out by a skin cancer clinician.

Field Name: BIOSURG
Field Type: Integer
Field Length: 2

Notes for Users: Required for QPI(s): 1

Patients with cutaneous melanoma should have their diagnostic excision biopsy carried out by a skin cancer clinician.

For nominated clinician the responsible clinician can be assumed to be the named person on the pathology form.

A skin cancer clinician can be defined as:
- Dermatologist
- Plastic Surgeon
- A locally designated clinician with a specialist interest in skin cancer, who is also a member (or under the supervision of a member) of the melanoma MDT

If the clinician’s designation is not recorded code as 99 (Not recorded).

If no surgery was performed record as 96 (Not applicable).

Codes and Values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Data Item(s):
Depth of Excision

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This indicates at the time of definitive surgery the extent of the deep excision margin in terms of tissue layers (e.g. adipose tissue, deep fascia).

**Field Name:** EXDEPTH  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

This should be recorded by the operating surgeon on the operation notes or in the clinical notes relating to the specimen from the final definitive surgery.

This will be confirmed later by microscopic examination and the result can be found on the pathology report.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Less than Deep Fascia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Down to Deep Fascia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
**Date of Lymphadenectomy**

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the date that the completion lymphadenectomy was performed.

**Field Name:** DNODESURG  
**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY).  
**Field Length:** 10

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 9

Completion lymph node dissection (CLND) is usually recommended after metastatic disease is identified in the sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB) to eradicate further metastases in non-sentinel nodes.

Record the date when complete clearance was performed and not sample or biopsy of lymph nodes.

The date should be documented on the MDM summary.

If the exact date of surgery is not known, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If lymph nodes are not removed, record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

**Related Data Items:**
Smallest Clinical Margin of Excision

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the distance to the edge of the visible component of the excision scar / tumour from the resection margin.

**Field Name:** EXMARGIN  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

This will be clinically measured and documented at the time of final definitive surgery i.e. not at the time of diagnostic excision biopsy.

The distance is measured in centimetres.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>&lt;1cm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>1 - &lt;2cm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>2 - &lt;3cm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>≥3cm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>i.e. Patients that do not have further surgery following their diagnostic excision biopsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Sentinel Node Biopsy Performed (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes whether or not a biopsy was performed on the sentinel node.

**Field Name:** SNODE  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 5

The sentinel lymph node(s) is/are the first node(s) to receive drainage from a primary tumour. Identification of the node(s) is by injection of blue dye +/- injection of radioactive colloid and lymphoscintigraphy.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Not performed</td>
<td>E.g. Due to technical failure, patient declined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>E.g. Patient not eligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Groin Block Dissection Performed (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes whether or not groin block dissection was performed.

**Field Name:** GBDISS  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 11

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Data Items:
Section 4: Pathological Details
Histology

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the classification of tumour based on histological sub-type.

**Field Name:** TUMOUR  
**Field Type:** Characters  
**Field Length:** 7

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

This list is not exhaustive and if a code is not on the list please contact – NSS.isdCANCERAUDIT@nhs.net for advice.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8743/3</td>
<td>Superficial Spreading</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8721/3</td>
<td>Nodular Melanoma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8742/3</td>
<td>Lentigo Maligna Melanoma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8744/3</td>
<td>Acral Lentiginous Melanoma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8745/3</td>
<td>Desmoplastic Melanoma</td>
<td>Desmoplastic melanoma (DM) is a rare subtype of melanoma characterized by malignant spindle cells separated by prominent fibrocollagenous stroma. Primary melanomas may be entirely or almost entirely desmoplastic (“pure” DM) or exhibit a desmoplastic component admixed with a non-desmoplastic component (“mixed” DM).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8745/3A</td>
<td>Pure</td>
<td>&gt; 90% Desmoplastic Melanoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8745/3B</td>
<td>Mixed</td>
<td>Mixed Desmoplastic/Non-desmoplastic Melanoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8746/3</td>
<td>Mucosal Lentiginous</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8720/3</td>
<td>Malignant Melanoma NOS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9898/8</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>e.g. Melanoma Arising from Blue Naevus, Melanoma arising in a giant congenital naevus, Naevoid Melanoma, Spitzoid Melanoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1010/0</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1111/1</td>
<td>Not assessable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9999/9</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Breslow Thickness


**Definition:** A record of the thickness of the melanoma measured by the pathologist in millimetres (mm).

**Field Name:** BRESLOW  
**Field Type:** Number (nn.nn)  
**Field Length:** 5

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

Breslow thickness is the single most important prognostic factor for clinically localised primary melanoma.

