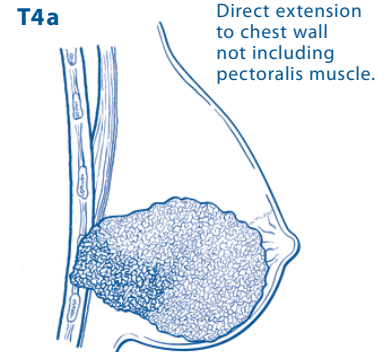
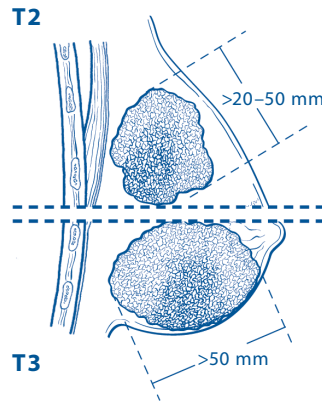
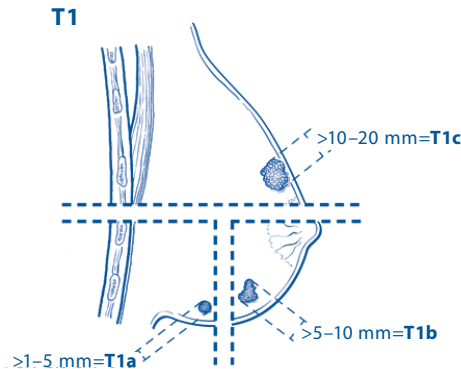


# Breast Cancer Staging

7th EDITION



## Primary Tumor (T)

- TX** Primary tumor cannot be assessed
- T0** No evidence of primary tumor
- Tis** Carcinoma in situ
- Tis (DCIS)** Ductal carcinoma in situ
- Tis (LCIS)** Lobular carcinoma in situ
- Tis (Paget's)** Paget's disease of the nipple NOT associated with invasive carcinoma and/or carcinoma in situ (DCIS and/or LCIS) in the underlying breast parenchyma. Carcinomas in the breast parenchyma associated with Paget's disease are categorized based on the size and characteristics of the parenchymal disease, although the presence of Paget's disease should still be noted

- T1** Tumor ≤ 20 mm in greatest dimension
- T1mi** Tumor ≤ 1 mm in greatest dimension
- T1a** Tumor > 1 mm but ≤ 5 mm in greatest dimension
- T1b** Tumor > 5 mm but ≤ 10 mm in greatest dimension
- T1c** Tumor > 10 mm but ≤ 20 mm in greatest dimension
- T2** Tumor > 20 mm but ≤ 50 mm in greatest dimension
- T3** Tumor > 50 mm in greatest dimension

- T4** Tumor of any size with direct extension to the chest wall and/or to the skin (ulceration or skin nodules)  
Note: Invasion of the dermis alone does not qualify as T4
- T4a** Extension to the chest wall, not including only pectoralis muscle adherence/invasion
- T4b** Ulceration and/or ipsilateral satellite nodules and/or edema (including peau d'orange) of the skin, which do not meet the criteria for inflammatory carcinoma
- T4c** Both T4a and T4b
- T4d** Inflammatory carcinoma (see "Rules for Classification")

## Distant Metastases (M)

- M0** No clinical or radiographic evidence of distant metastases
- cM0(i+)** No clinical or radiographic evidence of distant metastases, but deposits of molecularly or microscopically detected tumor cells in circulating blood, bone marrow, or other nonregional nodal tissue that are no larger than 0.2 mm in a patient without symptoms or signs of metastases
- M1** Distant detectable metastases as determined by classic clinical and radiographic means and/or histologically proven larger than 0.2 mm

ANATOMIC STAGE/PROGNOSTIC GROUPS			
Stage 0	Tis	N0	M0
Stage IA	T1*	N0	M0
Stage IB	T0	N1mi	M0
	T1*	N1mi	M0
Stage IIA	T0	N1**	M0
	T1*	N1**	M0
	T2	N0	M0
Stage IIB	T2	N1	M0
	T3	N0	M0
Stage IIIA	T0	N2	M0
	T1*	N2	M0
	T2	N2	M0
	T3	N1	M0
Stage IIIB	T3	N2	M0
	T4	N0	M0
	T4	N1	M0
Stage IIIC	T4	N2	M0
	Any T	N3	M0
Stage IV	Any T	Any N	M1

