

FAQs

Catalogue of Requirements for the Visceral Oncology Centres of the German Cancer Society (*Deutsche Krebsgesellschaft - DKG*)

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Within the framework of the certification procedure, questions regularly crop up which require an explanation of the Technical and Medical Requirements. This document contains answers to the questions which the centres can refer to when implementing, and the experts can refer to when assessing the Technical and Medical Requirements.

Version FAQ and Catalogue of Requirements (CR)

Version status FAQ: 27.11.2025

The FAQs listed in this document are continuously checked to ensure that they are up to date and adapted in the event of changes to the Technical and Medical Requirements.

Overview of FAQs

Catalogue of Requirements

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1.2 Interdisciplinary cooperation	1.2.0 b	Pancreas: Number of primary cases	03.05.2023
1.2 Interdisciplinary cooperation	1.2.0 c	Stomach: Number of primary cases	22.04.2021
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1.4 Psycho-oncology	1.4.1	Psycho-oncology – qualifications	24.10.2018
1.4 Psycho-oncology	1.4.2 c	Psycho-oncological counselling	26.09.2024
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5.2 Organ-specific surgical therapy	5.2.4.e	Esophagus: Surgical expertise esophagus	22.04.2021
5.2 Organ-specific surgical therapy	5.2.11.b	Stomach/ Esophagus: Expertise for each endoscopic surgeon	22.04.2021
6.2. Organ-specific systemic therapy	6.2.4.a	Case numbers per treatment unit	20.06.2024

Indicator Sheet (=Excel-Template)

Indicator		Last update
6	Pancreas: Patients enrolled in a study	29.09.2022
7a / b	Pancreas: Endoscopy complications	14.07.2016
15	Pancreas: Pathology reports	14.07.2016
7	Stomach: Patients enrolled in a study	29.09.2022
8	Stomach: Endoscopic en bloc resections	16.09.2025
9	Stomach: Complications endoscopic en bloc resection	16.09.2025
10	Stomach: R0 resections (endoscopy)	16.09.2025
3a	Liver: Post-surgical presentation in tumour bord	03.04.2019
3b	Liver: Post-intervention presentation in tumour board	03.04.2019
7	Liver: Patients enrolled in a study.	29.09.2022
10	Liver: mRECIST/EASL classification according to TACE/TAE	03.04.2019
11b	Liver: Complications after percutaneous radiofrequency ablations (RFA) + microwave ablation (MWA)	05.10.2017
12a	Liver: Number of complex surgical interventions	03.04.2019
Basic data Esophagus	Changes in tumor stage	16.09.2025
8	Esophagus: Patients enrolled in a study	29.09.2022
3	Anal Cancer: Psycho-oncological Distress Screening	16.08.2022
5	Anal Cancer: Patients enrolled in a study	29.09.2022
7	Anal Cancer: Number of radio(chemo)therapies in patients with anal cancer (with complete radiotherapy series)	22.10.2024

Interpretations regarding the indicators colorectal are not shown in this document, as the FAQs for this organ are stored in the specification document.

Download: <http://www.xml-oncobox.de/de/Zentren/DarmZentren>

Color legend „black“ relevant for all organs

Only relevant for „Colorectal“

Only relevant or „Pancreas“

Only relevant for „Stomach“

Only relevant for „Liver“

Only relevant for „Esophagus“

Only relevant for “Anal Cancer”

