

Gleason score code N[N]

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Gleason score code N[N]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
METEOR identifier:	436193
Registration status:	Health , Standard 14/05/2015
Definition:	A system of grading prostate cancer based on the sum of the primary and secondary tumour grades/patterns in sections of biopsied or resected tissue.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N[N]
Maximum character length:	2

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	2	Grade 2
	3	Grade 3
	4	Grade 4
	5	Grade 5
	6	Grade 6
	7	Grade 7
	8	Grade 8
	9	Grade 9
	10	Grade 10

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	The Gleason score (sum) is formed by adding the primary and secondary Gleason grades/patterns together as outlined in Table 1 for radical prostatectomy specimens and Table 2 for needle core biopsy specimens. If only one grade is found in the tissue sample, then that grade (the primary Gleason grade) is multiplied by two to give the score.
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Gleason grades range from 2 to 10 for radical prostatectomy specimens and 5-10 for needle core biopsy specimens (Grades 2-4 are not applicable to needle core biopsy specimens).

Table 1: Gleason scoring in radical prostatectomy specimens

Number of different grades present	Proportion of grades present	Comments
1 - Primary	One of 2, 3, 4 or 5 only	Double primary grade to get score (eg 4+4=8) Record for dominant nodule +/- nondominant (smaller) nodule if of higher grade (if present)

2 – Primary and secondary	Grades mixed	Report both grades, dominant pattern* first (2+3, 3+4, 4+3 ..) Record for dominant nodule +/- nondominant (smaller) nodule if of higher grade (if present)
	Secondary grade is lower and of limited amount (<5%)	Ignore lower grade – 4+3 becomes 4+4 Record for dominant nodule +/- non dominant (smaller) nodule if of higher grade (if present)
	Secondary grade is higher and of limited amount (<5%)	Include higher grade – 3+3 becomes 3+4 Record for dominant nodule +/- non dominant (smaller) nodule if of higher grade (if present)
3 – Primary, secondary and tertiary	Grades 2, 3, 4 or 5	Report dominant grade (largest area) first, then secondary grade (second largest area), then tertiary grade (only if 4 or 5) eg 3+4=7 with tertiary grade 5* eg 2+3=5 with tertiary grade 4* Record for dominant nodule +/- non dominant (smaller) nodule if of higher grade (if present)

Table 2: Gleason scoring in needle core biopsy specimens

Number of different grades present	Proportion of grades present	Comments
1 - Primary	One of 3, 4 or 5 only	Double grade to get score (eg 4+4=8)
2 – Primary and secondary	Grades mixed	Report both grades, dominant pattern first (3+4, 4+3 ..)
	Secondary grade is lower and of limited amount (<5%)	Ignore lower grade – 4+3 becomes 4+4
	Secondary grade is higher and of limited amount (<5%)	Include higher grade – 3+3 becomes 3+4
3 – Primary, secondary and tertiary	Grades 3, 4 or 5	Score the primary grade and the highest grade: eg 3+4+5 becomes 3+5=8 eg 4+5+3=5 becomes 4+5=9

* The tertiary grade is recorded separately under the item Person with cancer—histopathological grade, tertiary Gleason grade, code N

Note: Dominant (primary) grade is that which occupies the greatest area.

More extensive guidelines are available in the *Prostate cancer (radical prostatectomy) structured reporting protocol (2nd Ed.)* at the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia website.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Cancer Australia

Reference documents: American College of Surgeons 2011. Facility Oncology Registry Data Standards: Revised for 2011. American College of Surgeons: Chicago.

Humphrey PA 2004. Gleason grading and prognostic factors in carcinoma of the prostate. Modern pathology, 17(3):p292-306.

Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia 2014. Prostate cancer (radical prostatectomy) structured reporting protocol (2nd Ed.). Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia: Sydney.

Relational attributes

Data elements implementing this value domain: [Person with cancer—histopathological grade, Gleason score code N\[N\] Health](#), Standard 14/05/2015