

Rectal Cancer

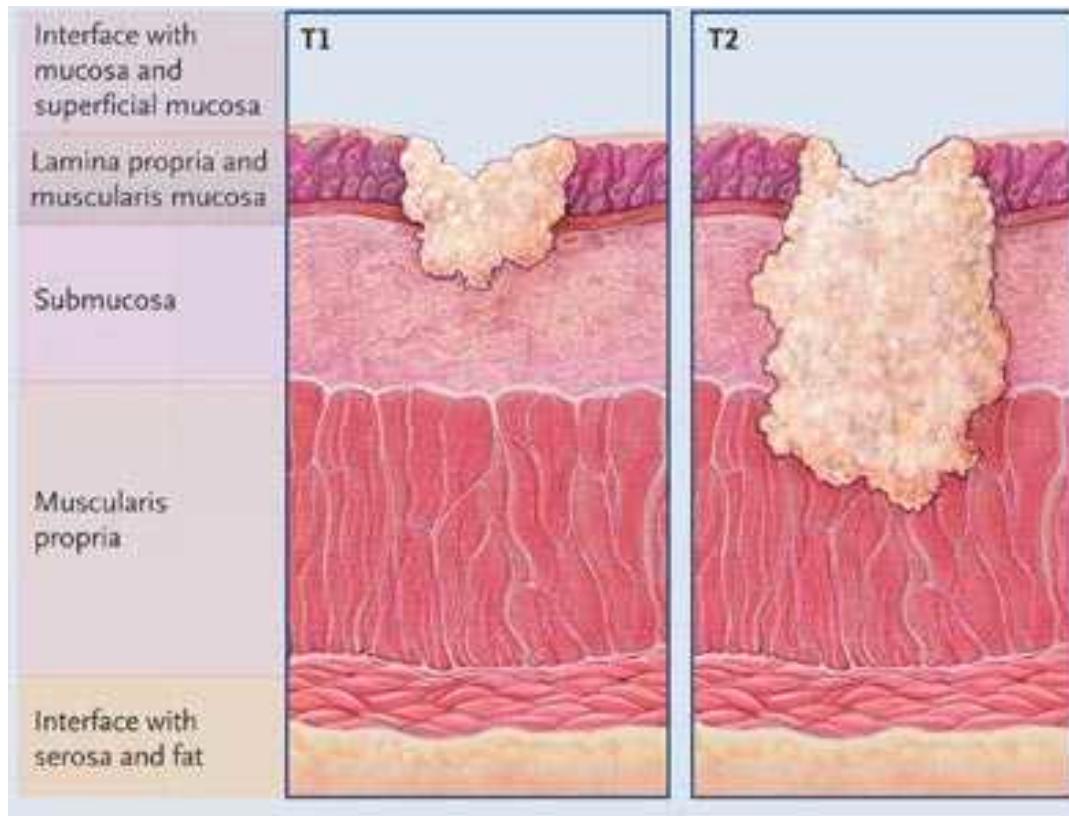
Anatomo-pathological risk factors

C. Coimbra Marques



Early Rectal Cancer

Invasive adenocarcinoma spreading into, but not beyond the submucosa (T1)