FAQs - Catalogue of Requirements Visceral

1.2 Interdisciplinary cooperation

Section	Requirements		
1.2.0	Number of primary cases		
-Pan-creas -	<p>The Centre must treat 25 patients annually with a primary diagnosis of pancreatic cancer (ICD-10 C 25).</p> <p>Definition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients and not stays or surgical procedures • Adenocarcinomas, neuroendocrine carcinomas are counted. IPMNs (intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms) are not counted. • Histological/cytological findings must be available (biopsy or resection) from primary tumour or metastasis with concomitant presence of a pancreatic tumour in medical imaging. • Patients with initial disease (incl. primary M1) who are presented at the centre or the tumour board and receive essential parts of the therapy there • The time of counting is the time of the histological confirmation of diagnosis • Patients, who are only presented for the purposes of seeking a second opinion or for the purposes of consultation, are not included. 	<p>FAQ (05.10.2017) Does carcinosarcoma of the pancreas count as a primary case?</p> <p>Answer: Yes.</p> <p>FAQ (03.05.2023) Can solid pseudopapillary neoplasia of the pancreas (Frantz tumour) be counted as a primary case?</p> <p>Answer: Solid pseudopapillary neoplasms of the pancreas (Frantz tumours) do not count as primary cases, but can be considered for surgical expertise in the case of surgical treatment.</p>	
- Stomach -	<p>The Centre must treat 30 patients annually with a primary diagnosis of an adenocarcinoma of the stomach and of the esophagogastric junction (ICD-10 C, 16.0¹, 16.1-16.9). If the Centre is not certified as an esophageal cancer centre at the same time, the ICD-10 C 15.2 and 15.5 and 16.02² can be included in the scope of the stomach cancer centre.</p> <p>Definition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients and not stays or surgical procedures • Histology / cytology report must be available (biopsy or resection). • Patient with initial disease • The time of counting is the time of the histological confirmation of diagnosis • Patients, who are only presented for the purposes of seeking a second opinion or for the purposes of consultation, are not included. <p>¹ Tumours, whose centre is > 2 cm from the esophagogastric junction, are classified as gastric carcinomas even if the esophagogastric junction is affected.</p> <p>² Tumors that involve the esophagogastral junction and their center within the prox. 2 cm of</p>	<p>FAQ (06.07.2020) Does squamous cell carcinoma in the lower third (C15.5) or abdominal portion (C15.2) of the esophagus count towards the Gastric Cancer Centre?</p> <p>Answer: ICD-10 C 15.2 and 15.5 can only be included in the scope of the gastric cancer centre if it is an adenocarcinoma (no recognition of squamous cell carcinoma) and there is no certified oesophageal cancer centre. In the case of a parallel certified gastric and Esophageal Cancer Centre, ICD-10 C 15.2 and C 15.5 only count for the Esophageal Cancer Centre.</p> <p>FAQ (14.07.2016) Are patients with a GIST also recognised as primary cases?</p> <p>Answer: Patients with a GIST are not recognised as primary cases. GIST is a different tumour entity and should not be confused with adenocarcinomas of the stomach. The S3</p>	

	<p>the esophagogastral junction (proportion Siewert type I / Siewert type II) is counted as esophageal carcinoma.</p>	<p>guideline on gastric cancer does not cover the tumour entity GIST.</p> <p><u>FAQ (05.10.2017)</u> The findings usually report cm from the dentition. Does the abdominal portion of the esophagus begin below the diaphragm?</p> <p>Answer: Yes. Tumours involving the oesophagogastric junction and centred within the proximal 2 cm of the oesophagogastric junction. (Siewert type I/ Siewert type II proportion) are counted as oesophageal carcinomas.</p> <p><u>FAQ (05.10.2017)</u> Do distal oesophageal carcinomas that do not extend into the oesophagogastric junction count as primary cases or are only AEG tumours and gastric carcinomas considered?</p> <p>Answer: Tumours whose centre is > 2 cm from the oesophagogastric junction are classified as gastric carcinomas, even if the oesophagogastric junction is included</p> <p><u>FAQ (10.07.2018)</u> Which carcinomas of the gastro-esophageal junction (= AEG tumours) are assigned to the stomach and which to the esophagus?</p> <p>Answer: According to the clinical classification Siewert I-III, Siewert I and II carcinomas are assigned to the esophagus, carcinomas type Siewert III to the stomach (prior to neoadjuvant therapy determination by endoscopist required).</p> <p><u>FAQ (22.04.2021)</u> May a "mixed adeno-neuroendocrine carcinoma" and an "adenosquamous carcinoma (8244/3)" and an "adenosquamous carcinoma of the stomach (8560/3)" be counted as a primary case for the Gastric Cancer Centre.</p> <p>Answer: Yes, provided that a proportion of adenocarcinoma can be detected, counting as a primary case is possible.</p>	
1.2.0.e Esophagus-	<p>The Centre must treat 40 patients annually with the diagnosis of a high-grade dysplasia (HYIEN, HGD) or an invasive squamous cell carcinoma or an esophageal adenocarcinoma (= Centre cases).</p>	<p><u>FAQ (10.07.2018)</u> Which carcinomas of the gastro-oesophageal junction (= AEG tumours) are assigned to the stomach and which to the esophagus?</p>	

	<p>of which at least 20 patients with a primary diagnosis (ICD-10 C15, 16.0², D00.1 (HGD, HGIEN)) Definition primary diagnosis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients and not stays or surgical procedures • Patient with initial disease (incl. primary M1) • The time of counting is the time of the histological/imaging confirmation of diagnosis • Patients, who are only presented for the purposes of seeking a second opinion or for the purposes of consultation, are not included. <p>² Tumours that affect the esophagogastric junction and whose centre is within the prox. 2 cm of the esophagogastric junction (proportion Siewert type I/Siewert type II), are counted as esophageal carcinomas.</p>	<p>Answer: According to the clinical classification Siewert I-III, Siewert I and II carcinomas are assigned to the esophagus, carcinomas type Siewert III to the stomach (prior to neoadjuvant therapy determination by endoscopist required).</p>
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1.4 Psycho-oncology

