

Appendix B TNM classification

UICC TNM 9 now applies to both major and minor salivary glands.¹

Salivary glands

Tx	Primary tumour cannot be assessed
T0	No evidence of primary tumour
T1	Tumour 20 mm or less in greatest dimension without extraparenchymal extension
T2	Tumour more than 20 mm but not more than 40 mm in greatest dimension without extraparenchymal extension
T3	Tumour more than 40 mm or in major salivary glands gross extraparenchymal extension*
T4a	Tumour invades immediately adjacent structures, including skin, bone**, cartilage, solid organ parenchyma, walls of viscera, and/or named nerve
T4b	Tumour invades beyond adjacent structures, e.g. encasement of carotid artery, and/or base of skull invasion (except nasopharynx), and/or spinal column invasion, and/or intracranial invasion, and/or orbital apex, and/or prevertebral space, and/or mediastinal structures, and/or masticator space, etc.

Notes

* Extraparenchymal extension is clinical or macroscopic evidence of invasion of soft tissues or nerve, except those listed under T4a and T4b. Microscopic evidence alone does not constitute extraparenchymal extension for classification purposes.

** Destruction of intrinsic sinus bones in sinonasal primaries, erosion of cortical bone and primary intraosseous (central) salivary gland tumors are not considered cT4.

For regional lymph nodes, refer to the dataset for histopathological reporting of nodal excisions and neck dissection specimens associated with head and neck carcinomas.

Distant metastasis (M)

pM1 Distant metastasis confirmed microscopically

Note that pM0 and pMX are no longer valid categories.

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.