Polypoid carcinoma
Focus of malignancy within adenoma
Small ulcerating carcinoma

8-10% of resected rectal tumors

Local Surgery

Excellent results in
morbidity
mortality
function

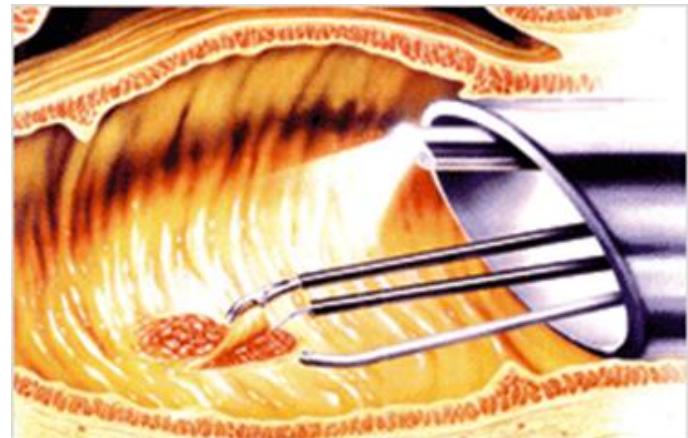
Mesorectum left in place

Nodal status is uncertain

Risk of leaving positive nodes

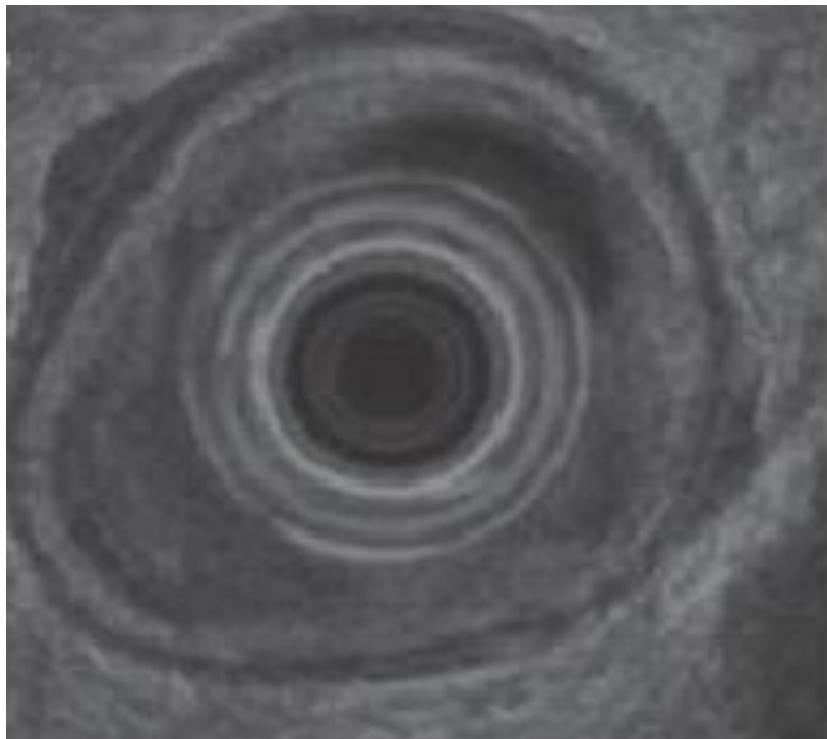
Lymph node metastases= prognostic factor

