

Appendix B TNM classification

This provides updated information on staging using UICC TNM 9, which should be used for all tumours diagnosed after 1 January 2026 (no change from UICC TNM 8).¹

Maxillary sinus

- T1 Tumour limited to the mucosa with no erosion or destruction of bone.
- T2 Tumour causing bone erosion or destruction, including extension into the hard palate and/or middle nasal meatus, except extension to posterior wall of maxillary sinus and pterygoid plates.
- T3 Tumour invades any of the following: bone of posterior wall of maxillary sinus, subcutaneous tissues, floor or medial wall of orbit, pterygoid fossa, or ethmoid sinuses.
- T4
 - T4a Tumour invades any of the following: anterior orbital contents, skin of cheek, pterygoid plates, infratemporal fossa, cribriform plate, sphenoid or frontal sinuses.
 - T4b Tumour invades any of the following: orbital apex, dura, brain, middle cranial fossa, cranial nerves other than maxillary division of trigeminal nerve (V2), nasopharynx, or clivus.

Nasal cavity and ethmoid sinus

- T1 Tumour restricted to 1 subsite of nasal cavity or ethmoid sinus, with or without bony invasion.
- T2 Tumour involves 2 subsites in a single site or extends to involve an adjacent site within the naso-ethmoidal complex, with or without bony invasion.
- T3 Tumour extends to invade the medial wall or floor of the orbit, maxillary sinus, palate, or cribriform plate.
- T4
 - T4a Tumour invades any of the following: anterior orbital contents, skin of nose or cheek, minimal extension to anterior cranial fossa, pterygoid plates, sphenoid or frontal sinuses.

T4 T4b Tumour invades any of the following: orbital apex, dura, brain, middle cranial fossa, cranial nerves other than V2, nasopharynx, or clivus.

Residual tumour (R)

An R classification can be used to record the presence/absence of tumour remaining after curative therapy.

RX Presence of residual tumour cannot be assessed

R0 No residual tumour

R1 Microscopic residual tumour

R2 Macroscopic residual tumour

References

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