

NICER Online Data Dictionary

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY AND REGISTRATION

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NICER National Cancer Registration Data

NICER data includes anonymised data transmitted by individual cantonal cancer registries combined for national purposes. The data includes all cases of malignant cancer from the cantonal cancer registries since each registry was established. The cantonal cancer registries provide data within three categories of information (personal characteristics, cancer characteristics: diagnosis & treatment related, and follow-up status).

Years of Coverage and Level of Data available by Canton

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Basel-City and Country | from 1981 |
| Fribourg | from 2006 |
| Geneva | from 1970 |
| Graubunden | from 1989 |
| Glarus | from 1992 |
| Jura | from 2005 |
| Luzern | from 2010 |
| Neuchatel | from 1974 |
| Nidwalden | from 2011 |
| Obwalden | from 2011 |
| St. Gallen and Appenzell | from 1980 |
| Ticino | from 1996 |
| Uri | from 2011 |
| Vaud | from 1974 |
| Wallis | from 1989 |
| Zug | from 2011 |
| Zurich | from 1980 |

Please note that only a subset of variables might be available for certain incidence years, cancer sites and cantons.

Primary Sources of Coding Standards

The following is a list of the primary sources of internationally based cancer coding used in the development and updating of the NICER Online Data Dictionary. The versions of the international coding standards detailed below reflect those collectively agreed upon and used for cantonal cancer registration in Switzerland at the time of the latest NICER online Data Dictionary release.

1. Cancer Registration: Principles and Methods. Jensen OM, Parkin DM, Maclennan R, Muir CS, Skeet RG. International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Scientific Publications Number 95. Lyon, France, 1991. <http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php>

2. International Classification of Diseases for Oncology, 1st Edition (ICD-O-1). World Health Organization. Geneva, Switzerland, 1976.
3. International Classification of Diseases for Oncology, 2nd Edition (ICD-O-2). World Health Organization. Geneva, Switzerland, 1990.
4. International Classification of Diseases for Oncology, 3rd Edition (ICD-O-3). Fritz A, Percy C, Jack A, Shanmugaratnam K, Sobin L, Parkin DM, Whelan S. World Health Organization. Geneva, Switzerland, 2000. <http://www.who.int/classifications/icd/adaptations/oncology/en/>
5. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 1st Edition. International Union Against Cancer (UICC). Geneva, Switzerland, 1968.
6. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 2nd Edition. International Union Against Cancer (UICC). Geneva, Switzerland, 1974.
7. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours. 3rd Edition. *Harmer M.* International Union Against Cancer (UICC). Geneva, Switzerland, 1978, 1982.
8. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours. 4th Edition. Hermanek P, Sobin L. International Union Against Cancer (UICC). Berlin, *Heidelberg, Germany, New York, USA*, 1987, 1992.
9. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours. 5th Edition. Sobin L, Wittekind C. International Union Against Cancer (UICC). New York, USA, 1997.
10. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 6th Edition. Sobin L, Wittekind C. International Union Against Cancer (UICC). Geneva, Switzerland, 2002.
11. TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours, 7th Edition. Sobin L, M. Gospodarowicz, Wittekind C. International Union Against Cancer (UICC). Geneva, Switzerland, 2009.
12. International Association of Cancer Registries (IARC). <http://www.iarc.fr/>
13. European Network of Cancer Registries (ENCR). <http://www.enrc.com.fr/>

Data Dictionary

The following detailed list presents the standard NICER data available for each cancer case. Please note that only a subset of variables might be available for certain incidence years, cancer sites and cantons. The list herein is continually updated according to current agreements between NICER and cantonal registries, status of data quality and completeness on the national level..