Risk of local and distal recurrences

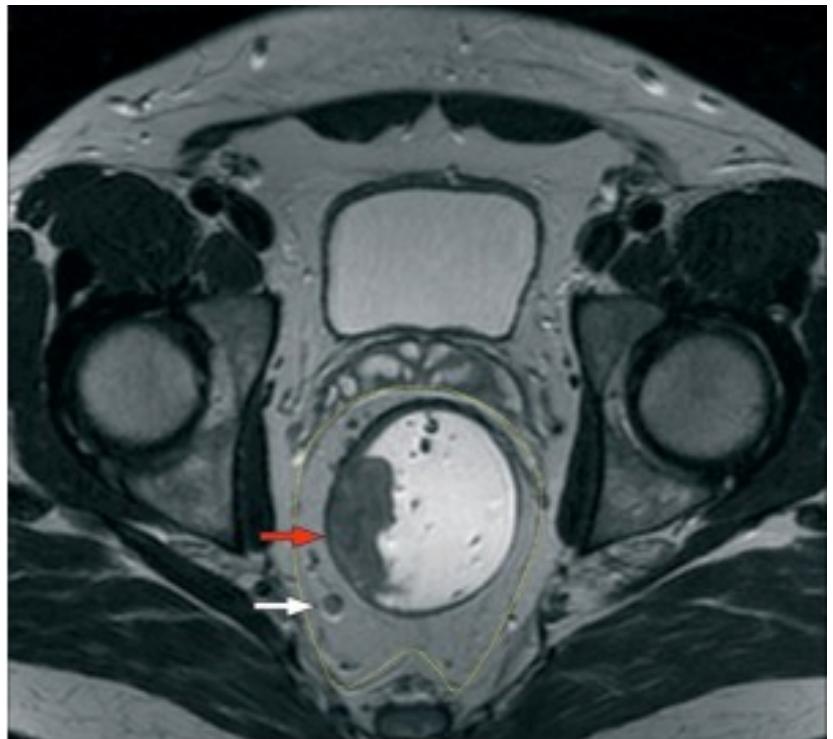


Staging

Endorectal ultrasonography



Pelvic MRI



Accuracy of 89-94 %

Accuracy of 92 %
USPIO

Histological Staging

Management of ERC ultimately depends on histo-pathological classifications

Specimens handled correctly

Pinned fresh

Relation between head-stalk

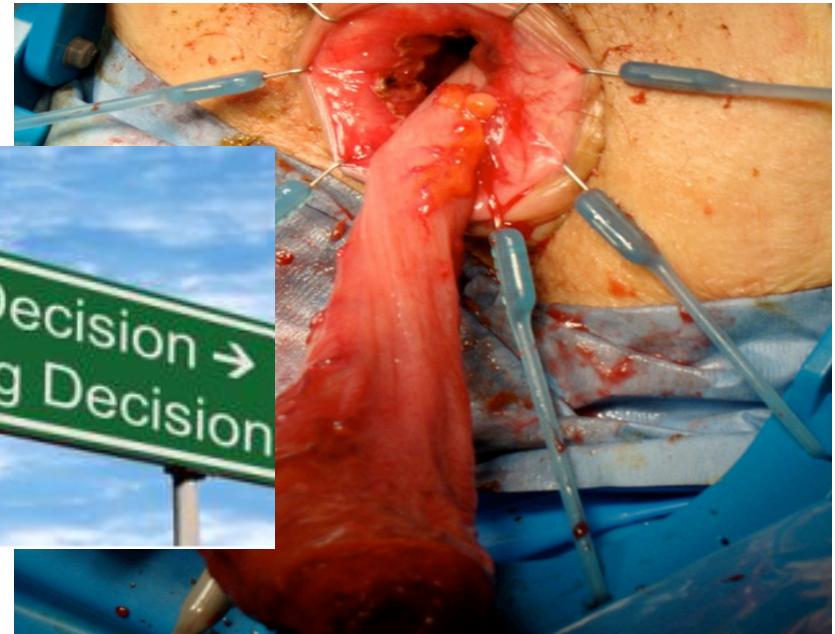
Fixed 24 hours

Sectionned in 3 mm slices



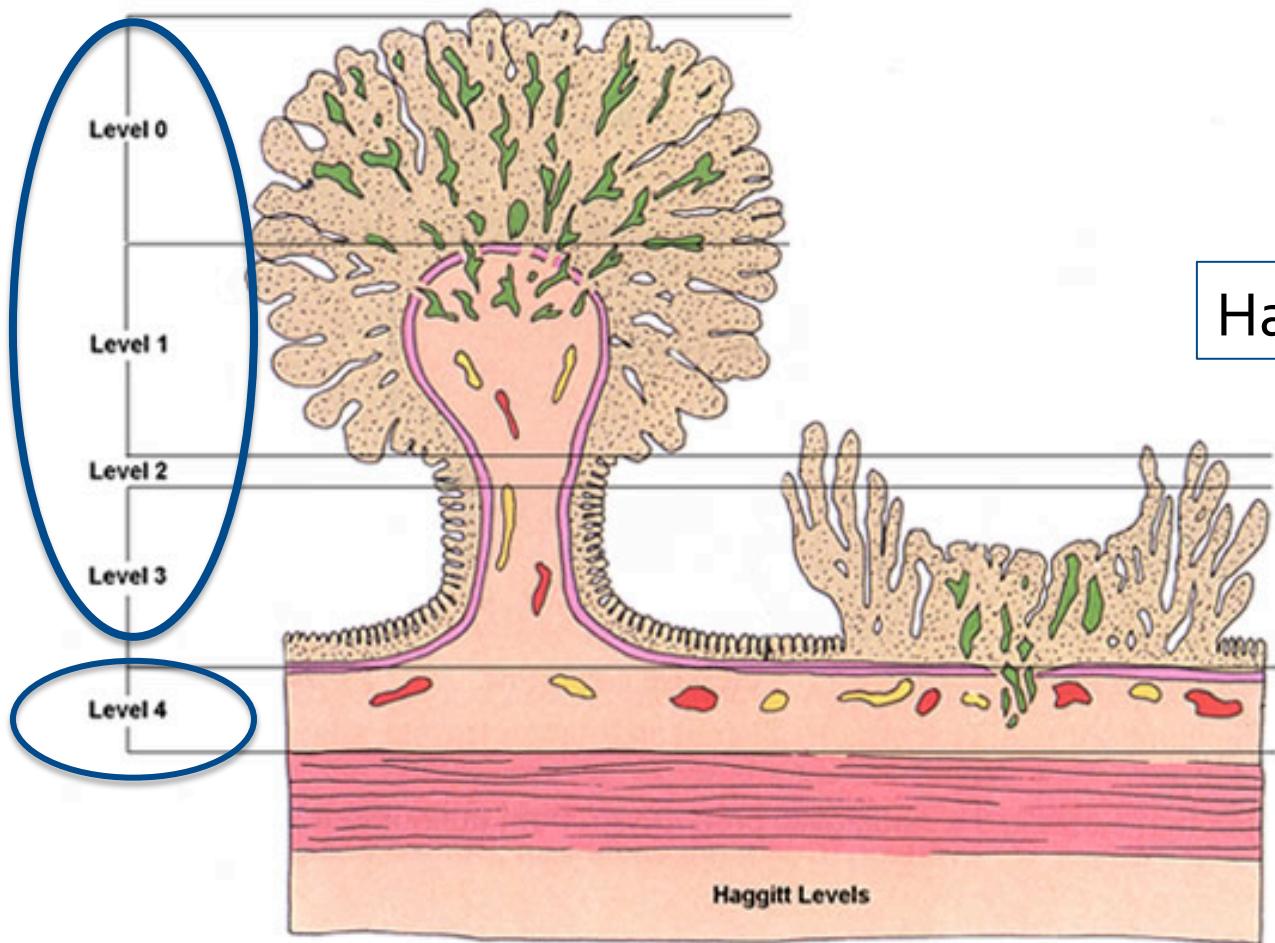
Assessing risk factors

Lymph node metastases
Local recurrence