The greatest thickness of a cutaneous melanoma, measured in tissue sections from the top of the epidermal granular layer, or from the ulcer base if the tumour is ulcerated, to the deepest invasive cell across the broad base of the tumour, and used to estimate the rate of metastasis.

The Breslow thickness cannot be determined if a superficial biopsy transects a melanoma and includes only its superficial portion. In such instances, the pathologist can only report the melanoma to be ‘at least’ a certain thickness. Correlation with the re-excision specimen is necessary i.e. if there are two samples, record the thickest e.g. if punch biopsy is 2mm and excision is 3 mm the record the latter.

If Breslow thickness is not measured record as not applicable, 96.99  
If the measurement is not recorded code as 99.99

**Related Data Items:**
Ulceration


Definition: An indication of whether or not ulceration is present.

Field Name: ULCER
Field Type: Integer
Field Length: 2

Notes for Users: Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

Ulceration is an integral component of the AJCC/UICC staging system and an independent predictor of outcome in patients with clinically localised cutaneous melanoma.

Codes and Values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Not identified</td>
<td>includes insipient ulceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Indeterminate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>e.g. no surgery performed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Data Items:
Mitotic Rate


**Definition:** A record of the mitotic rate measured in millimetres\(^2\) (mm\(^2\)).

**Field Name:** MITOSIS  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

A measure of how fast cancer cells are dividing and growing. To find the mitotic rate, the number of cells dividing in a certain amount of cancer tissue is counted. Mitotic rate is used to help find the stage of melanoma. Higher mitotic rates are linked with lower survival rates. Also called MR.

Multiple studies indicate that mitotic rate is an important prognostic factor for localised primary melanomas (including in very large studies utilizing the methodology for mitotic rate determination).

If no mitoses are identified, the mitotic rate may be recorded as 0/mm\(^2\).

If this value is expressed with a decimal point in the pathology report then adopt the following rounding convention: If mitotic rate is > 0 and < 1 increase the value to 1. E.g. 2.4 should be recorded as 3.

If mitotic rate is recorded as indeterminate record as 88  
If mitotic rate is not recorded or not known, record as 99.

**Related Data Items:**
Data Definitions for the National Minimum Core Data Set for Melanoma.

Developed by ISD Scotland

1st July 2014

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AJCC Staging (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, Seventh Edition (2010), American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC), Chicago, Illinois, published by Springer Science and Business Media LLC.

**Definition:** This describes the extent of cancer in a patient’s body. The American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) system groups according to individual elements of the TNM clinical classification.

**Field Name:** AJCCSTAGE

**Field Type:** Characters

**Field length:** 4

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 8, 9, 10

This is the final clinical stage as defined by the MDT.

Clinical staging includes microstaging of the primary melanoma and clinical/radiological evaluation for metastases. By convention, it should be used after complete excision of the primary melanoma with clinical assessment for regional and distant metastases.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AJCC Stage</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IA</td>
<td>T1a</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB</td>
<td>T1b</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2a</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIA</td>
<td>T2b</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3a</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIB</td>
<td>T3b</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T4a</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIC</td>
<td>T4b</td>
<td>N0</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Any T</td>
<td>≥ N1</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIIA</td>
<td>T1-4a</td>
<td>N1a</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1-4a</td>
<td>N2a</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIIB</td>
<td>T1-4b</td>
<td>N1a</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1-4b</td>
<td>N2a</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1-4b</td>
<td>N1b</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1-4a</td>
<td>N2b</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1-4a</td>
<td>N2c</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIIC</td>
<td>T1-4b</td>
<td>N1b</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1-4b</td>
<td>N2b</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1-4b</td>
<td>N2c</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Any T</td>
<td>N3</td>
<td>M0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Any T</td>
<td>Any N</td>
<td>M1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>TX or not recorded</td>
<td>Not assessed or not recorded</td>
<td>Not assessed or not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
TNM Tumour Classification (Pathological) (Melanoma)

Common Name: Pathological TNM Tumour stage (Melanoma)

Main Source of Data Item Standard: 7th edition American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC)

Definition: A record of the size and extent of the tumour of the Melanoma following resection of the primary cancer.