Section	Requirements	
<p>1.4.1 - All -</p>	<p>Psycho-oncology – qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified psychologists / Master in Psychology, which qualifies for a scientifically recognised psychotherapy procedure or • physicians • Diploma/master's degree in social pedagogy qualifying for a scientifically recognised psychotherapy <p>with at least 1 psychotherapeutic specialty training: behavioural therapy, psychodynamic psychotherapy (analytical psychotherapy and psychotherapeutic depth psychotherapy), systematic therapy, neuropsychological therapy (for psychological disorders caused by brain injuries), interpersonal therapy (IPT; for effective disorders and eating disorders), EMDR for the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorders, hypnotherapy for addictions and psychotherapeutic treatment for somatic disorders and psycho-oncological continuing education (recognised by the German Cancer Society - DKG).</p> <p>Licence to practise: At least 1 person in the psycho-oncological team of the network (inpatient or outpatient) must be licensed (psychological or medical psychotherapist).</p> <p>Protection of the status quo for all those who are currently recognised and those who have started a psycho-oncological specialty training by 31.12.2019 recognised by the German Cancer Society - DKG.</p> <p>The representatives of other psychosocial professional groups can be accepted on presentation of the above-mentioned psycho-oncological qualifications. For this, a case-by-case examination is required.</p>	<p>FAQ (24.10.2018) Can the further training "Systemic Therapist" be recognised as psychotherapeutic further training?</p> <p>Answer: The further training "Systemic Therapy" can be recognised.</p>

	<p>The assumption of psycho-oncological tasks by the social services, self-help groups or pastoral care is not sufficient. They supplement psycho-oncological care.</p> <p>The process of patient care in the centre (screening, evaluation of screening results, care) must be demonstrated in the audit based on examples.</p>		
1.4.2 c - All -	<p>Psycho-oncological counselling Psycho-oncological care, in particular for patients with excessive stress in the distress screening, must be presented.</p>	<p><u>FAQ (26.09.2024)</u> How should the proportion of patients with higher levels of distress in the distress screening and further psycho-oncological care be presented?</p> <p>Answer: It must be shown how many screened patients had an above-threshold test.</p> <p>The processes of psycho-oncological care must be described; the number of counselling sessions carried out should be recorded.</p>	

1.6 Patient involvement

Section	Requirements		
1.6.6 - All -	<p>Event for patients The Centre is to stage an information event for patients and/or interested persons at least once a year. (can be considered together with 1.6.9) If patient events are (co-)financed by industry, this fact, including potential conflicts of interest of the speakers, must be revealed. The Centre must exclude any direct influence on patients by industry representatives.</p>	<p><u>FAQ (20.06.2024)</u> How can the centre prove the exclusion of direct influence by industry representatives?</p> <p>Answer: Proof can be provided, for example, via internal compliance rules or, alternatively, via a self-disclosure by the centre. In this, the centre should provide information on free access to the event, excluding the industry exhibition/information stands and remarks on contact between industry representatives and patients.</p>	

1.7 Study management

Section	Requirements	
1.7.6 a - All -	<p>Proportion study patients</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Initial certification: At the time of initial certification ≥ 1 patients must have been included in studies after 1 year: at least 5% of the primary case number <p>The requirement applies to each tumour entity.</p>	<p><u>FAQ (26.09.2024)</u> Does the requirement of "1 patient at initial certification" also apply to the modules of the Visceral Oncology Centre?</p> <p>Answer: If no patient is included in studies at the initial certification of the pancreas, stomach, liver and esophagus modules, the centre must prove its activity for study inclusion and at the same time fulfil the study quota for the colorectal cancer centre. A certificate can only be granted under certain conditions (reduced validity). By the 1st surveillance audit, 1 patient per module must be included in studies.</p> <p><u>FAQ (20.06.2024)</u> Do the requirements '1 patient at initial certification' and 'after 1 year: at least 5% of primary cases' also apply to the certification of an Anal Cancer Centre?</p> <p>Answer: If no patients are included in a study at the time of certification (regardless of the audit phase) of an Anal Cancer Centre, the centre must prove its activity for study inclusion. If there are no relevant studies, it must fulfil the study quota for the Colorectal Cancer Centre.</p>
1.7.6 b - All -	<p>Only the inclusion of patients in studies with an ethical vote counts as study participation (non-interventional/diagnostic studies and prevention studies are also recognised). Exclusive biobank collections are excluded.</p> <p>All study patients can be taken into account when calculating the study rate (share study patients based on the Centre's primary case number). General preconditions for the definition of the study quota:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients can be counted 1x per study, time: date of patient consent (exception patients CPM, see FAQ document). Study patients can be counted for 2 centres, provided that the sending centre itself conducts at least one study for patients of the haematological neoplasms centre. If this counting method is chosen (optional), the centre must show how many patients are included in studies at their own centre, sent to other centres/clinics to participate in studies and taken from other centres/clinics to participate in studies – see also Excel template Data Sheet. 	<p><u>FAQ (16.08.2022)</u> Can negatively screened study patients be counted?</p> <p>Answer Patients who have signed a informed consent form for screening for study participation can be counted for the numerator of the respective study indicator, even if the results of screening examinations carried out with special diagnostics (no routine diagnostics) do not allow the patients to participate in the study.</p> <p><u>FAQ (03.05.2023)</u> Can patients referred to a Centre for Personalised Medicine (CPM) for the purpose of complex diagnostics, interdisciplinary consultation and individual therapy recommendations who participate in a study there be counted towards the study quota of the sending centre?</p> <p>Answer Yes, in this case the study inclusion can be counted by both the sending centre and the CPM.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients in a palliative and adjuvant situation can be counted, no limitations regarding stage of disease. • Patients for colorectal prevention studies can be counted. • Patients who are taking part in several studies simultaneously can be counted several times. • Patients in the follow-up of a study are no longer included in the study rate. • Special feature of Colorectal Cancer Centres: The StudyBox Colorectal is binding for the calculation of the study quota (www.studybox.de). This means that studies that are not accredited or for which no accreditation has been applied for cannot be counted towards the study quota. The list of accredited programmes that can be counted towards the study quota can be found at www.studybox.de. 	<p>The other requirements for study inclusion according to the survey form will apply.</p> <p>FAQ (20.06.2024): Is participation in the EDIUM study alone sufficient?</p> <p>Answer The EDIUM study must not be the only study conducted at the Colorectal Cancer Centre. EDIUM patients may only be counted as study patients for the study quota if these or other patients have been included in at least one other study.</p> <p>If patients are exclusively included in the EDIUM study at the time of initial certification, a certificate may be issued with conditions and reduced validity for 18 months. Study patients must then be included in at least one further study for the 1st renewal.</p>	
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1.8 Nursing care