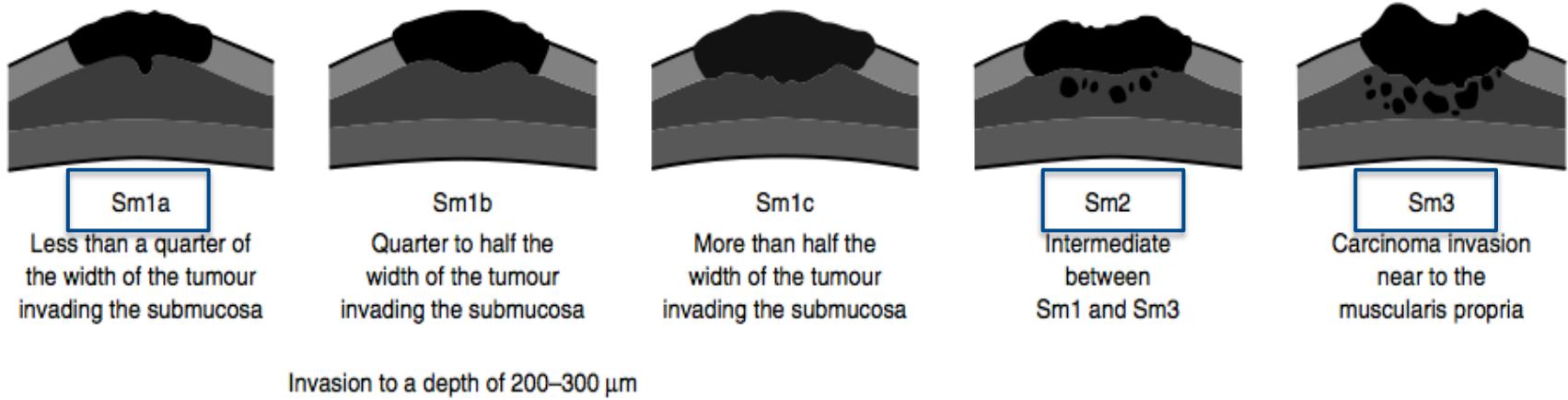
| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------|-------------------------------|
| |  | Ip | Pedunculated |
| Pedunculated type |  | Ips | Subpedunculated |
| |  | Is | Sessile |
| Flat elevated type |  | IIa | Flat elevated |
| |  | IIa + IIc | Flat elevated with depression |
| Flat type |  | IIb | Flat |
| Depressed type |  | IIc | Flat elevated with depression |
| |  | IIc + IIa | Slight depression |
| Laterally spreading type |  | LST | Laterally spreading tumour |
| | | | Kudo et al. Endoscopy (1993) |

