

Appendix A Anal cancer staging (UICC TNM 9)¹

Primary tumour (T)

- TX Primary tumour cannot be assessed
- T0 No evidence of primary tumour
- Tis Carcinoma in situ. Bowen's disease, high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesion (HSIL) and intraepithelial neoplasia II–III (AINII and III)
- T1 Tumour 2 cm or less in greatest dimension
- T2 Tumour >2 cm but ≤5 cm in greatest dimension
- T3 Tumour >5 cm in greatest dimension
- T4 Tumour of any size invades adjacent organ(s), e.g. vagina, urethra, bladder. (Direct invasion of the rectal wall, perianal skin, subcutaneous tissue or the sphincter muscle(s) alone is not classified as T4.)

Regional lymph nodes (N)

- NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
- N0 No regional lymph node metastasis
- N1 Metastasis in regional lymph node(s)
 - N1a Metastases in inguinal, mesorectal and/or internal iliac nodes
 - N1b Metastases in external iliac nodes
 - N1c Metastases in external iliac and in inguinal, mesorectal and/or internal iliac nodes

Distant metastasis (M)

- M0 No distant metastasis
- M1 Distant metastasis

TNM descriptors

'm' suffix, i.e. pT(m), indicates multiple tumours.

‘y’ prefix indicates neoadjuvant chemotherapy, radiation therapy or both chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

‘r’ prefix indicates recurrent tumour.

Stage grouping

Stage 0	Tis	N0	M0
Stage I	T1	N0	M0
Stage IIA	T2	N0	M0
Stage IIB	T1, T2	N1	M0
Stage IIIA	T3	N0, N1	M0
Stage IIIB	T4	N0	M0
Stage IIIC	T4	N1	M0
Stage IV	Any T	Any N	M1

References

1. Brierley JD, Giuliani M, O’Sullivan B, Rous B, Van Eycken L (eds.). *TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours* (9th edition). Oxford, UK: Wiley-Blackwell; 2025.