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|------------------------|----------------|
| Label of data item: | Patient Identifier | Name of the data item: | n_patid |
| | | Character length: | 10 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | NICER generated patient identifier. | | |
| Description: | Unique number randomly generated at NICER to identify the patient for project-specific purposes (unrelated to case characteristics and registry and NICER identifiers) | | |
| Codes: | | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|----------------|
| Label of data item: | Tumour Identifier | Name of the data item: | n_tumid |
| | | Name of the data item: | tumid |
| | | Character length: | 10 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | NICER generated tumour identifier. | | |
| Description: | Unique number randomly generated at NICER to identify the tumour. | | |
| Codes: | | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|-------------|
| Label of data item: | Home Canton Identifier | Name of the data item: | Cant |
| | | Character length: | 2 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Unique identifier of the canton of the principal address of the patient. | | |
| Description: | Unique number assigned by Swiss Federal Office of Statistics for each canton. | | |
| Codes: | 1= Zürich 2= Bern/Berne 3= Luzern 4= Uri 5= Schwyz 6= Obwalden 7= Nidwalden 8= Glarus 9= Zug 10= Fribourg 11= Solothurn 12= Basel-Stadt 13= Basel-Landschaft 14= Schaffhausen 15= Appenzell Ausserrhoden 16= Appenzell Innerrhoden 17= St. Gallen 18= Graubünden/Grigioni 19= Aargau 20= Thurgau 21= Ticino 22= Vaud 23= Valais/Wallis 24= Neuchâtel 25= Genève 26= Jura | | |
| Reference: | http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/portal/de/index/infothek/nomenklaturen/blank/blank/raum_glied/01.html | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|-----|
| Label of data item: | Gender | Name of the data item: | sex |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Identifies gender of patient. | | |
| Description: | | | |
| Codes: | 1= male 2= female 9= not stated/unknown | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|-----|
| Label of data item: | Year of birth | Name of the data item: | yyb |
| | | Character length: | 4 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Identifies the calendar year the patient was born. | | |
| Description: | | | |
| Codes: | | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|------------------------|-----|
| Label of data item: | Nationality | Name of the data item: | nat |
| | | Character length: | 4 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Principal citizenship at time of diagnosis. | | |
| Description: | 4-digit (beginning with 8) that BFS assigned for nationality. | | |
| Codes: | see Swiss Federal Office of Statistics document in Appendix 1 | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php ; http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/portal/de/index/infothek/nomenklaturen/blank/blank/sg/02.html | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|------------------------|----|
| Label of data item: | Basis of diagnosis | Name of the data item: | bd |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Records the most valid diagnostic procedure by which the tumour was confirmed. | | |
| Description: | It is the best method of confirmation during the entire course of the disease. Basis of diagnosis must be updated if tumour diagnosis is confirmed by a more valid procedure, irrespective of the point in time after diagnosis at which this procedure takes place. The date of incidence is not altered. "Death Certificate Only" (DCO-case) refers to cases where the only information to the registry is from a death certificate. Cases which are registered on the basis of the cancer diagnosis appearing on the death certificate, but for which the diagnosis is later proved to be wrong have to be excluded. For DCO-cases date of incidence is equal to date of follow-up and date of death. | | |

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| Codes: | 0= Death Certificate Only 1= Clinical 2= Clinical investigation 4= specific tumour markers 5= cytology 6= histology of metastasis 7= histology of primary tumour 9= unknown |
| Reference: | www.iacr.com.fr/basis.pdf |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|-----|
| Label of data item: | Death Certificate Notification | Name of the data item: | dcn |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Identification of cases that first come to attention of the registries from death certificate (Death Certificate Notification). | | |
| Description: | Identification of cases that first come to attention of the registries from death certificate. This refers to cases where the only information to the registry is from a death certificate (DCOs) AND cases with efficient trace back of death certificate notification. For cases with efficient trace back, date of incidence is before date of follow-up. The information has to be provided for all cases after incidence year 2010. If data is available for previous years transmitting this information is highly recommended. | | |
| Codes: | 0 = no 1 = yes | | |
| Reference: | Cancer Incidence in Five Continents. Volume IX, IARC Scientific Publication, No. 160, p.69-70. | | |