Kudo Macroscopic classification



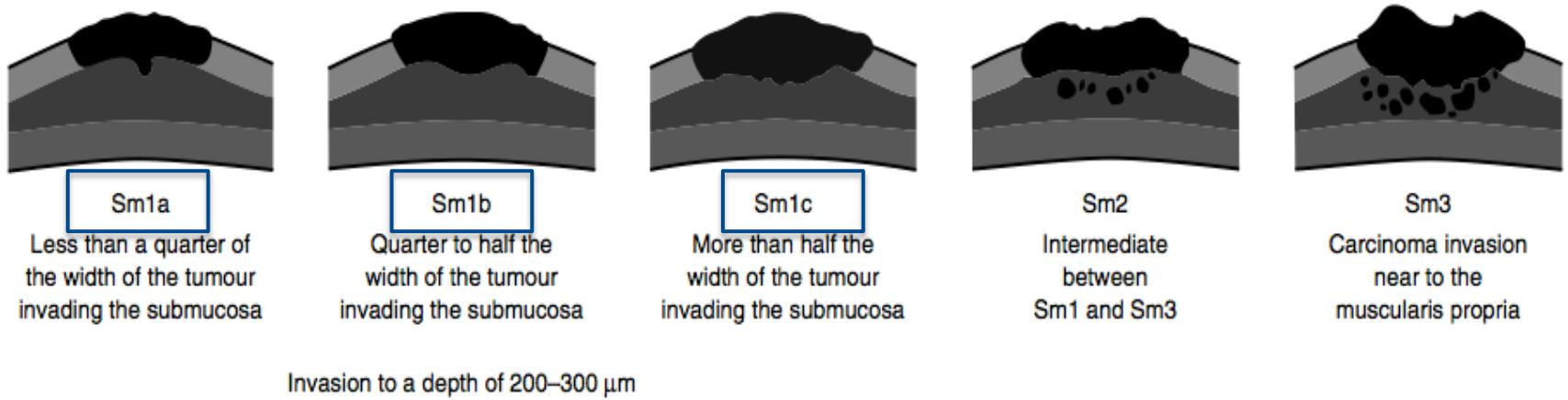
Haggitt classification

Haggitt et al. Gastroenterology (1993)