Section	Requirements		
1.8.5 - Colo- rectal -	<p>Stomatherapy – Staff Qualification head of stomatherapy Qualified representative is to be ensured. Name of staff member is to be given. If stomatherapy is administered externally, a cooperation agreement is to be entered into.</p> <p>Recognised training stomatherapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following continuing education courses run by the FgSKW (Expert association for stoma, continence and wound) as nursing care experts for stoma, continence and wound encompassing 720 continuing education hours or other comparable continuing education courses. The following protection applies to stomatotherapists who were named in the centers before 01/01/2019: Length of continuing education at least 400 hours plus practical units (contents like “Curriculum nursing expert stoma, continence, wound” of the FgSKW excluding sections incontinence and wound). 	<p>FAQ (30.11.2018): To whom does the protection of the status quo for the recognised training courses in stomatherapy apply? To the ostomy therapist or to the centre where the ostomy therapist works?</p> <p>Answer: This is a personal grandfathering that applies to all ostomy therapists who completed or began their training in ostomy therapy before 01.01.2019 according to the criteria valid until 31.12.2018.</p>	

<p>1.8.6 - Colo-rectal -</p>	<p>Stomatherapy – Definition of tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-inpatient or pre-operative and post-inpatient instructions, counselling and training of patients and their relatives. • Participation in pre-operative marking (or regulated exchange of experience) • Where appropriate, holding of stoma consulting hours <p>Further outpatient care after discharge for stoma therapy must be described, including the provision of information for patients.</p>	<p>FAQ (28.08.2019): Does the preoperative marking of the stoma always have to be done by stoma therapy?</p> <p>Answer: No. The marking of the stoma position can also be done by the surgeon. However, it must be ensured that the marking of the stoma position takes place preoperatively at least for elective operations with stoma creation.</p>
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1.9 General service areas

	Requirements	
<p>1.9.2a - All -</p>	<p>Nutritional counselling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified nutritional counselling (carried out by dietitians / ecotrophologists/nutritionists or specialist with additional training in nutritional medicine) must be an integral part of the Centre • Cooperation is to be regulated in a cooperation agreement • Qualified deputisation must be ensured. • Need for nutritional counselling is to be actively identified and carried out for each patient. This is especially true during the post-operative phase. The process must be documented in the patient records. • An SOP for nutrition management should be set out in writing. 	<p>FAQ (03.05.2023) Do nutritionists also fulfil the qualification requirements of a nutritionist?</p> <p>Answer: No. Proof of a degree in nutritional science is required.</p>

2.1 Consulting hours

Section	Requirements	
<p>2.1.6 - Colo-rectal -</p>	<p>Height localisation rectum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigid rectoscopy or MRI examination can be used for height localisation. • The height localisation must be specified in the report. 	<p>FAQ (26.11.2020): How is the height localisation of a rectal cancer by MRI examination?</p> <p>Answer: For this, the distance between the distal end of the tumour and the anorectal junction must be indicated. The anal verge (in contrast to rigid rectoscopy) is less suitable as a measuring point for height localisation by MRI due to the lower reliability of the measurement.</p>