Field Name: pT
Field Type: Characters
Field Length: 4

Notes for Users: Required to allow adjustments for stage when undertaking survival analysis.

pT status should be recorded according to the 7th edition AJCC TNM stage grouping should be deferred until all current staging information is available and if appropriate, until after skin cancer MDT discussion.

In the case of multiple tumours, the tumour with the worst prognosis should be used for classification. If in doubt, check with pathology.

Pathology taken within 6 months of a patient initially refusing further investigation or whose initial treatment is 'Watch and Wait' can also be recorded.

If stage is unable to be definitively determined from information in case notes/clinical systems, do not deduce from other information and record as 'not recorded'.

Codes and Values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pT0</td>
<td>No evidence of primary tumour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT1</td>
<td>Melanomas 1.0 mm or less in thickness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT1a</td>
<td>Without ulceration and mitosis &lt; 1/mm²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT1b</td>
<td>With ulceration or mitoses ≥ 1/mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT2</td>
<td>Melanomas 1.01 – 2.0 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT2a</td>
<td>Without ulceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT2b</td>
<td>With ulceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT3</td>
<td>Melanomas 2.01 – 4.0 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT3a</td>
<td>Without ulceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT3b</td>
<td>With ulceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT4</td>
<td>Melanomas &gt; 4.0 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT4a</td>
<td>Without ulceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pT4b</td>
<td>With ulceration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tis</td>
<td>Melanoma in situ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pTX</td>
<td>Primary tumour cannot be assessed eg. Curettaged or severely regressed melanoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related data items:**

**Notes by Users:**
Histopathology Report Complete (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by the Information Services.

**Definition:** A record to determine if all information required in the pathology report is complete.

**Field Name:** PATHCOMPL  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 2

Should be recorded in histopathology report from the diagnostic excision biopsy.

**Full Information Required:**  
(As defined by the Royal College of Pathology Cutaneous Malignant Melanoma Dataset)

- Clinical Site
- Specimen Type
- Curettings
- Size of Specimen
- Maximum diameter of lesion
- Maximum height of lesion
- Atypical features
- Histopathological subtype
- Margins – in-situ component
- Margins – invasive component
- AJCC/TNM pathological stage
- Invasion
  
*If invasion identified:*
  - Breslow thickness
  - Ulceration
  - Mitotic index
  - Lymphovascular invasion
  - Microsatellite/in-transit metastasis
  - Neurotropic/perineural invasion
  - Growth Phase
  - Tumour infiltrating lymphocytes
  - Regression
  - Clark level 4/5 (only if pT1a/b staging not possible from mitotic index and/or ulceration)

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Not complete</td>
<td>Not all data items recorded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Number of Sentinel Nodes Examined

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the number of sentinel lymph nodes found in the specimen removed from the patient at the time of surgery and sent to pathology for analysis.

**Field Name:** NSEXNODE
**Field Type:** Integer
**Field Length:** 4

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

The examination of the nodes is associated with invasive cancer only.

If no histology is available or no sentinel nodes examined, code as 1010 (not applicable).

If sentinel nodes are examined and the number is not available, code as 9999 (not recorded)

**Related Data Items:**
Number of Sentinel Nodes Involved

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the number of sentinel lymph nodes found in the specimen removed from the patient at the time of surgery and sent to pathology for analysis that are infiltrated with tumour cells.

**Field Name:** NSINVNODE  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 4

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

Examination of the sentinel nodes is associated with invasive cancer only.

If no histology is available or no sentinel nodes involved, code as 1010 (Not applicable).

If the number of sentinel nodes involved is not available, code as 9999 (Not recorded)

**NB:** Nodes involved and nodes with metastases are the same.

**Related Data Items:**
Number of Non-Sentinel Nodes Examined

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the number of non-sentinel lymph nodes found in the specimen removed from the patient at the time of completion lymphedectomy and sent to pathology for analysis.

**Field Name:** NSEXNODES  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 4

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

The examination of the nodes is associated with invasive cancer only. If sentinel node biopsy has been performed these are recorded separately.

If no histology is available or no non-sentinel nodes examined, code as 1010 (Not applicable).