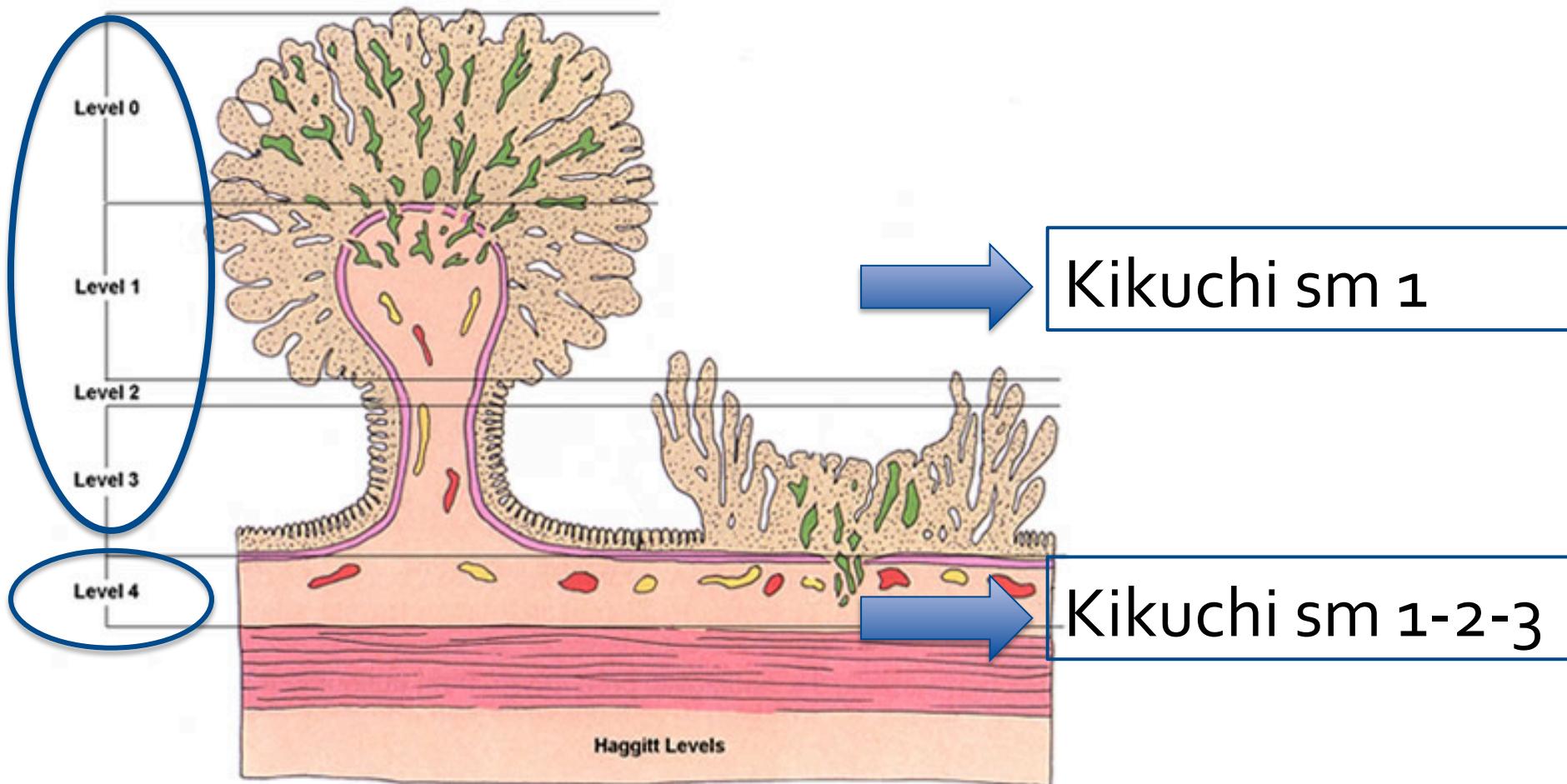
Kikuchi (sm) classification

Kikuchi et al. Dis Colon Rectum (1995)

