

Synoptic Reporting for Cancer Diagnosis

Synoptic reporting for cancer diagnosis will establish a standardized pathology reporting process for a selection of pathology cancer reports throughout British Columbia. This will ensure that basic diagnostic information is consistently reported to optimize and improve cancer treatment and patient care. This information will be stored in common synoptic reporting databases from which automated uploads to the BC Cancer Agency and to specific tumour registry databases will occur.

Development of BC Synoptic Reporting Standards

The provincial synoptic reporting steering committee has now completed and approved the College of American Pathologists' standard checklists some of which are modified to meet the needs of the oncology clinicians and tumour groups within BC. [Guidelines for use of Synoptic checklists within Pathology reports](#) have been developed and communicated to all BC anatomical pathologists. The Steering Committee has approved a [documented review process](#) that provides BC pathologists a reference for how slide reviews should happen in the province.

Benefits of Synoptic Reporting

- Will introduce standardized reporting of pathology cancer reports across BC.
- Will assist the reporting pathologist in ensuring completeness and clarity of reports.
- Will allow automated data extraction by cancer registries and reduce or eliminate data extraction and re-entry to populate databases.
- Will ensure the use of best practice reporting templates and allow system-wide quality management and evaluation.
- Will facilitate the analysis of data from diagnosis through treatment and support system-wide planning and population research.
- Will capture tumour information at the time of diagnosis, rather than at the time of treatment.