5.2 Organ-specific surgical therapy

Section	Requirements		
5.2.4	Surgical expertise Centre		
- Pan-creas-	<p>Operative Expertise Pankreas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 20 pancreatic resections/year At least 12 surgical primary cases pancreatic cancer/year <p>Definitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary cases counted: adenocarcinomas, neuroendocrine carcinomas; <u>not</u> counted IPMNs (intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasms); for full definition see CR 1.2.0 Surgical primary cases Only ICD-10 C25 in combination with OPS: 5-524*, 5-525* = adenocarcinoma, neuroendocrine carcinoma, NO IPMNs Pancreatic resections Benign + malignant ICDs, also IPMNs; only type of surgical procedure is relevant (=left resection of the pancreas, pancreatic head resection, total pancreatectomy; OPS: 5-524*, 5-525*) 	<p>FAQ (05.10.2017)</p> <p>Do all 3 of the following criteria have to be fulfilled or only one of them for a certificate to be granted/renewed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 patients with a primary diagnosis of pancreatic carcinoma (ICD-10 C 25.-) (CR1.2.0) 20 pancreatic resections / year (CR5.2.4) 12 primary surgical pancreas cases (CR5.2.4) <p>Answer: In accordance with the "Evaluation guideline for primary cases/case numbers", the 25 patients with a primary diagnosis of pancreatic carcinoma and the 20 pancreatic resections must be proven for the certificate to be granted/renewed.</p> <p>FAQ (22.04.2021)</p> <p>What is the counting date for the survey of surgical expertise?</p> <p>Answer: The date of surgery is decisive.</p>	
2.1.13c - Pancreas-	<p>Expertise of examiners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endosonography of the upper GI tract: proof of at least 30 endosonographies per examiner per year Endosonography-guided fine needle biopsy in the <u>abdomen</u> (not exclusively pancreatic procedures required): proof of at least 10 per examiner per year Interventional ERCP: proof of at least 50/examiner/year <p>Each of the examinations must be performed or supervised by an examiner who can demonstrate the experience required above. This must be documented in the findings.</p> <p>Endoscopy/endosonography qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialist in internal medicine or Specialist in internal medicine and gastroenterology or Specialist in visceral surgery <p>At least 2 specialists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specialists must be named Examiners may be appointed for several visceral oncology modules at the same time. 	<p>FAQ (22 January 2026)</p> <p>Does an examiner have to personally cover the entire range of endoscopic expertise (ERCP AND endosonography/endosonography-guided punctures)?</p> <p>Answer: No. It is not necessary for a single examiner to personally perform both interventional ERCPs and endosonographies/endosonography-guided punctures. The endoscopic expertise can be distributed among different examiners, with allocation to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> endosonography AND endosonography-guided punctures (30 endosonographies/year AND 10 FNP/year or, in the case of new registration, 60 endosonographies AND 20 endosonography-guided punctures in the last 3 years) <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interventional ERCPs (50 interventional ERCPs/year or, in the case of new registrations, 100 interventional ERCPs in the last 3 years). <p>If the expertise is divided among several examiners, a clear substitution policy must be</p>	

	<p>Approval of new examiners At least 100 interventional ERCPs, 60 endosonographies and 20 endosonography-guided punctures in the last 3 years.</p> <p>Named in the table 'Examiners – Endosonographies/Fine needle punctures/ERCPs' in the Data Sheet (Excel template)</p>	<p>established for the respective procedures. This policy must be documented and available for inspection during the audit. Examiners can also cover all procedures at the same time (ERCP and endosonography/puncture). In this case, too, two examiners per centre must be named.</p>	
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5.2 Organ-specific surgical therapy

Section	Requirements		
- Stomach -	<p>Surgical expertise stomach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least ≥ 20 surgical resections stomach/AEJ (abdominal gastrectomies, sub-total stomach resections and/or transhiatal/abdominothoracic extended gastrectomies in patients with gastric cancer or AEJ) independent of the primary case status <p>Definition surgical resection stomach/AEJ:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICD-10 C16.0¹, 16.1-16.9, OPS: 5-425*, 5-426*, 5-435* to 5-438* <p>If the centre is not certified as an esophageal cancer centre at the same time, resections according to ICD-10 C15.2 and 15.5 and 16.02² can be included (see also Chapter 1.2.0).</p> <p>¹ Tumours, whose centre is > 2 cm from the esophagogastric junction, are classified as gastric carcinomas even if the esophagogastric junction is affected.</p> <p>² Tumors that involve the esophagogastral junction and their center within the prox. 2 cm of the esophagogastral junction (proportion Siewert type I / Siewert type II) is counted as esophageal carcinoma.</p>	<p>FAQ (14.07.2016) Can ESD and laparoscopic resections (sleeve-resection 5.434.51) be counted as surgical primary cases? Answer: No.</p> <p>FAQ (22.04.2021) What is the counting date for the survey of surgical expertise? Answer: The date of surgery is decisive.</p>	

