Appendix A TNM Classification of conjunctival melanomas (UICC TNM 9)[1]

This should be used for all tumours diagnosed after 1 January 2026.

Primary tumour (pT)

pTX Primary tumour cannot be assessed

pT0 No evidence of primary tumour

pTis Melanoma confined to the conjunctival epithelium (in situ)*

pT1 Melanoma of the bulbar conjunctiva

pT1a Tumour 2.0 mm or less in thickness with invasion of the substantia propria

pT1b Tumour more than 2.0 mm in thickness with invasion of the substantia propria

pT2 Melanoma of the palpebral, forniceal or caruncular conjunctiva

pT2a Tumour 2.0 mm or less in thickness with invasion of the substantia propria

pT2b Tumour more than 2.0 mm in thickness with invasion of the substantia propria

pT3 Melanoma invades the eye, eyelid, nasolacrimal system or orbit

pT3a Invades the globe

pT3b Invades the eyelid

pT3c Invades the orbit

pT3d Invades the paranasal sinus and/or nasolacrimal duct or lacrimal sac

pT4 Melanoma invades the central nervous system

*pTis: Melanoma in situ (please see Table 1) includes the term high-grade C-MIL replacing greater than 75% of the normal epithelial thickness, with cytological features of epithelioid cells, including abundant cytoplasm, vesicular nuclei or prominent nucleoli, and/or presence of intraepithelial nests of atypical cells.

Regional lymph nodes (pN)

pNX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed

pN0 No regional lymph node metastasis

pN1 Regional lymph node metastasis

Distant metastasis (pM)

pM0 No evidence of distance metastasis

pM1 Distant metastasis

Stage group: No stage grouping is recommended at this time.

Histopathologic type: This categorisation applies only to melanoma of the conjunctiva.
Histopathologic grade: This grade represents the origin of the primary tumour.

GX Origin cannot be assessed

G0 Benign melanosis

G1 Conjunctival naevus

G2 C-MIL low- or high-grade (epithelial disease only)

G3 C-MIL low- or high-grade and invasive melanoma

G4 De novo malignant melanoma

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.