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|---------------------|--|------------------------|-----|
| Label of data item: | Year of Incidence | Name of the data item: | yyi |
| | | Character length: | 4 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Identifies the calendar year the tumour was diagnosed. | | |
| Description: | <p>The date of the first event (of the six listed below) to occur chronologically should be chosen as incidence date. If an event of higher priority occurs within three months of the date initially chosen, the date of the higher priority event should take precedence.</p> <p>Order of declining priority:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Date of first histological or cytological confirmation of this malignancy (with the exception of histology or cytology at autopsy). This date should be, in the following order: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) date when the specimen was taken (biopsy) b) date of receipt by the pathologist c) date of the pathology report. 2. Date of admission to the hospital because of this malignancy. 3. When evaluated at an outpatient clinic only: date of first consultation at the outpatient clinic because of this malignancy. 4. Date of diagnosis, other than 1, 2 or 3. 5. Date of death, if no information is available other than the fact that the patient has died | | |

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| | <p>because of a malignancy.</p> <p>6. Date of death, if the malignancy is discovered at autopsy.</p> <p>Whichever date is selected, the date of incidence should not be later than the date of the start of the treatment, or decision not to treat, or date of death.</p> <p>The choice of the date of incidence does not determine the coding of the item "basis of diagnosis".</p> |
| Codes: | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|--------------|
| Label of data item: | Age at Incidence | Name of the data item: | age_i |
| | | Character length: | 5 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | The age in days of the patient at diagnosis. | | |
| Description: | Allows the calculation of intervals in days in the absence of exact dates. | | |
| Codes: | | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

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|---------------------|--|------------------------|---------------|
| Label of data item: | Primary tumour indicator | Name of the data item: | n_prim |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Indicates whether or not the diagnosis is a primary tumour. | | |
| Description: | Based on IARC coding rules (see reference below) a primary cancer is one that originates in a primary site or tissue and is not an extension, nor a recurrence, nor a metastasis. | | |
| Codes: | 0= not a primary tumour 1= primary tumour 9= unknown | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php ; http://www.iacr.com.fr/MPrules_july2004.pdf | | |

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|---------------------|--|------------------------|------------|
| Label of data item: | Laterality | Name of the data item: | lat |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Laterality describes the side of a paired organ or side of the body on which the reportable cancer originated. | | |
| Description: | A paired organ is one in which there are two separate organs of the same kind, one on either side of the body (e.g. kidney, breast, ovary, testis and lung). Bilateral: Origin of primary site is on both sides of a paired organ (when tumours of the same morphology are diagnosed simultaneously in both sides of a paired organ). | | |
| Codes: | 1= right 2= left 3= bilateral 8= not applicable (median, unpaired intra-abdominal and thoracic organs) 9= unknown | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|-------------|
| Label of data item: | Topography | Name of the data item: | topo |
| | | Character length: | 4 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | ICD-O-3 coding of primary site of cancer based on best source of information. | | |
| Description: | The topography section of ICD-O-3 consists of a lead character (the letter "C") followed by two numeric digits for the site, a decimal point, and then one additional numeric digit for the sub-site. The decimal point is not entered as part of the code. | | |
| Codes: | First letter 'C' and three digits without decimal point. (C000 to C809) | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php ; ICD-O-3, WHO, Geneva, 2000. http://www.who.int/classifications/icd/adaptations/oncology/en/ | | |