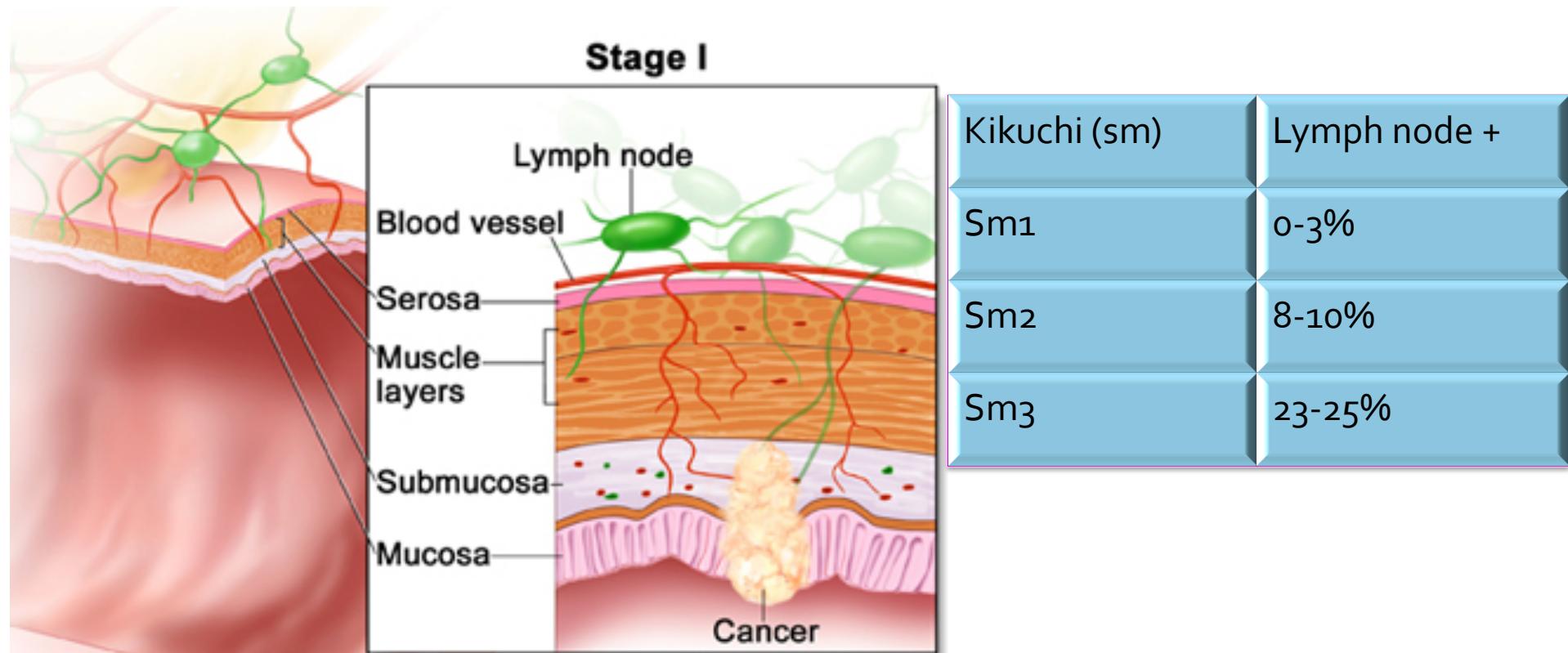


Kikuchi (sm) classification

Kikuchi et al. Dis Colon Rectum (1995)

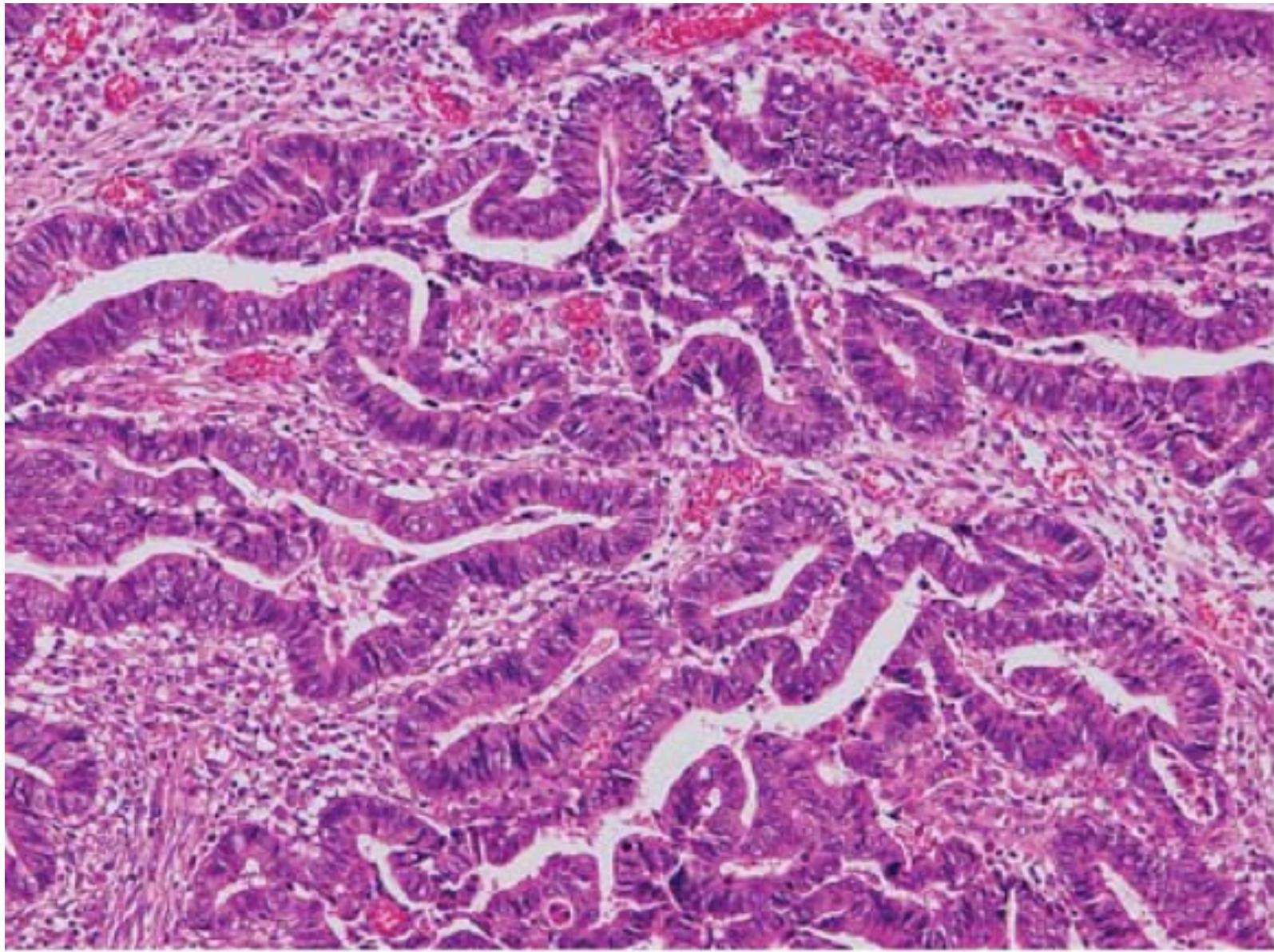


Can depth of tumour invasion predict lymph node positivity in patients undergoing resection for early rectal cancer?