If non-sentinel nodes are examined and the number is not available, code as 9999 (Not recorded)

**Related Data Items:**
Number of Non-Sentinel Nodes Involved

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the number of non-sentinel lymph nodes found in the specimen removed from the patient at the time of surgery and sent to pathology for analysis that are infiltrated with tumour cells.

**Field Name:** NSINVNODES  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 4

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

Examination of the nodes is associated with invasive cancer only. If sentinel node biopsy has been performed these are recorded separately.

If no histology is available or no non-sentinel nodes involved, code as 1010 (Not applicable).

If the number of non-sentinel nodes involved is not available, code as 9999 (Not recorded)

**NB:** Nodes involved and nodes with metastases are the same.

**Related Data Items:**
Distance to Peripheral Margin (Invasive Component)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** The distance of the invasive melanoma component from the closest peripheral margin in millimetres (mm).

**Field Name:** PINVMARGIN
**Field Type:** Number (nn.n)
**Field Length:** 4

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

This will be confirmed by microscopic examination and the final result can be found on the pathology report relating to the specimen from the surgery performed.

This should be recorded from the first excisional biopsy.

If the distance is not assessable, record as 88.8.
If the distance is not measured record as not applicable, 96.6.
If the distance is not recorded, code as 99.9.

**Related Data Items:**
Regional Lymph Node Histopathology Report Complete (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by the Information Services.

**Definition:** A record to determine if all information required in the regional lymph nodes associated with cutaneous melanoma pathology report is complete following sentinel node biopsy (SNB).

**Field Name:** NODEPATHCOMPL  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 5

**Full Information Required:**  
(As defined by the Royal College of Pathology Regional Lymph Nodes associated with Cutaneous Malignant Melanoma Dataset)

- Clinical site

  **Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy:**
  - Three dimensional size
  - Macroscopic abnormality present
  - Dye seen in tissue
  - Number of sentinel nodes identified
  - Number of nodes involved
  - For each positive node:
    - Location of deposits
      - Subcapsular
      - Paranchymal

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Complete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Not complete</td>
<td>Not all data items recorded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
B-RAF Status (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the result of the B-RAF status from the patient’s biopsy.

**Field Name:** BRAF  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 8

The B-RAF status result can be found on the pathology report and/or recorded in the clinical notes.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>V600 BRAF mutation present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>V600 BRAF mutation NOT present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Not Done</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Patient refused investigations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>E.g. Insufficient tissue, patient with stage I or II disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98</td>
<td>Clinically inappropriate</td>
<td>Patient not suitable e.g. significant co-morbidities, unfit for investigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Date B-RAF Status Checked (Melanoma)
Date B-RAF Status Checked (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This is the date that the patient’s biopsy had the B-RAF status reported.

**Field Name:** DBRAF
**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY).
**Field Length:** 10

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

The date recorded is the date the B-RAF status was confirmed, this will be the date the report was issued.

If the exact date is not known, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If B-RAF status was not checked or the patient refused, record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

**Related Data Items:**
B-RAF Status (Melanoma)
Section 5: Non-Surgical Treatment
Non-Surgical Treatment Type 1-3 (Melanoma)

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

Definition: The type of non-surgical course administered for the treatment of the cancer.

Field Name: NSTYPE1
NSTYPE2
NSTYPE3
Field Type: Integer
Field length: 2

Notes for Users: Required for QPI(s): 10
All treatments given as part of the initial treatment plan

Codes and Values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Chemotherapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Radiotherapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Immunotherapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Targeted therapy</td>
<td>E.g. Vemurafenib, Dabrafenib, Trametinib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Patient died before treatment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Patient refused treatment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>e.g. patient received curative surgery or patient did not have active treatment such as best supportive care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Data Items:
Date Non-Surgical Treatment Started 1-3 (Melanoma)

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Audit Cancer Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** The date cancer treatment course commenced.

**Field Name:**
- NSSTARTDATE1
- NSSTARTDATE2
- NSSTARTDATE3

**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY)

**Field length:** 10

**Notes for Users:**
Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

Up to three courses may be recorded.

For the purposes of national audit, only non-surgical treatment given as part of the primary treatment plan should be recorded. Palliative non-surgical treatment to other (metastatic) sites is only recorded if part of the initial treatment plan.

If the date started is unknown, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If non-surgical therapy has not been given or the patient has refused record as 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).

