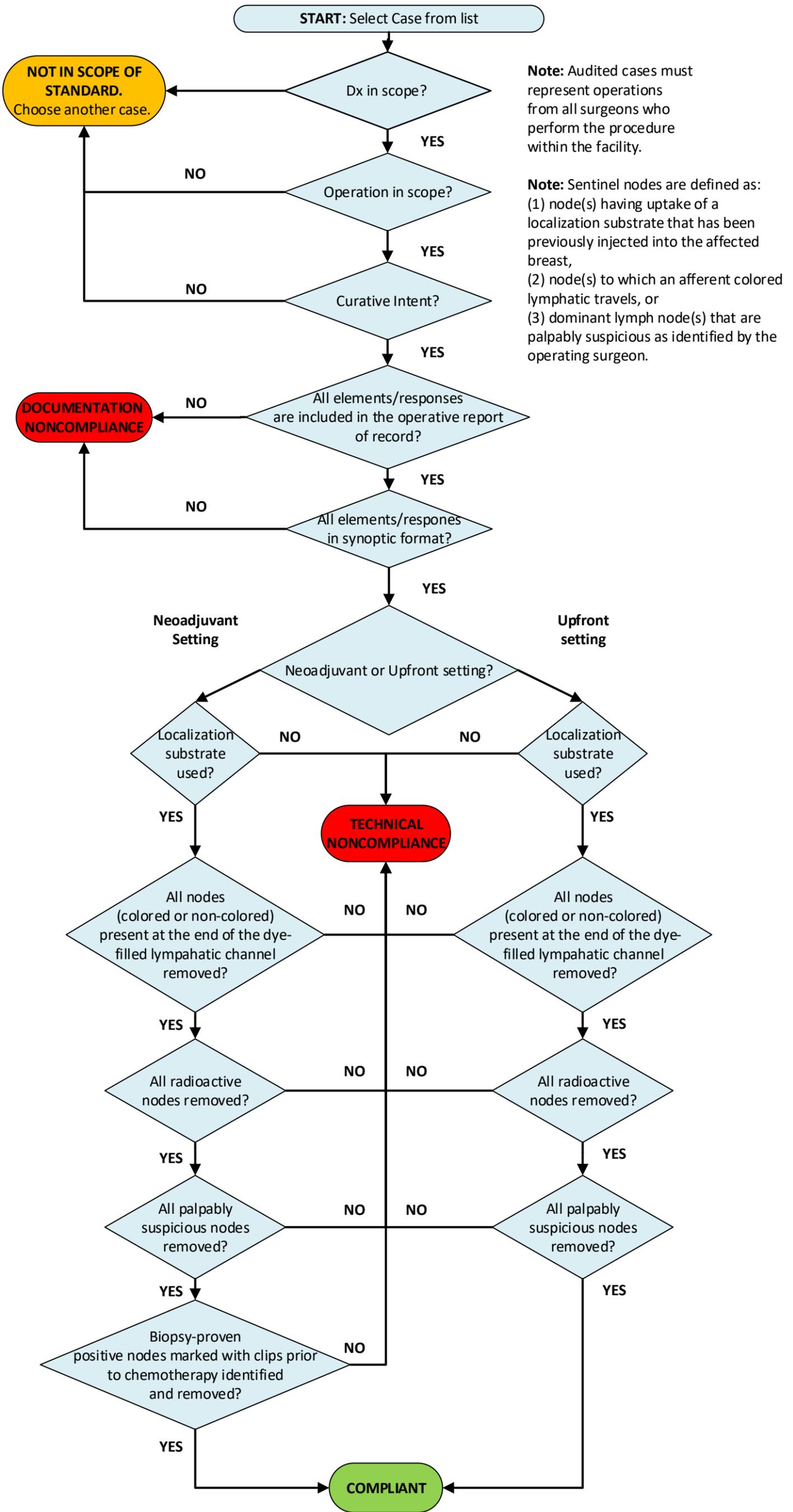


**Flowchart for Assessing Compliance for Standard 5.3**



**Note:** Audited cases must represent operations from all surgeons who perform the procedure within the facility.

**Note:** Sentinel nodes are defined as:  
(1) node(s) having uptake of a localization substrate that has been previously injected into the affected breast,  
(2) node(s) to which an afferent colored lymphatic travels, or  
(3) dominant lymph node(s) that are palpably suspicious as identified by the operating surgeon.

**Note:** Removing a clipped node and/or at least two to three sentinel nodes and/or using multiple substrates for sentinel node identification reduces the false negative rate.

**Note:** Nodes with radioactive counts that are at least 10% that of the most radioactive node are considered sentinel nodes and should be removed.