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|---------------------|--|------------------------|------------|
| Label of data item: | Morphology | Name of the data item: | mph |
| | | Character length: | 4 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | ICD-O-3 coded histologic term of primary cancer. | | |
| Description: | The histologic composition of cancer cells within the primary cancer. The 1 st four numerical digits of the morphology code in ICD-O-3 (excluding the leading M). | | |
| Codes: | (8000 to 9989); | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php ; ICD-O-3, WHO, Geneva, 2000 http://www.who.int/classifications/icd/adaptations/oncology/en/ | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|------------|
| Label of data item: | Behaviour | Name of the data item: | beh |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Describes the way the tumour acts inside the body based on ICD-O-3 coding. | | |
| Description: | A tumour can grow in place without the potential for spread (benign); it can be malignant but still growing in place (non-invasive or in situ); it can invade surrounding tissues (malignant, primary site). It consists of the 5 th numerical digit, the one after the slash, of the complete morphology code. ICD-O-3 code 6 (malignant, metastatic site) is not used and code 9 (malignant, uncertain whether primary or metastatic site) is redefined (see below). | | |
| Codes: | 0= Benign 1= Uncertain whether benign or malignant, borderline malignancy, low malignant potential, and uncertain malignant potential 2= Carcinoma in situ; intraepithelial; non-infiltrating; non-invasive 3= Malignant, primary site (invasive) 9= Unknown | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php : ICD-O-3, WHO, Geneva, 2000 http://www.who.int/classifications/icd/adaptations/oncology/en/ | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|------|
| Label of data item: | Version of UICC TNM | Name of the data item: | vtnm |
| | | Character length: | 2 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Defines the UICC TNM version used for the coding of TNM. | | |
| Description: | | | |
| Codes: | 10= 1 st Edition, 1968 20= 2 nd Edition, 1974 30= 3 rd Edition, 1978 31= 3 rd Edition, enlarged and revised 1982 40= 4 th Edition, 1987 42= 4 th Edition, 2 nd revision, 1992 50= 5 th Edition, 1997 60= 6 th Edition, 2002 70=7 th Edition, 2009 | | |
| Reference: | UICC : TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours | | |

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|---------------------|--|------------------------|----|
| Label of data item: | clinical primary tumour | Name of the data item: | ct |
| | | Character length: | 8 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Pre-therapeutic clinical assessment of tumour size according to UICC TNM. | | |
| Description: | Tumour size based on clinical investigation, imaging, endoscopy, biopsy or surgical exploration. | | |
| Codes: | TX= primary tumour cannot be assessed T0= no indication of primary tumour Ta T1 T1a T1a1 T1a2 T1b T1b1 T1b2 T1c T2 T2a T2b T2c T3 T3a T3b T3c T4 T4a T4b T4c T4d 99= unknown | | |

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| | Note: case sensitive with no additional characters or spaces. |
| Reference: | UICC : TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours |

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|---------------------|--|------------------------|-----------|
| Label of data item: | clinical regional lymph nodes | Name of the data item: | cn |
| | | Character length: | 3 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Pre-therapeutic clinical assessment of regional lymph nodes involvement according to UICC TNM. | | |
| Description: | Regional lymph nodes involvement based on clinical investigation, imaging, endoscopy, biopsy or surgical exploration. | | |
| Codes: | NX (explanation: regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed) N0 (explanation: no indication for lymph node metastases) N1 N1a N1b N2 N2a N2b N2c N3 N3a N3b N3c 99= unknown Note: case sensitive with no additional characters or spaces. | | |
| Reference: | UICC : TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|-----------|
| Label of data item: | clinical distant metastases | Name of the data item: | cm |
| | | Character length: | 3 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Pre-therapeutic clinical assessment of distant metastases according to UICC TNM. | | |
| Description: | Assessment of distant metastases based on clinical investigation, imaging, endoscopy, biopsy or surgical exploration. | | |
| Codes: | MX (explanation: distant metastases cannot be assessed) M0 (explanation: no indication for distant metastases) M1 M1a M1b M1c Note: case sensitive with no additional characters or spaces. | | |
| Reference: | UICC : TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|--------|
| Label of data item: | y symbol for pTNM classification | Name of the data item: | Y_ptnm |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Timing of TNM classification | | |
| Description: | For cases in which TNM-classification is performed during or following initial multimodality therapy to categorise the extent of tumour actually present at time of examination. | | |
| Codes: | 1= no, if pTNM provided has been estimated before any therapy 2= yes, if pTNM provided has been estimated during or after neoadjuvant therapy (any mono or multimodality) 9= missing, it cannot be assessed whether pTNM was assigned before, during or after therapy | | |
| Reference: | UICC : TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|----|
| Label of data item: | Pathological primary tumour | Name of the data item: | pt |
| | | Character length: | 9 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Postoperative assessment of tumour size according to UICC TNM . | | |
| Description: | Tumour size based on histopathological assessment (tumour resection or biopsy allowing for the assessment of the highest pT category). Only if available ≤4 months after incidence date. | | |
| Codes: | TX= primary tumour cannot be assessed T0= no indication of primary tumour Tis= carcinoma in situ NOS Tis_DCIS Tis_LCIS Tis_Paget Tis_pu Tis_pd Ta T1 T1mic T1a T1a1 T1a2 T1b T1b1 T1b2 T1c T2 T2a T2b T2c T3 T3a T3b T3c T4 | | |

