

Prostate Core Biopsies – Apply 2018+

Not in the manual as it came to SEER's attention as they were finishing up the 2025 updates (v3.2) and will be in the 2026 updates. Follow these instructions for cases 2018+ per Forum and Jennifer Ruhl.

Systematic (Random biopsies) (Standard core biopsies)

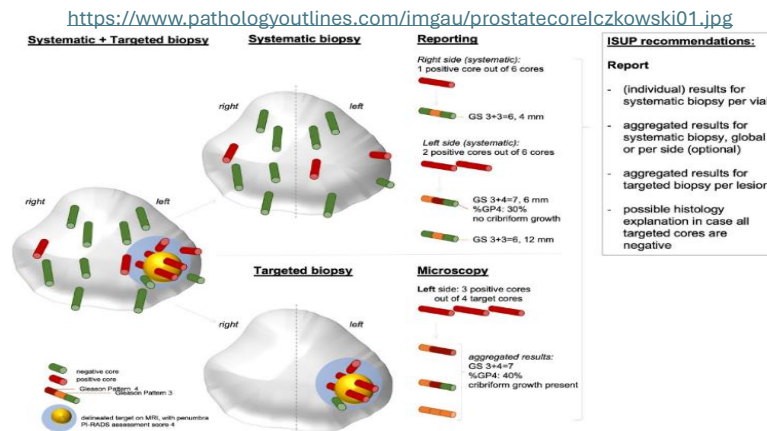
- 12-18 cores systematically taken throughout the prostate
- Usually US-guided (TRUS)
- Each core counted individually
- Most likely performed for inapparent prostate cases (negative/normal DRE and workup, elevated PSA only)

Targeted (Regions of Interest - ROI) (Targeted Lesion)

- 1-6 cores taken from a targeted area/lesion of the prostate
 - Biopsy area that is suspicious and remove more cores than usual from that area
 - More positive cores are likely to be found
- Usually MRI-guided
 - Most likely apparent tumors (positive DRE or abnormality noted on imaging)
- Counted as 1 core (don't count individual cores) regardless of the number of cores taken
 - Counting the targeted areas as equal to the standard core biopsy would cause an over inflation of the counts
 - Aligns with NCCN Guidelines

Combination

- Systematic biopsy + Targeted biopsy
 - Count each systematic core individually
 - Count each Targeted/ROI as 1 core
- MRI/US Fusion



Examples:Case Scenario 1

Fusion biopsy procedure: 4 biopsies of ROI 1 were taken with UroNav machine; additional total of 12 systematic cores were taken

Pathology:

Prostate, R Apex, Biopsy: Benign (6 cores)

Prostate, R Base, Biopsy: Benign (4 cores)

Prostate, R Ant/Lat, Biopsy: Benign (4 cores)

Prostate, L apex, Biopsy: Benign (4 cores)

Prostate, L Base, Biopsy: Benign (3 cores)

Prostate, L Ant/Lat, Biopsy: Benign (2 cores)

Prostate, ROI #1, Biopsy: Adenocarcinoma, 3+3=6 (Grade group 1) (5 cores)

Number of cores positive: 01

- Systematic biopsy: 00 (no positive cores)
- ROI/Targeted: 01 (count each targeted biopsy as 1)

Number of cores examined: 24

- Systematic biopsy: 23 (count each core)
- ROI/Targeted: 01 (count each targeted biopsy as 1)

Case Scenario 2

Prostate biopsy pathology:

Prostate, R base, biopsy: Adenocarcinoma, Gleason 4+3=7 (Grade group 3) (2/2 cores)

Prostate, R mid, biopsy: Adenocarcinoma, Gleason 4+3=7 (Grade group 3) (1/2 cores)

Prostate, R apex, biopsy: Benign (2 cores)

Prostate, L base, biopsy: Adenocarcinoma, Gleason 4+3=7 (Grade group 3) (2/2 cores)

Prostate, L mid, biopsy: Benign (2 cores)

Prostate, L apex, biopsy: Benign (2 cores)

Prostate, R Lesion 1, biopsy: Adenocarcinoma, Gleason 3+4=7 (Grade group 2) (2/2 cores)

Prostate, L Lesion 2, biopsy: Adenocarcinoma, Gleason 3+4=7 (Grade group 2) (2/2 cores)

Number of cores positive: 07

- Systematic biopsy: 5 cores
- ROI/Targeted biopsy: 2 cores (count each targeted biopsy as 1)

Number of cores examined: 14

- Systematic biopsy: 12 cores
- ROI/Targeted biopsy: 2 cores (count each targeted biopsy as 1)

Text Documentation:

- Be sure to include information in text regarding the type of biopsy and number of cores from each type:
 - Systematic (Standard biopsy) (Random biopsies)
 - Saturated cores = Systematic
 - Targeted/Regions of Interest (ROI)
 - MRI-US Fusion (MRI/TRUS Fusion)
 - UroNav guided
 - Multiparametric MRI (mpMRI)
 - MRI-guided
- This will ensure that others reviewing the abstract know and understand how you coded cores examined/positive

Registrar Resources:

Forum Posts:

<https://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/node/154932>

<https://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/node/160878>

<https://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/node/152277>

<https://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/node/154222>

NAACCR Webinar May 2025 - Prostate

NCCN Guideline:

Prostate Cancer NCCN Guidelines 2.2025

Initial Risk Stratification and Staging Workup for Clinically Localized Disease (**PROS-2**)

Footnote J: Percentage of positive cores in the intermediate-risk group is based on biopsies that include systematic biopsies with or without targeted MRI-guided biopsies. The Panel considers biopsies from a single region of interest (ROI) to count as a single sample.

YouTube Videos:

Targeted Prostate Biopsy using MRI-US fusion

<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?&q=MRI+Prostate+Biopsy&&mid=4F473D8C3FEBAFDA0B914F473D8C3FEBAFDA0B91&&FORM=VRDGAR>

The importance of MRI guided biopsy in prostate cancer management

<https://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?&q=prostate+mri+biopsy&&mid=1FD328C8B0DD877984CA1FD328C8B0DD877984CA&mmscn=mtsc&aps=0&FORM=VRDGAR>