

## **8th Edition of the AJCC cancer staging categories for cancer of the esophagus and esophagogastric junction**

### **Category Criteria**

#### **T category**

- TX Tumor cannot be assessed
- T0 No evidence of primary tumor
- Tis High-grade dysplasia, defined as malignant cells confined by the basement membrane
- T1 Tumor invades the lamina propria, muscularis mucosae, or submucosa
  - T1a Tumor invades the lamina propria or muscularis mucosae
  - T1b Tumor invades the submucosa
- T2 Tumor invades the muscularis propria
- T3 Tumor invades adventitia
- T4 Tumor invades adjacent structures
  - T4a Tumor invades the pleura, pericardium, azygos vein, diaphragm, or peritoneum
  - T4b Tumor invades other adjacent structures, such as aorta, vertebral body, or trachea

#### **N category**

- NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
- N0 No regional lymph node metastasis
- N1 Metastasis in 1–2 regional lymph nodes
- N2 Metastasis in 3–6 regional lymph nodes
- N3 Metastasis in 7 or more regional lymph nodes

#### **M category**

- M0 No distant metastasis
- M1 Distant metastasis

## Clinical (cTNM) stage groups

**cStage group cT cN cM**

### *Squamous cell carcinoma*

0	Tis	N0	M0
I	T1	N0-1	M0
II	T2	N0-1	M0
	T3	N0	M0
III	T3	N1	M0
	T1-3	N2	M0
IVA	T4	N0-2	M0
	T1-4	N3	M0
IVB	T1-4	N0-3	M1

### *Adenocarcinoma*

0	Tis	N0	M0
I	T1	N0	M0
IIA	T1	N1	M0
IIB	T2	N0	M0
III	T2	N1	M0
	T3-4a	N0-1	M0
IVA	T1-4a	N2	M0
	T4b	N0-2	M0
	T1-4	N3	M0
IVB	T1-4	N0-3	M1