

## Appendix B TNM classification

UICC TNM 9 now applies to both major and minor salivary glands.<sup>1</sup>

### Salivary glands

#### Primary Tumour (T)

pTx	Primary tumour cannot be assessed
pT0	No evidence of primary tumour
pT1	Tumour 2 cm or less in greatest dimension without extraparenchymal extension*
pT2	Tumour more than 2 cm but not more than 4 cm in greatest dimension without extraparenchymal extension*
pT3	Tumour more than 4 cm or in major salivary glands gross extraparenchymal extension*
pT4a	Tumour invades immediately adjacent structures, including skin, bone**, cartilage, solid organ parenchyma, oesophagus, trachea and/or named nerve
pT4b	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 is not considered bone invasion for skull base tumors. Erosion of cortical bone is not considered bone invasion; a minor salivary gland tumor arising within the bone is not considered bone invasion.

#### Regional Lymph Nodes (N)

pNX	Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
pN0	No regional lymph node metastasis

pN1	Metastasis in 1–3 lymph node(s) without definitive pathological extranodal extension
pN2	Metastasis in >3 lymph nodes or Metastasis in any lymph node with definitive pathological extranodal extension*

## Notes

\* Pathological extranodal extension (pENE) should only be diagnosed when tumour that is present within the confines of a lymph node definitively transgresses through the entire thickness of the lymph node capsule into the surrounding connective tissue, with or without stromal reaction.

A soft tissue deposit should be considered as at least one lymph node with extranodal extension if it occurs at a site where a regional lymph node would be expected.

## 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Note that pM0 and pMX are no longer valid categories.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.