**Related Data Items:**
- Non-Surgical Treatment Type 1-3 {Melanoma}
- Date Non-Surgical Treatment Completed 1-3 {Melanoma}
Date Non-Surgical Treatment Completed 1-3 {Melanoma}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services

**Definition:** The date cancer treatment course ended.

**Field Name:** NSCOMPDATE1  
NSCOMPDATE2  
NSCOMPDATE3

**Field Type:** Date (DD/MM/CCYY)

**Field Length:** 10

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

**Radiotherapy Treatment**
This is the last fraction of a course of radiotherapy.

It should be noted this can be the same day as the day the therapy started.

**SACT**
This is the first day of the last cycle of a course of SACT.

It should be noted this can be the same day as the day the therapy started.

**Immunotherapy and Targeted therapy**
This is the last fraction of a course of treatment.

It should be noted this can be the same day as the day the therapy started.

If the date treatment completed is unknown, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If treatment has not been given, record as 10/10/1010 (not applicable).

**Related Data Item(s):**
Non-Surgical Treatment Type 1-3 {Melanoma}
Date Non-Surgical Treatment Started 1-3 {Melanoma}
Access to Lymphoedema Service

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes if a patient has been referred to a lymphoedema service after they have undergone groin block dissection.

**Field Name:** ALS  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for QPI(s): 11

Patients who did not develop lymphoedema would be classed as N/A.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Patient refused</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>E.g. Patient has not undergone groin block dissection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Section 6: Clinical Trial Entry
Patient Entered into Clinical Trial {Cancer}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** An indication of whether or not the patient received treatment within the context of a clinical trial.

**Field Name:** TRIAL  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for generic QPIs.

This relates only to participation in clinical trials which may be national or international multi-centred trials.

The majority of non-commercial multi-centred trials available in Scotland are National Cancer Research Network (NCRN) badged or equivalent.

Some academic and university units may have ongoing local trials which should not be included here. These can be recorded on local trials databases.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Section 7: Metastases and Death Details
Site of Metastases at Presentation {Melanoma}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes the extent of spread of disease at the time of initial presentation with cancer.

**Field Name:** LOCDIS  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

The site recorded should be as detected by the diagnosing clinician. This will normally be the hospital clinician but in situations where the GP has removed the tumour findings by the GP should be recorded.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Local – within 2cm of the primary tumour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Local - &gt; 2cm from the primary tumour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Not possible to assess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Local Nodes at Presentation {Melanoma}

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes whether the local nodes were affected at the time of initial presentation with cancer.

**Field Name:** LOCNODE  
**Field Type:** Integer  
**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

The site recorded should be as detected by the diagnosing clinician. This will normally be the hospital clinician but in situations where the GP has removed the tumour findings by the GP should be recorded.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Local – Clinically positive no histology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Local – Histologically positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Not possible to assess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
**Disseminated Disease at Presentation 1-5 {Melanoma}**

**Main Source of Data Item Standard:** The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

**Definition:** This denotes whether disseminated disease was first identified in sites other than those detailed for site of metastases described elsewhere at the time of initial presentation with cancer.

**Field Name:** ISSEM1

**Field Name:** ISSEM2

**Field Name:** ISSEM3

**Field Name:** ISSEM4

**Field Name:** ISSEM5

**Field Type:** Integer

**Field Length:** 2

**Notes for Users:** Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

Disseminated disease is where the tumour is widely distributed in an organ or in the whole body separate from its site of origin.

The site recorded should be as detected by the diagnosing clinician. This will normally be the hospital clinician but in situations where the GP has removed the tumour findings by the GP should be recorded.

**Codes and Values:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Explanatory Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Nodal – other than local nodes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Skin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Visceral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Brain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Not possible to assess</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>E.g. Bone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Not recorded</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Data Items:**
Date of Death

Main Source of Data Item Standard: The National Cancer Audit Datasets developed by the regional Cancer Networks supported by Information Services.

Definition:
This is the certified date of death as recorded by the General Register Office (Scotland) (GRO(S)).

Field Name: DOD
Field Type: Date (DD/MM/CCYY).
Field Length: 10

Notes for Users: Required for QPI(s): Required for national survival analysis and national comparative analysis.

If the exact date is not documented, record as 09/09/0909 (Not recorded).

If the patient is alive use the code 10/10/1010 (Not applicable).