
To: CAP eCC Customers
From: CAP Structured Data Team
Date: 8/17/2016
Subject: Units of Measurement in the CAP eCC and CAP Cancer Protocols

Notice regarding Units of Measurement in the CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (eCC) and CAP Cancer Protocols

Pathologists using the CAP eCC and Cancer Protocols have reported a potential source of error when entering numerical values and reporting specific units of measurement (UOM) in their surgical pathology reports.

In the CAP eCC and Cancer Protocols, the UOM used for tumor staging are standardized to the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) Cancer Staging Manual 7th Edition. **Tumor size** is often reported in **centimeters** while other measurements, including **depth of invasion or horizontal spread**, are often reported in **millimeters**.

To help decrease the risk of staging errors due to incorrect usage of units, the CAP Pathology Electronic Reporting (PERT) and Cancer Committees are implementing the following approach to future CAP eCC releases:

1. UOM will remain standardized to the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7th Edition.
2. The terms "(cm)" and "(mm)" will be updated to read "Centimeters (cm)" and "Millimeters (mm)" in questions where pathologists enter measurement values.
3. "Tumor Size" questions reported in centimeters will be physically separated in the data entry form from other tumor descriptor measurements that are reported in millimeters.
4. Instructional Notes will be added to the data entry forms to call pathologists' attention to the differences in the UOMs reported in centimeters and millimeters.

These revisions will be released as follows:

1. August 2016 Agile Release: Uterine Cervix Excision, Cervix Trachelectomy, and the Vulva eCC templates will be revised.
2. Additional Updates 2016-2017: As each CAP eCC template is updated to align with the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 8th Edition, we will apply the above approach to UOM. These releases will be staggered from Fall 2016 to Spring/Summer 2017. Further information about AJCC 8th Edition-corresponding releases of the CAP eCC is forthcoming over the next several weeks.

As always, we strive to provide you with the highest-quality products to assist you in your surgical pathology reporting, and welcome your questions and comments. Please contact us at capecc@cap.org with any issues related to these updates or with any other feedback.

Best regards,

The CAP Structured Data Team