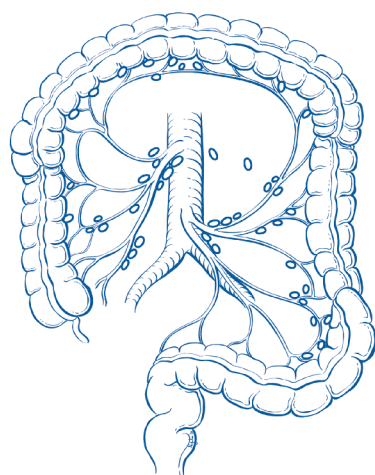
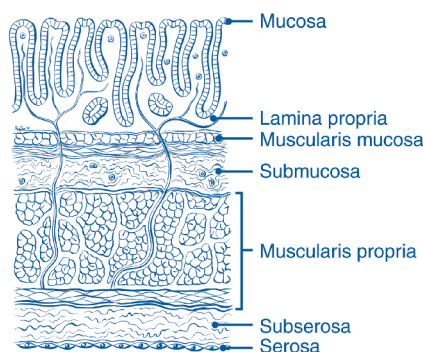
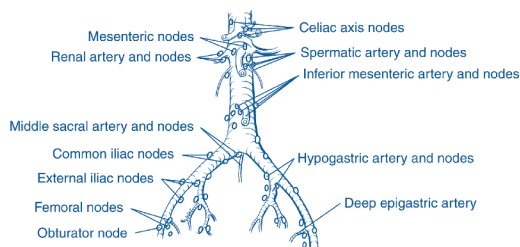


## Colon and Rectum Cancer Staging

7th EDITION



## Definitions

## Primary Tumor (T)

- TX** Primary tumor cannot be assessed
- T0** No evidence of primary tumor
- Tis** Carcinoma in situ: intraepithelial or invasion of lamina propria<sup>1</sup>
- T1** Tumor invades submucosa
- T2** Tumor invades muscularis propria
- T3** Tumor invades through the muscularis propria into pericolicorectal tissues
- T4a** Tumor penetrates to the surface of the visceral peritoneum<sup>2</sup>
- T4b** Tumor directly invades or is adherent to other organs or structures<sup>2,3</sup>

Regional Lymph Nodes (N)<sup>4</sup>

- NX** Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
- N0** No regional lymph node metastasis
- N1** Metastasis in 1–3 regional lymph nodes
- N1a** Metastasis in one regional lymph node
- N1b** Metastasis in 2–3 regional lymph nodes
- N1c** Tumor deposit(s) in the subserosa, mesentery, or nonperitonealized pericolic or perirectal tissues without regional nodal metastasis
- N2** Metastasis in 4 or more regional lymph nodes
- N2a** Metastasis in 4–6 regional lymph nodes
- N2b** Metastasis in 7 or more regional lymph nodes

## Distant Metastasis (M)

- M0** No distant metastasis
- M1** Distant metastasis
- M1a** Metastasis confined to one organ or site (for example, liver, lung, ovary, nonregional node)
- M1b** Metastases in more than one organ/site or the peritoneum

## ANATOMIC STAGE/PROGNOSTIC GROUPS

Stage	T	N	M	Dukes*	MAC*
0	Tis	N0	M0	—	—
I	T1	N0	M0	A	A
	T2	N0	M0	A	B1
IIA	T3	N0	M0	B	B2
IIB	T4a	N0	M0	B	B2
IIC	T4b	N0	M0	B	B3
IIIA	T1–T2	N1/N1c	M0	C	C1
	T1	N2a	M0	C	C1
IIIB	T3–T4a	N1/N1c	M0	C	C2
	T2–T3	N2a	M0	C	C1/C2
	T1–T2	N2b	M0	C	C1
IIC	T4a	N2a	M0	C	C2
	T3–T4a	N2b	M0	C	C2
	T4b	N1–N2	M0	C	C3
IVA	Any T	Any N	M1a	—	—
IVB	Any T	Any N	M1b	—	—

NOTE: cTNM is the clinical classification, pTNM is the pathologic classification. The y prefix is used for those cancers that are classified after neoadjuvant pretreatment (for example, ypTNM). Patients who have a complete pathologic response are ypT0N0cM0 that may be similar to Stage Group 0 or I. The r prefix is to be used for those cancers that have recurred after a disease-free interval (rTNM).  
 \* Dukes B is a composite of better (T3 N0 M0) and worse (T4 N0 M0) prognostic groups, as is Dukes C (any T N1 M0 and Any T N2 M0). MAC is the modified Astler-Coller classification.

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> Tis includes cancer cells confined within the glandular basement membrane (intraepithelial) or mucosal lamina propria (intramucosal) with no extension through the muscularis mucosae into the submucosa.
- <sup>2</sup> Direct invasion in T4 includes invasion of other organs or other segments of the colorectum as a result of direct extension through the serosa, as confirmed on microscopic examination (for example, invasion of the sigmoid colon by a carcinoma of the cecum) or, for cancers in a retroperitoneal or subperitoneal location, direct invasion of other organs or structures by virtue of extension beyond the muscularis propria (that is, a tumor on the posterior wall of the descending colon invading the left kidney or lateral abdominal wall; or a mid or distal rectal cancer with invasion of prostate, seminal vesicles, cervix, or vagina).
- <sup>3</sup> Tumor that is adherent to other organs or structures, grossly, is classified cT4b. However, if no tumor is present in the adhesion, microscopically, the classification should be pT1–4a depending on the anatomical depth of wall invasion. The V and L classifications should be used to identify the presence or absence of vascular or lymphatic invasion, whereas the PN site-specific factor should be used for perineural invasion.
- <sup>4</sup> A satellite peritumoral nodule in the pericolicorectal adipose tissue of a primary carcinoma without histologic evidence of residual lymph node in the nodule may represent discontinuous spread, venous invasion with extravascular spread (V1/2), or a totally replaced lymph node (N1/2). Replaced nodes should be counted separately as positive nodes in the N category, whereas discontinuous spread or venous invasion should be classified and counted in the Site-Specific Factor category Tumor Deposits (TD).



Financial support for AJCC  
7th Edition Staging Posters  
provided by the American Cancer Society