

Renal Cancer - Grading & Staging

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The tumor, nodes, and metastasis (TNM) system separates tumors with venous involvement from those with lymphatic invasion and defines the anatomic extent of disease more explicitly.

The TNM system has facilitated comparison of clinical and pathologic data from various centers across the globe.

- UICC-AJCC system is generally accepted *Table 1*
 - Currently T1 lesion is 7 cm or less in size, yet 4.0 cm
 - Associated with very low recurrence rate
 - T1a category of <4.0 cm suggested

International TNM Staging System for Renal Cell Carcinoma

Primary Tumor (T)

TX Primary tumor cannot be assessed

TO No evidence of primary tumor

T1 Tumor 7 cm or less in dimension limited to the kidney

T2 Tumor more than 7 cm in dimension limited to the kidney

T3a Tumor invades adrenal gland or perinephric tissues but not Gerota's fascia

T3b Tumor grossly extends into renal vein or vena cava below diaphragm

T3c Tumor grossly extends into vena cava above diaphragm

Regional Lymph Nodes (N)

NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed

NO No regional lymph node metastasis

N1 Metastasis in a single regional lymph node or nodes

N2 Metastasis in more than one regional lymph node

Distant Metastasis (M)

MX Distant metastasis cannot be assessed

MO No distant metastasis

M1 Distant Metastasis

Staging Grouping			
I	T1	NO	MO
II	T2	NO	MO
III	T1	N1	MO
	T2	N1	MO
	T3a	NO	MO
	T3a	N1	MO
	T3b	NO	MO
	T3b	N1	MO
	T3c	NO	MO
	T3c	N1	MO
IV	T4T4	NO	MO
	Any T	N2	MO
	Any T	Any N	M1

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