### Notes

- \* T1 includes T1mi.
- \*\* T0 and T1 tumors with nodal micrometastases only are excluded from Stage IIA and are classified Stage IB.
- M0 includes M0(i+).
- The designation pM0 is not valid; any M0 should be clinical.
- If a patient presents with M1 prior to neoadjuvant systemic therapy, the stage is considered Stage IV and remains Stage IV regardless of response to neoadjuvant therapy.
- Stage designation may be changed if postsurgical imaging studies reveal the presence of distant metastases, provided that the studies are carried out within 4 months of diagnosis in the absence of disease progression and provided that the patient has not received neoadjuvant therapy.
- Postneoadjuvant therapy is designated with "yc" or "yp" prefix. Of note, no stage group is assigned if there is a complete pathologic response (CR) to neoadjuvant therapy, for example, ypT0ypN0cM0.



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## Regional Lymph Nodes (N)

### CLINICAL

- NX** Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed (for example, previously removed)
- N0** No regional lymph node metastases
- N1** Metastases to movable ipsilateral level I, II axillary lymph node(s)
- N2** Metastases in ipsilateral level I, II axillary lymph nodes that are clinically fixed or matted; or in clinically detected\* ipsilateral internal mammary nodes in the absence of clinically evident axillary lymph node metastases
- N2a** Metastases in ipsilateral level I, II axillary lymph nodes fixed to one another (matted) or to other structures
- N2b** Metastases only in clinically detected\* ipsilateral internal mammary nodes and in the absence of clinically evident level I, II axillary lymph node metastases
- N3** Metastases in ipsilateral infraclavicular (level III axillary) lymph node(s) with or without level I, II axillary lymph node involvement; or in clinically detected\* ipsilateral internal mammary lymph node(s) with clinically evident level I, II axillary lymph node metastases; or metastases in ipsilateral supraclavicular lymph node(s) with or without axillary or internal mammary lymph node involvement
- N3a** Metastases in ipsilateral infraclavicular lymph node(s)
- N3b** Metastases in ipsilateral internal mammary lymph node(s) and axillary lymph node(s)
- N3c** Metastases in ipsilateral supraclavicular lymph node(s)

### Notes

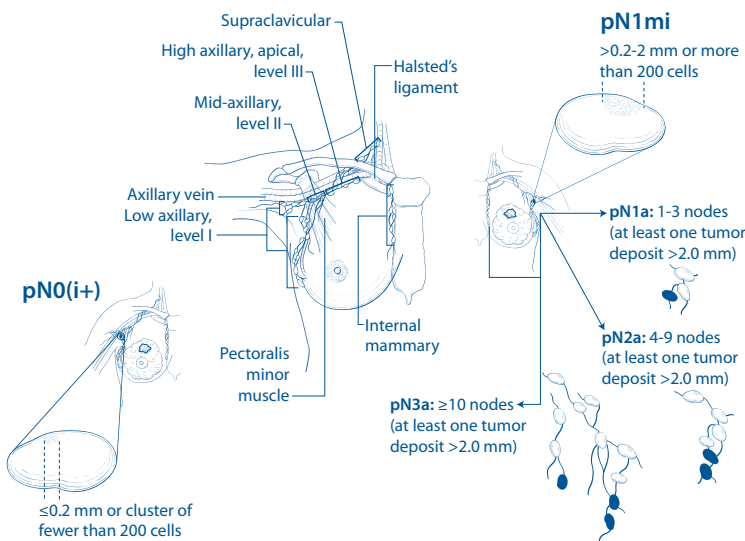
\* "Clinically detected" is defined as detected by imaging studies (excluding lymphoscintigraphy) or by clinical examination and having characteristics highly suspicious for malignancy or a presumed pathologic macrometastasis based on fine needle aspiration biopsy with cytologic examination. Confirmation of clinically detected metastatic disease by fine needle aspiration without excision biopsy is designated with an (f) suffix, for example, cN3a(f). Excisional biopsy of a lymph node or biopsy of a sentinel node, in the absence of assignment of a pI, is classified as a clinical N, for example, cN1. Information regarding the confirmation of the nodal status will be designated in site-specific factors as clinical, fine needle aspiration, core biopsy, or sentinel lymph node biopsy. Pathologic classification (pN) is used for excision or sentinel lymph node biopsy only in conjunction with a pathologic T assignment.

