## Cellular pathology audit template

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| Date of completion  | (To be inserted when completed) |
| Name of lead author/participants | (To be inserted) |
| Specialty | Histopathology/gastrointestinal |
| Title | **Audit of anal cancer reporting in biopsy specimens** |
| Background | Datasets published by the Royal College of Pathologists define the core data items that should be included in histopathology reports to ensure all necessary data is provided.In 2024, the College’s *Dataset for histopathological reporting of anal cancer* was published, which lists and discusses the data items to be included when reporting anal biopsy specimens.1 |
| Aim & objectives | This audit template is a tool to determine whether pathological core data items are included in histopathology reports in anal biopsy specimens. |
| Standards & criteria | **Criteria range:** 100%, or if not achieved, there is documentation in the text of the report that explains the variance.**The agreed standards:**Each core data item stated in the dataset for inclusion in histology reports of anal biopsy specimens should be included in the histology reports. |
| Method | **Sample selection:** (To be completed by the author)Retrospective random selection of consecutive anal cancer biopsy specimens during a set period (e.g. 6 months).Data to be collected from proformas (for excisional biopsies) and textual histology reports (for incisional biopsies).**Data to be collected on proforma (see below).** |
| Results | (To be completed by the author)The results of this audit show the following compliance with the standards.(All items apply to excision biopsies but only items that are marked with an asterisk (\*) apply to incisional biopsy specimens.)

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| **Core data items** | % compliance |
| **Macroscopic description** |
| Specimen type\* |  |
| Size of specimen\* |  |
| Maximum size of tumour\* |  |
| **Histology** |
| Histological type (of tumour)\* |  |
| Differentiation\* |  |
| Background epithelium\* |  |
| Adjacent dysplasia (AIN/SIL)\* |  |
| Completeness of excision of dysplasia |  |
| Maximum dimension of tumour\*  |  |
| Depth of invasion |  |
| Post-treatment regression |  |
| Peripheral margins |  |
| Distance to nearest peripheral margin |  |
| Deep (CRM) margin involvement |  |
| Distance to deep margin |  |
| Lymph nodes (separately submitted) |  |
| **Summary**  |
| Tumour grade and stage (e.g. pT1N0R0Mx) |  |

**Commentary:** |
| Conclusion | (To be completed by the author) |
| Recommend-ations for improvement | Present the result with recommendations, actions and responsibilities for action and a timescale for implementation. Assign a person(s) responsible to do the work within a timeframe.**Some suggestions:*** highlight areas of practice that are different
* present and discuss findings at departmental audit meeting
* if necessary, propose alterations to the format of text reports/dataset proforma to improve compliance.
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| Action plan | (To be completed by the author – see attached action plan proforma) |
| Re-audit date | (To be completed by the author) |
| References | 1. Royal College of Pathologists. *Dataset for histopathological reporting of anal cancer.* London, UK: Royal College of Pathologists, 2024. Available at: [https://www.rcpath.org/profession/guidelines/cancer-datasets-and-tissue-pathways.html#](https://www.rcpath.org/profession/guidelines/cancer-datasets-and-tissue-pathways.html)
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## Data collection proforma for anal cancer reporting in biopsy specimens

## Audit reviewing turnaround times

Patient name:

Hospital number:

Date of birth:

Consultant:

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| **Standards** | **1****Yes**  | **2****No** | **3** If no, was there documentation to explain the variance? **Yes/No** plus free-text comment | **4** Compliant with guideline based on **Yes** from column 1 or an appropriate explanation from column 3. **Yes/No** |
| **Macroscopic description** |
| Specimen type\* |  |  |  |  |
| Size of specimen\* |  |  |  |  |
| Maximum size of tumour\* |  |  |  |  |
| **Histology** |
| Histological type (of tumour)\* |  |  |  |  |
| Differentiation\* |  |  |  |  |
| Background epithelium\* |  |  |  |  |
| Adjacent dysplasia (AIN/SIL)\* |  |  |  |  |
| Completeness of excision of dysplasia |  |  |  |  |
| Maximum dimension of tumour\*  |  |  |  |  |
| Depth of invasion |  |  |  |  |
| Post-treatment regression |  |  |  |  |
| Peripheral margins |  |  |  |  |
| Distance to nearest peripheral margin |  |  |  |  |
| Deep (CRM) margin involvement |  |  |  |  |
| Distance to deep margin |  |  |  |  |
| Lymph nodes (separately submitted) |  |  |  |  |
| **Summary**  |
| Tumour grade and stage (e.g. pT1N0R0Mx) |  |  |  |  |

Note: All items apply to excision biopsies but only items that are marked with an asterisk (\*) apply to incisional biopsy specimens.

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| **Audit action plan** Audit of anal cancer reporting in biopsy specimens |
| Audit recommendation | Objective | Action | Timescale | Barriers and constraints | Outcome | Monitoring |
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