

As I hope most of you are aware, the **8th edition of the AJCC TNM staging system will become effective January 1, 2018**. The expectation is for clinicians to use the 8th edition of staging for all patient encounters on or after 1/1/18. The current 7th edition should continue to be used through 12/31/17.

Key details regarding implementation are below:

A few reminders as to **why** accurate TNM staging is important:

- AJCC TNM is the common language of cancer, used internationally to convey clinical experience and patient care
- Accurate staging is necessary to:
 - evaluate results of treatments and clinical trials
 - facilitate exchange and comparison of information among treatment centers
 - serve as a basis for clinical and translational cancer research
- Stage of extent of cancer at time of diagnosis defines the prognosis, determines the appropriate treatment, and is based on experience and outcomes of prior patients.
- Accurate AJCC staging is a required component of our cancer program accreditation.

Educational Resources:

- The 8th edition includes major rule changes for some tumor sites such as breast and head/neck, and minor rule changes for other tumor sites.
- Links to online resources are included below. The attached is broken down by specific tumor sites for your convenience. Your individual professional societies may also have additional information.
- Because the changes are unique to each tumor site, a general CME would likely not be of value for most specialty providers.

Online Resources:

- 8th Edition Home Page (on AJCC site): <https://cancerstaging.org/Pages/default.aspx>
- AJCC Cancer Staging 8th Edition **Webinars (free)**: <https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx>
- AJCC Cancer Staging 8th Edition **Articles**: <https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx>
- 8th Edition **manual purchase** available on AJCC website ISBN 978-3-319-40617-6 (\$199.99): <https://cancerstaging.org/references-tools/deskreferences/Pages/default.aspx>
- 8th Edition **manual updates and corrections**: <https://cancerstaging.org/references-tools/deskreferences/Pages/default.aspx>
- 8th Edition **manual purchase** available on Amazon ISBN 978-3-319-40617-6 at https://www.amazon.com/AJCC-Cancer-Staging-Manual-Mahul/dp/3319406175/ref=sr_1_sc_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1509109929&sr=8-1-spell&keywords=AJCC+staging+8th
- National Cancer Registrars Association Live **Webinar Series**: <http://www.cancerregistryeducation.org/live-webinars>
- An electronic version of the manual is also anticipated as **eBook** with an Amazon Kindle and Apple iBook version sometime in the future.

Epic Tools:

- Epic includes a staging function to assist with accurate staging.
- The staging tool appears to providers when “Cancer” is added to the problem list. It allows you to calculate the T, N, M and stage grouping and record it in the patient record in a location that becomes retrievable. A dot phrase can also be incorporated in your notes to pull in the completed stage for greater efficiency.
- The 7th edition of this tool is currently active in Epic, but not everyone has access. The 8th edition will be available on January 1, 2018. **The Epic staging tool will be added to your access no later than January 1, 2018.**
- A very brief video on use of the AJCC staging tool in Epic is available on the Learning Physician Dashboard under Quick Start Guides/Oncology/Stage Cancer.
- A best practice alert (BPA) is available to remind providers to stage the case. The use or benefit of the **BPA will be discussed further** at the March 2018 cancer committee meeting before a decision is made whether to implement.

The Cancer Committee will monitor progress of this implementation in 2018. If you have specific questions regarding implementation, please contact myself, Georgia Smith, Executive Director Cancer Services at 715-717-4090, or the Cathy Haynes, Cancer Registrar at 336-2270-8260.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our patients with cancer. You are an important part of our quality cancer program and we appreciate your assistance with the implementation of this change.

Georgia J. Smith, MSN, MHA, RN, OCN

Executive Director of Cancer Care Services

HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital/Prevea

900 W. Clairemont Ave.

Eau Claire, WI 54701

Office: (715) 717-4090

Cell: (715) 461-0463

Fax: (715) 717-3967

georgia.smith@hshs.org

www.sacredhearteauclaire.org

AJCC Staging – 8th Edition

Specialty Resources

Specialty	Activity:
General Surgeons	<p>Free Webinars – live and on demand: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx</p> <p>Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJCC Cancer Staging Manual in the Literature: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx • Journal of Clinical Oncology. <i>Modified Staging Classification for Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors on the Basis of the American Joint Committee on Cancer and European Neuroendocrine Tumor Society Systems.</i> http://ascopubs.org/doi/abs/10.1200/JCO.2016.67.8193 • CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. <i>Cancer of the esophagus and esophagogastric junction – Major changes in the American Joint Committee on Cancer eighth edition cancer staging manual.</i> May 26, 2017. http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.21399/full
ENT Surgeons	<p>Free Webinars – live and on demand: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx</p> <p>Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJCC Cancer Staging Manual in the Literature: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx • CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. <i>Head and Neck Cancers – major changes in the American Joint Committee on cancer eighth edition cancer staging manual.</i> January 27, 2017. http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.21389/full • Annals of Surgical Oncology. <i>American Joint Committee on Cancer: Endocrine Surgery.</i> February 6, 2017. https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Documents/Endocrine%20editorial.pdf • Thyroid. <i>Updated American Joint Committee on Cancer/Tumor-Node-Metastasis Staging System for Differentiated and Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer (Eighth Edition): What Changes and Why?</i> June 1, 2017. http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/10.1089/thy.2017.0102
Urologists	<p>Free Webinars – live and on demand: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx</p> <p>Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJCC Cancer Staging Manual in the Literature: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx • CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. <i>Prostate cancer – major changes in the American Joint Committee on Cancer eighth edition cancer staging manual.</i> http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/wol1/doi/10.3322/caac.21391/full
Cardiothoracic	<p>Free Webinars – live and on demand: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx</p>

<p>surgeons</p>	<p>Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJCC Cancer Staging Manual in the Literature: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx • CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. <i>Lung cancer – major changes in the American Joint Committee on Cancer eighth edition cancer staging manual</i>. January 31, 2017. http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.21390/full
<p>Breast Surgeons</p>	<p>Free Webinars – live and on demand: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx</p> <p>Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJCC Cancer Staging Manual in the Literature: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx • CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians: <i>The Eighth Edition AJCC Cancer Staging Manual: Continuing to build a bridge from a population-based to a more “personalized” approach to cancer staging</i>: January 17, 2017: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.21388/abstract?campaign=wolearlyview • Annals of Surgical Oncology: <i>The Eighth Edition of TNM: Implications for the Surgical Oncologist</i>: August 7, 2017: https://rd.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1245%2Fs10434-017-6027-8.pdf • CA: A Cancer Journal of Surgical Oncology: <i>Multigene assays: Implications for breast cancer staging</i>: January 6, 2017: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Documents/Multigene%20assays-JSO.pdf
<p>Pathologists</p>	<p>Free Webinars – live and on demand: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx</p> <p>Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJCC Cancer Staging Manual in the Literature: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx
<p>Radiologists</p>	<p>Free Webinars – live and on demand: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8th-Edition-Webinars.aspx</p> <p>Articles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJCC Cancer Staging Manual in the Literature: https://cancerstaging.org/CSE/Physician/Pages/8thEditionArticles.aspx • Radiology: <i>Do Radiologists Have Stage Fright? Tumor Staging and How We Can Add Value to the Care of Patient with Cancer</i>; January, 2016. http://pubs.rsna.org/doi/pdf/10.1148/radiol.2015151563