- Liver -	<p>Surgical expertise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 surgical interventions in malignant tumours of the liver (resections/transplantations)/Centre/year • Definition resection/transplantation: 5-502*, 5-504* • Up to 15 atypical liver resections (OPS 5-501.0; 5-501.2) can be counted towards these 40 surgeries. 	<p>FAQ (22.04.2021) What is the counting date for the survey of surgical expertise?</p> <p>Answer: The date of surgery is decisive.</p>	
- Esophagus -	<p>Surgical expertise esophagus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 20 complex surgical procedures on the esophagus/year (not restricted to C15/C16.0², incl. benign diagnoses) • Definition complex surgical procedures: OPS: 5-423*, 5-424*, 5-425*, 5-426*, 5-438.0 and 1 and x <p>² Tumours that affect the esophagogastric junction and whose centre is within the prox. 2 cm of the esophagogastric junction (proportion Siewert type I/Siewert type II), are counted as esophageal carcinomas.</p>	<p>FAQ (22.04.2021) What is the counting date for the survey of surgical expertise?</p> <p>Answer: The date of surgery is decisive.</p>	
5.2.11 b. - Stomach - - Esophagus -	<p>Expertise for each endoscopic surgeon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endoscopic en-bloc resections stomach or endoscopic resection esophagus ≥ 30 resections cumulative total and • 3 endoscopic en bloc resections or endoscopic resections of esophagus/stomach/year (Proof of competence based on surgical /endoscopy reports as first surgeon or assistant, as trainer; no parallel recognition of cases with 2 surgeons/endoscopic surgeons) • Inpatient follow-up surveillance after endoscopic en bloc resection • Aftercare after endoscopic en bloc resection for Pt1a, N0, M0 in line with LL 	<p>FAQ (22.04.2021) Can both en bloc resections of the stomach and endoscopic resections of the esophagus be recognised for the 30 required endoscopic resections if, for example, the scope of the Visceral Oncology Centre only includes a gastric cancer centre?</p> <p>Answer: For the expertise of the endoscopist, both en bloc resections of the stomach and endoscopic resections of the esophagus are recognised.</p>	

6.2. Organ-specific systemic therapy

Section	Requirements		
6.2.4.a - All -	<p>Case numbers per treatment unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calculation method: completed systemic / cytostatic / targeted therapy per patient (consisting of several cycles or applications, combined therapies count as one therapy). For therapies lasting over a year, the therapy started in the audit year counts. 1 therapy per patient = 1 therapy line per disease per patient. In the event of a shortfall, expertise cannot be documented via cooperation (must be documented for each individual treatment unit). <p>At least 200 drug tumour therapy sessions (cytostatic therapies and / or targeted therapeutics and / or AB / immune therapies, no hormone therapies) a year or</p>	<p><u>FAQ (20.06.2024)</u> How is the method of provement for a 'completed systemic/cytostatic/targeted therapy' defined?</p> <p>Answer: 'Completed' also includes the start of therapy, e.g. if this is continued in the outpatient clinic or in the outpatient clinic of a co-operation partner.</p>	
6.2.4.b - Colo- rectal -	at least 50 patients with a specific indication (colon/rectum)		
6.2.4.c - Pancreas -	at least 20 patients with a specific indication (pancreas)		
6.2.4.d -Stomach -	at least 20 patients with indication gastric cancer/AEJ tumour		
6.2.4.e - Esophagus -	at least 20 patients with indication esophageal cancer		

FAQs - Indicator Sheet Colorectal (=Excel-Template)

Interpretations regarding the indicators colorectal are not shown in this document, as the FAQs for this organ are stored in the specification document.

Download: <http://www.xml-oncobox.de/de/Zentren/DarmZentren>

FAQs - Indicator Sheet Pancreas (=Excel-Vorlage)

6	Patients enrolled in a study	Numerator	Patients who were included in a study with an ethical vote	<p>FAQ (29.09.2022): Does the quality objective "inclusion of as many patients as possible in studies" mean that patients should be included in several studies if possible?</p> <p>Answer: No. The aim is to give as many patients as possible access to suitable studies. Inclusion in several studies is possible and can in this case also be counted several times in the numerator. Thus, study enrolments are counted here.</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases (= Indicator 1)	
		Target value	≥ 5%	
		Denominator	ERCPs for each endoscopy unit	
		Target value	≤ 10%	
7a		Numerator	ERCPs of the denominator with specific complications after ERCP (CR 2.1)	<p>FAQ (14.07.2016): What is the counting method for this metric: the number of actual exams or the number of pat. or the number of cases?</p> <p>Answer: The counting method is based on the number of exams.</p>
		Denominator	ERCPs for each endoscopy unit	
		Target value	≤ 10%	
7b	Endoscopy complications	Numerator	ERCPs of the denominator with specific complications Bleeding and perforation after ERCP (CR 2.1)	<p>FAQ (14.07.2016): Are patients counted in both numerator 7a and 7b if they had both types of complications?</p> <p>Answer: Yes.</p>
		Denominator	ERCPs for each endoscopy unit	
		Target value	≤ 5%	
15	Pathology reports	Numerator	Pathology reports of denominator with details of: pT, pN, M; tumour grading: ratio of affected to removed lymph nodes	<p>FAQ (14.07.2016): What is the counting method for this indicator: the (total) number of diagnostic reports or the number of patients with at least one diagnostic report or the number of cases with at least one diagnostic report?</p>
		Denominator	Pathology reports of surgical primary cases (OPS: 5-524*, 5-525* ausschließlich mit ICD-10 C25) ohne NET und NEC	