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|------------|--|
| | T4a T4b T4c T4d 99= unknown Note: case sensitive with no additional characters or spaces. |
| Reference: | UICC : TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 6 th Edition (Springer) page 5 (General rules of the TNM System) AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7 th Edition (Springer) page 4 |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|-----------|
| Label of data item: | Pathological regional lymph nodes | Name of the data item: | pn |
| | | Character length: | 3 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Postoperative assessment of regional lymph nodes involvement according to UICC TNM. | | |
| Description: | Regional lymph nodes involvement based on histopathological investigation (lymph node resection allowing for the assessment of pN0 to the highest pT category). Only if available ≤4 months after incidence date. | | |
| Codes: | NX (explanation: regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed) N0 (explanation: no indication for lymph node metastases) N1 N1mi N1a N1b N1c N2 N2mi N2a N2b N2c N3 N3mi N3a N3b N3c 99= unknown Note: case sensitive with no additional characters or spaces. | | |
| Reference: | UICC : TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 6 th Edition (Springer) page 5 (General rules of the TNM System) AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7 th Edition (Springer) page 4 | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|--------------|
| Label of data item: | pn based on sentinel lymph node | Name of the data item: | pn_sn |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Assessment of sentinel lymph nodes. | | |
| Description: | | | |
| Codes: | UICC TNM Classification | | |

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| | 1= sentinel lymph node involved (if pN1-pN3(sn)) 2= sentinel lymph node not involved (if pN0(sn)) 3= sentinel lymph node not found (codes 1-3 come to be derived from the path report) 7= result from sentinel lymph node procedure unknown (i.e. sentinel lymph node examined but result unknown) 8= sentinel lymph node exam not performed 9= unknown whether sentinel lymph node procedure performed or not |
| Reference: | UICC: TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|-----------|
| Label of data item: | pathological distant metastases | Name of the data item: | pm |
| | | Character length: | 3 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input type="checkbox"/> Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Postoperative assessment of distant metastases according to UICC TNM. | | |
| Description: | Assessment of distant metastases based on microscopic histopathological investigation. Only if available ≤ 4 months after incidence date. | | |
| Codes: | MX (explanation: distant metastases cannot be assessed) M0: not used M1 M1a M1b M1c Note: case sensitive with no additional characters or spaces. | | |
| Reference: | UICC: TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 6 th Edition (Springer) page 5 (General rules of the TNM System) AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7 th Edition (Springer) page 4 | | |

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|---------------------|---|------------------------|------------|
| Label of data item: | Grade of differentiation | Name of the data item: | grd |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Assessment of histologic grade | | |
| Description: | | | |
| Codes: | 1= Grade I: well differentiated, differentiated NOS 2= Grade II: moderately differentiated, moderately well differentiated, intermediate differentiation 3= Grade III or Grade IV: poorly differentiated or undifferentiated, anaplastic 4= Grade IV: (reserved for liver and kidney: see below) 8= Grade X: not applicable; grade cannot be assessed (e.g. melanoma) (also if grade assessed based on material collected during/after neoadjuvant therapy) 9= unknown, grade not mentioned in pathology report Explanation for tumour specific grading: Liver (C22) (Edmondson-Steiner-Grading; Cancer 1954:7:462-504): 1= Grade I 2= Grade II 3= Grade III 4= Grade IV 8= Grade X: grade cannot be assessed (also if grade assessed based on material collected | | |

