

**Coding Guidelines**  
**COLON**  
**C180–C189**

The prognosis of patients with colon cancer is related to the degree of penetration of the tumor through the bowel wall, the presence or absence of nodal involvement, and the presence or absence of distant metastases.

**Primary Site**

**Priority Order for Coding Primary Site**

Use the information from reports in the following priority order to code the primary site when there is conflicting information:

Resected cases

- Operative report with surgeon's description
- Pathology report
- Imaging

Polypectomy or excision without resection

- Endoscopy report
- Pathology report

**Subsites**

Code the subsite with the most tumor when the tumor overlaps two subsites.

Code C188 when both subsites are equally involved.

**Grade**

*Note:* These guidelines pertain to the data item Grade. Refer to the [Collaborative Stage Data Collection Manual](#) for instructions on coding site-specific factors.

Colon cancer is often graded using a two-grade system; Low Grade (2) or High Grade (4). If the grade is listed as 1/2 or as low grade, convert to a grade 2. If the grade is listed as 2/2 or as high grade, convert to a code 4.

Code the highest grade given.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>SEER Code</b>
Well differentiated	I	1
Fairly well differentiated	II	2
Low grade	I-II	2
Mid differentiated	II	2
Moderately differentiated	II	2
Partially differentiated	II	2
Partially well differentiated	I-II	2
Partially well differentiated	II	2
Relatively or generally well differentiated	II	2

## SEER Program Coding and Staging Manual 2012

<b>Term</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>SEER Code</b>
Medium grade, intermediate grade	II-III	3
Moderately poorly differentiated	III	3
Moderately undifferentiated	III	3
Poorly differentiated	III	3
Relatively poorly differentiated	III	3
Relatively undifferentiated	III	3
Slightly differentiated	III	3
High grade	III-IV	4
Undifferentiated, anaplastic, not differentiated	IV	4