		Target value	≥ 80%	Answer: Surgical primary cases with the final findings report, which should include the listed information.
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FAQs - Indicator Sheet Stomac (=Excel-Template)

7	Patients enrolled in a study	Numerator	Patients included in a study with an ethical vote	<p><u>FAQ (29.09.2022):</u> Does the quality objective "inclusion of as many patients as possible in studies" mean that patients should be included in several studies if possible?</p> <p>Answer: No. The aim is to give as many patients as possible access to suitable studies. Inclusion in several studies is possible and can in this case also be counted several times in the numerator. Thus, study enrolments are counted here.</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases (= Indicator 1)	
		Target value	≥ 5%	
8	Endoscopic en bloc resections	Numerator	Primary cases of the denominator with en bloc resection	<p><u>FAQ (16.09.2025)</u> Which patients are included in the denominator of indicators 8-10?</p> <p>Answer: The denominator includes all patients with a primary diagnosis of gastric cancer and endoscopic resection, regardless of whether surgery was subsequently performed (in the case of R1). The aim is to accurately reflect the proportion of endoscopic en bloc resections/complications/R0 resections. Even if surgery was subsequently performed, these cases are still included in the denominator, as the initial treatment was endoscopic.</p>
		Denominator	Endoscopic primary cases + Surgical primary cases with prior endoscopic en-bloc resection	
		Target value	≥ 60%	
9	Complications endoscopic en bloc resection	Numerator	Primary cases of the denominator with complications (bleeding, perforation)	<p><u>FAQ (16.09.2025)</u> Which patients are included in the denominator of indicators 8-10?</p> <p>Answer: The denominator includes all patients with a primary diagnosis of gastric cancer and endoscopic resection, regardless of whether surgery</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases with endoscopic en bloc resection	
		Target value	≤ 10%	

				was subsequently performed (in the case of R1). The aim is to accurately reflect the proportion of endoscopic en bloc resections/complications/R0 resections. Even if surgery was subsequently performed, these cases are still included in the denominator, as the initial treatment was endoscopic.
10	R0 resections (endoscopy)	Numerator	Primary cases of the denominator with R0 after completed endoscopic therapy	<p>FAQ (16.09.2025) Which patients are included in the denominator of indicators 8-10?</p> <p>Answer: The denominator includes all patients with a primary diagnosis of gastric cancer and endoscopic resection, regardless of whether surgery was subsequently performed (in the case of R1). The aim is to accurately reflect the proportion of endoscopic en bloc resections/complications/R0 resections. Even if surgery was subsequently performed, these cases are still included in the denominator, as the initial treatment was endoscopic.</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases with endoscopic en bloc resection	
		Target value	≥ 60%	

FAQs - Indicator Sheet Liver (=Excel-Template)

3a	Post-surgical presentation in tumour board	Numerator	Primary cases of the denominator presented in the tumour board	<p>FAQ (03.04.2019): Does the postoperative presentation of transplanted patients in the transplant outpatient clinic replace the presentation in the tumour board?</p> <p>Answer: No. Even transplanted patients must also be presented postoperatively at the tumour board.</p>
		Denominator	Surgical expertise – Number of surgical interventions for primary cases	
		Target value	≥ 95%	
3b	Post-intervention presentation in tumour board	Numerator	Interventions of the denominator presented 4-12 weeks after the intervention in the tumour board	<p>FAQ (03.04.2019): When should the post-interventional presentation of patients with TACE take place?</p> <p>Answer:</p>
		Denominator	Intervention expertise – Interventions for primary cases	

