

Vagina (ICD-O-3 C52)

The definitions of the T and M categories correspond to the FIGO stages. Both systems are included for comparison.

Rules for Classification

The classification applies to primary carcinomas only. Tumours present in the vagina as secondary growths from either genital or extragenital sites are excluded. A tumour that has extended to the portio and reached the external os (orifice of uterus) is classified as carcinoma of the cervix. A vaginal carcinoma occurring 5 years after successful treatment (complete response) of a carcinoma of the cervix uteri is considered a primary vaginal carcinoma. A tumour involving the vulva is classified as carcinoma of the vulva. There should be histological confirmation of the disease.

The following are the procedures for assessing T, N, and M categories:

T categories	Physical examination, endoscopy, and imaging
N categories	Physical examination and imaging
M categories	Physical examination and imaging

The FIGO stages are based on surgical staging. (TNM stages are based on clinical and/or pathological classification.)

Regional Lymph Nodes

Upper two-thirds of vagina: the pelvic nodes including obturator, internal iliac (hypogastric), external iliac, and pelvic nodes, NOS.

Lower third of vagina: the inguinal and femoral nodes.

TNM Clinical Classification

T – Primary Tumour

TNM Categories	FIGO Stages	Definition
TX		Primary tumour cannot be assessed
T0		No evidence of primary tumour
Tis		carcinoma in situ (pre-invasive carcinoma)
I	I	Tumour confined to vagina

TNM Categories	FIGO Stages	Definition
T2	II	Tumour invades paravaginal tissues (paracolpium)
T3	III	Tumour extends to pelvic wall
T4	IVA	Tumour invades mucosa of bladder or rectum, or extends beyond the true pelvis*
M1	IVB	Distant metastasis

Note

* The presence of bullous oedema is not sufficient evidence to classify a tumour as T4.

N – Regional Lymph Nodes

- NX Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed
- N0 No regional lymph node metastasis
- N1 Regional lymph node metastasis

M – Distant Metastasis

- M0 No distant metastasis
- M1 Distant metastasis

TNM Pathological Classification

The pT and pN categories correspond to the T and N categories. For pM see page 8.

pN0 Histological examination of an inguinal lymphadenectomy specimen will ordinarily include 6 or more lymph nodes; a pelvic lymphadenectomy specimen will ordinarily include 10 or more lymph nodes. If the lymph nodes are negative, but the number ordinarily examined is not met, classify as pN0.

Stage

Stage 0	Tis	N0	M0
Stage I	T1	N0	M0
Stage II	T2	N0	M0
Stage III	T3	N0	M0
	T _{1, T₂, T₃}	1	0
	IVA	Any N	M0
	IVB	Any N	M1