Tumor grade refers to how much the cancer cells differ from normal cells under a microscope, and it provides information about how aggressively the tumor is likely to behave.

 What does tumor grade indicate? Tumor grade describes the appearance and behavior of cancer cells—how abnormal they look and how quickly they are likely to grow and spread.

 Grading Criteria (Microscopic evaluation): Cell differentiation – How closely cancer cells resemble the normal cells of the same tissue.

Nuclear atypia – Abnormal size, shape, and structure of cell nuclei.

Mitotic rate – How frequently the cells are dividing.

Necrosis – Presence of dead tumor cells (in some grading systems).

 Common Tumor Grades: Grade 1 (Low grade): Well-differentiated cells; resemble normal cells; slow-growing.

Grade 2 (Intermediate grade): Moderately differentiated; more abnormal; moderately aggressive.

Grade 3 (High grade): Poorly differentiated or undifferentiated; very abnormal; fast-growing and more likely to spread.

 Examples of Specific Grading Systems: Gleason Score (for prostate cancer)

Bloom-Richardson Grade (for breast cancer)

WHO CNS Tumor Grades (for brain tumors, Grade I to IV)

Would you like the tumor grade definition adapted for a specific tumor type (e.g. glioma, breast cancer)?

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