## PATHOLOGIC (PN)\*

- pNX** Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed (for example, previously removed, or not removed for pathologic study)
- pN0** No regional lymph node metastasis identified histologically  
Note: Isolated tumor cell clusters (ITC) are defined as small clusters of cells not greater than 0.2 mm, or single tumor cells, or a cluster of fewer than 200 cells in a single histologic cross-section. ITCs may be detected by routine histology or by immunohistochemical (IHC) methods. Nodes containing only ITCs are excluded from the total positive node count for purposes of N classification but should be included in the total number of nodes evaluated.
- pN0(i-)** No regional lymph node metastases histologically, negative IHC
- pN0(i+)** Malignant cells in regional lymph node(s) no greater than 0.2 mm (detected by H&E or IHC including ITC)
- pN0(mol-)** No regional lymph node metastases histologically, negative molecular findings (RT-PCR)
- pN0(mol+)** Positive molecular findings (RT-PCR)\*\*; but no regional lymph node metastases detected by histology or IHC
- pN1** Micrometastases; or metastases in 1–3 axillary lymph nodes; and/or in internal mammary nodes with metastases detected by sentinel lymph node biopsy but not clinically detected\*\*\*
- pN1mi** Micrometastases (greater than 0.2 mm and/or more than 200 cells, but none greater than 2.0 mm)
- pN1a** Metastases in 1–3 axillary lymph nodes, at least one metastasis greater than 2.0 mm
- pN1b** Metastases in internal mammary nodes with micrometastases or macrometastases detected by sentinel lymph node biopsy but not clinically detected\*\*\*
- pN1c** Metastases in 1–3 axillary lymph nodes and in internal mammary lymph nodes with micrometastases or macrometastases detected by sentinel lymph node biopsy but not clinically detected
- pN2** Metastases in 4–9 axillary lymph nodes; or in clinically detected\*\*\*\* internal mammary lymph nodes in the absence of axillary lymph node metastases
- pN2a** Metastases in 4–9 axillary lymph nodes (at least one tumor deposit greater than 2.0 mm)
- pN2b** Metastases in clinically detected\*\*\*\* internal mammary lymph nodes in the absence of axillary lymph node metastases
- pN3** Metastases in 10 or more axillary lymph nodes; or in infraclavicular (level III axillary) lymph nodes; or in clinically detected\*\*\*\* ipsilateral internal mammary lymph nodes in the presence of one or more positive level I, II axillary lymph nodes; or in more than three axillary lymph nodes and in internal mammary lymph nodes with micrometastases or macrometastases detected by sentinel lymph node biopsy but not clinically detected\*\*\*; or in ipsilateral supraclavicular lymph nodes
- pN3a** Metastases in 10 or more axillary lymph nodes (at least one tumor deposit greater than 2.0 mm); or metastases to the infraclavicular (level III axillary lymph) nodes
- pN3b** Metastases in clinically detected\*\*\*\* ipsilateral internal mammary lymph nodes in the presence of one or more positive axillary lymph nodes; or in more than three axillary lymph nodes and in internal mammary lymph nodes with micrometastases or macrometastases detected by sentinel lymph node biopsy but not clinically detected\*\*\*
- pN3c** Metastases in ipsilateral supraclavicular lymph nodes

### Notes

- \* Classification is based on axillary lymph node dissection with or without sentinel lymph node biopsy. Classification based solely on sentinel lymph node biopsy without subsequent axillary lymph node dissection is designated (sn) for "sentinel node," for example, pN0(sn).
- \*\* RT-PCR: reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction.
- \*\*\* "Not clinically detected" is defined as not detected by imaging studies (excluding lymphoscintigraphy) or not detected by clinical examination.
- \*\*\*\* "Clinically detected" is defined as detected by imaging studies (excluding lymphoscintigraphy) or by clinical examination and having characteristics highly suspicious for malignancy or a presumed pathologic macrometastasis based on fine needle aspiration biopsy with cytologic examination.



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