		Target value	≥ 95%	The presentation should take place once at the end of the entire cycle.
7	Patients enrolled in a study	Numerator	Patients included in a study with an ethical vote	<p>FAQ (29.09.2022): Does the quality objective "inclusion of as many patients as possible in studies" mean that patients should be included in several studies if possible?</p> <p>Answer: No. The aim is to give as many patients as possible access to suitable studies. Inclusion in several studies is possible and can in this case also be counted several times in the numerator. Thus, study enrolments are counted here.</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases (= Indicator 1)	
		Target value	≥ 5%	
10	mRECIST-/EASL-Klassifikation nach TACE/TAE	Numerator	Primary cases of the denominator for which treatment response was evaluated using RECIST or modified RECIST and/or EASL classification	<p>FAQ (03.04.2019): Can be used for the evaluation of response after TACE/TAE TACE/TAE another classification, other than RECIST or modified RECIST or/ and EASL classification, be used?</p> <p>Answer: No. At the meeting on 03.04.2019, the Certification Commission again advocates the use of the RECIST/mRECIST or/and EASL classification.</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases with TACE/TAE	
		Target value	≥ 95%	
11b	Complications after percutaneous radiofrequency ablations (RFA) + microwave ablation (MWA)	Numerator	Primary cases of the denominator with complications necessitating intervention Bleeding (T81.0), vessel damage (T81.2), non-target embolisations (T81.7) intrahepatic abscess (T81.4), damage to other organs (T81.2), liver failure (K91.9) after percutaneous RFA + MWA	<p>FAQ (05.10.2017): Can "high intensity focused ultrasound" be considered additionally?</p> <p>Answer: No consideration of "high intensity focused ultrasound".</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases with percutaneous RFA + MWA (OPS: 5-501.53)	
		Target value	≤ 5%	
12a	Number of surgical interventions	Numerator	Surgical interventions (resection, transplantation) for malignant liver tumours (OPS: 5-502* or 5-504)	<p>FAQ (05.10.2017): Can "high intensity focused ultrasound" be additionally considered?</p> <p>Answer:</p>
		Denominator	-----	

		Target value	≥ 25	<p>"High intensity focused ultrasound" cannot be taken into account for the calculation of the indicator.</p> <p><u>FAQ (03.04.2019):</u> Which diseases are meant by "malignant tumour diseases in the liver"?</p> <p>Answer: Resections/transplantations (OPS: 5-502* or 5-504*) performed for primary or secondary (= e.g. metastases) malignant tumour diseases of the liver can be counted here as evidence of surgical expertise. Adenomas, haemangiomas, FNH or the suspicion of e.g. gallbladder carcinoma that was not confirmed in the histology are not counted.</p>
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FAQ's - Data Sheet Esophageal (=Excel-Template)

	Basic data	Rows E26 – J26	Staging	<p><u>FAQ (16.09.2025)</u> How are patients receiving neoadjuvant therapy included in the basic data (e.g., ypT0)?</p> <p>Answer: After neoadjuvant therapy and surgical resection, documentation is generally based on the pre-therapeutic stage (cTNM).</p> <p><u>FAQ (16.09.2025)</u> How should the stage be changed? E.g., initial stage III, postoperative stage IA, adjuvant therapy, final stage 0?</p> <p>Answer: After neoadjuvant therapy +/- surgery: pre-therapeutic stage (cTNM) After surgery alone: p-stage.</p>
8	Patients enrolled in a study	Numerator	Patients that were included in a study	<u>FAQ (29.09.2022):</u>

		Denominator	Primary cases (= indicator 1a)	<p>Does the quality objective "inclusion of as many patients as possible in studies" mean that patients should be included in several studies if possible?</p> <p>Answer: No. The aim is to give as many patients as possible access to suitable studies. Inclusion in several studies is possible and can in this case also be counted several times in the numerator. Thus, study enrolments are counted here.</p>
		Target value	≥ 5%	

FAQ's - Data Sheet Anal Cancer (=Excel-Template)

3	Psycho-oncological distress screening	Numerator	Pat. of the denominator who were screened psycho-oncologically	<p>FAQ (16.08.2022) Can on-site contact replace screening?</p> <p>Answer: No. In order to identify the need for treatment, it is necessary to conduct a standardised screening on psychological distress (see BestPractice (Stengel A et al. Best Practice: psychooncological screening at Comprehensive Cancer Centers. Forum 2021;36:278-283) or S3 Guideline Psychooncological Diagnosis, Counselling and Treatment of Adult Cancer Patients) and document the result.</p>
		Denominator	Total primary cases (= indicator 1a) + patients with new recurrence and/or distant metastases (= indicator 1b)	
		Target value	≥ 65%	
5	Patients enrolled in a study	Numerator	Patients that were included in a study	<p>FAQ (29.09.2022): Does the quality objective "inclusion of as many patients as possible in studies" mean that patients should be included in several studies if possible?</p> <p>Answer: No. The aim is to give as many patients as possible access to suitable studies. Inclusion in several studies is possible and can in this case also be counted several times in the numerator. Thus, study enrolments are counted here.</p>
		Denominator	Primary cases (= indicator 1a)	
		Target value	≥ 5%	
7	Number of radio(chemo)therapies in patients with anal carcinoma (with complete radiotherapy sessions)	Numerator	Number of radio(chemo)therapies in patients with anal carcinoma (with complete radiotherapy sessions)	<p>FAQ (22.10.2024): Are only curative radiochemotherapies counted for this indicator?</p> <p>Answer: All patients with anal cancer who have received a complete radiotherapy series are included, regardless of the treatment intention (curative/palliative).</p>
		Denominator	----	
		Target value	≥ 6	