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| | <p>during/after neoadjuvant therapy) 9= unknown, grade not mentioned in pathology report</p> <p>Bone (C40; C41) / Soft Tissue (C38.1-3; C47; C48.0, C49): two level grading system 1= low grade (Grade 1 or Grade 2 of the more detailed four level grading systems; Grade 1 of the more detailed three level grading system) 2= high grade (Grade 3 or Grade 4 of the more detailed four level grading system; Grade 2 or Grade 3 of the more detailed three level grading system) 8= Grade X: grade cannot be assessed (also if grade assessed based on material collected during/after neoadjuvant therapy) 9= unknown; grade not mentioned in pathology report, blank if grading only available from diagnostic material collected after neoadjuvant radio and/or chemotherapy</p> <p>Breast (C50): invasive carcinoma grading according to Elston/Ellis, Histopathology 1991;19:403-410 (also known as Nottingham Grading System) 1= Grade 1 2= Grade 2 3= Grade 3 8= Grade X: grade cannot be assessed (also if grade assessed based on material collected during/after neoadjuvant therapy) 9= unknown; grade not mentioned in pathology report</p> <p>Corpus uteri (C54): see Creasman WT, Odicino F, et al. J Epidemiol Biostat 2001;6:45-86. 1= Grade 1 2= Grade 2 3= Grade 3 8= Grade X: grade cannot be assessed (also if grade assessed based on material collected during/after neoadjuvant therapy) 9=unknown; grade not mentioned in pathology report</p> <p>Prostate (C61): 1= Grade 1, well differentiated (slight anaplasia; Gleason 2-4) 2= Grade 2, moderately differentiated (moderate anaplasia; Gleason 5-6) 3= Grade 3 or Grade 4, poorly or not differentiated (severe anaplasia; Gleason 7-10) 8= Grade X: grade cannot be assessed; (also if grade assessed based on material collected during/after neoadjuvant therapy) 9= unknown, grade not mentioned in pathology report.</p> <p>Kidney (C64), Grading by Fuhrmann 1= Grade 1 2= Grade 2 3= Grade 3 4= Grade 4 8= Grade X: grade cannot be assessed; (also if grade assessed based on material collected during/after neoadjuvant therapy) 9=unknown, grade not mentioned in pathology report.</p> |
| Reference: | <p>http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php ; ICD-O-3, WHO, Geneva, 2000. http://www.who.int/classifications/icd/adaptations/oncology/en/</p> |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|------------------------|-----|
| Label of data item: | Life Status | Name of the data item: | sfu |
| | | Character length: | 1 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Information about patient's life status at the date of last follow-up. | | |
| Description: | Life status based on canton of registration | | |
| Codes: | 1= alive and resident in canton of registration 2= died while resident in canton of registration 3= lost to follow-up (no longer residing in canton of registration) 9= unknown | | |
| Reference: | | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|-----|
| Label of data item: | Year of follow-up | Name of the data item: | yyf |
| | | Character length: | 4 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | Identifies the calendar year of the last follow-up date. | | |
| Description: | | | |
| Codes: | | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------|-------|
| Label of data item: | Age at follow-up | Name of the data item: | age_f |
| | | Character length: | 5 |
| Data format: | Numeric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text <input type="checkbox"/> Date <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Definition: | The age in days of the patient at the date of the last follow-up. | | |
| Description: | Allows the calculation of intervals in days in the absence of exact dates. | | |
| Codes: | | | |
| Reference: | http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/sp95/index.php | | |

Appendix 1: Nationality Codes

The following is a list of codes developed by the Swiss Federal Office of Statistics used for coding nationality of persons with cancer in the NICER Core Dataset.

<http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/portal/de/index/infothek/nomenklaturen/blank/blank/sg/02.html>