

## ENCORE Appendix 9 - Definitions

**Adjuvant therapy:** Additional cancer treatment given after the primary treatment to lower the risk that the cancer will come back. Adjuvant therapy may include chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hormone therapy, targeted therapy, or biological therapy.

**Cancer-specific survival:** Time to death caused by the same cancer, whether due to the original tumour or to a second primary same cancer. The only event is death from the same cancer, without taking into account whether the death is caused by the primary tumour or a second same cancer. Loco-regional recurrence, distant metastases, second primary same cancers, and second other primary cancers are ignored. Deaths from other cancers, non-cancer-related deaths, treatment-related deaths, and loss to follow-up are censored.

**Conversion from laparoscopic to open surgery:** When intended and final method of removal of tumour for index surgery was via laparoscopic surgery but was converted to open abdominal surgery due to tumour characteristics, operative difficulty or complications of laparoscopic surgery

**Days at Home 30 (DAH-30):** Number of days during time 0 - 30 days (0 = day of index surgery) that the patient is at home (original living facility) during the first 30 days. If patient is transferred to rehabilitation unit it will be considered as "hospital stay". If re-admitted due to complications after return to original facility, count the number of full days the patient spent at home (original living facility) during 0-30 days.

**Death  $\leq$  30 days or  $\leq$  1 year:** Number of days after index surgery (= day 0) that the patient died

**Laparoscopic surgery:** When intended and final method of removal of tumour for index surgery was via laparoscopic surgery (robot-assisted or otherwise)

**Length of Hospital stay:** Duration of time (from the day of index surgery) that the patient remains in the hospital (primary hospital where surgery was performed or transferred to another hospital) until return to original living facility.

**Neo-adjuvant therapy:** Treatment given as a first step to shrink a tumour before the main treatment, which is usually surgery, is given. Examples of neoadjuvant therapy include chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and hormone therapy. It is a type of induction therapy. (From: National Cancer Institute - NCI)

**Open surgery:** When intended and final method of removal of tumour for index surgery was via open abdominal surgery

**Overall survival:** Determined from time to death, irrespective of cause. There is no need to specify whether the death was due to cancer. Loco-regional recurrence, distant metastases, second primary colorectal cancers, and second other primary cancers are ignored. Loss to follow-up is censored

**Pre-habilitation:** Optimizing or improving patients' functional (and nutritional) status in the weeks leading up to surgery. Key components include prescribed exercise interventions to improve overall conditioning of patients to further reduce post-operative complications. The precise definition of pre-habilitation is not consistently employed, but techniques commonly used to improve conditioning prior to surgery include aerobic exercises, e.g. cycling and walking, resistance training and specific deep breathing training and exercises. Improvements in these parameters are often objectively

assessed by measuring markers of respiratory muscle strength (e.g. maximum inspiratory pressure) and distance walked over a specific time period (e.g. the six-minute walk test).

**Primary re-operation:** When a re-operation was performed after index surgery and within 30 days due to surgical complications e.g. anastomoses leakage, bleeding, abscess requiring drainage, problems with stomi etc.

**Radiotherapy:** The use of high-energy radiation from x-rays, gamma rays, neutrons, protons, and other sources to kill cancer cells and shrink tumours. Radiation may come from a machine outside the body (external-beam radiation therapy), or it may come from radioactive material placed in the body near cancer cells (internal radiation therapy or brachytherapy).

**Readmission:** Time to re-admission to hospital after index surgery and discharge to original living facility

**Re-operation for tumour recurrence:** Re-operation following index surgery and after 30-days for tumour recurrence determined by CT-scan/MRI or other methods.

**Start of Adjuvant chemotherapy:** The actual day the first dose of chemotherapeutic drug was injected AFTER surgery. Write "number of days after index surgery (= day 0)". The decision to start oncological therapy may be a joint decision or independent decision of the attending oncologist.

**Time to recurrence:** Time to any event (cancer) related to the same cancer. This may be determined by CT/MRI or any other method used routinely at the participating hospital. All same cancer recurrences and deaths from the same cancer are events. Second primary same cancers and other primary cancers are ignored. Deaths from other cancers, non-cancer-related deaths, treatment-related deaths, and loss to follow-up are censored observations.