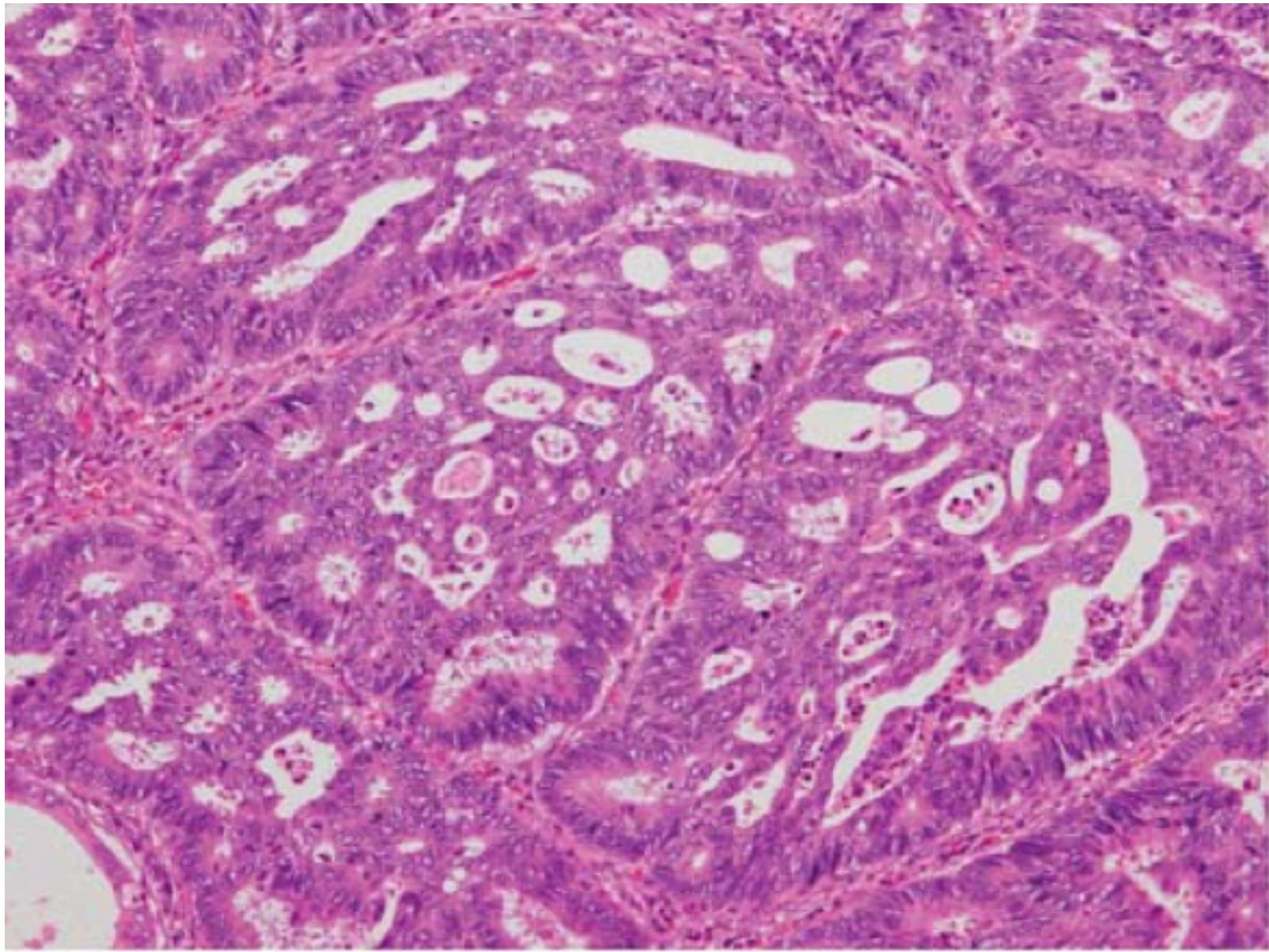


Kikuchi et al. Dis Colon Rectum (1995)

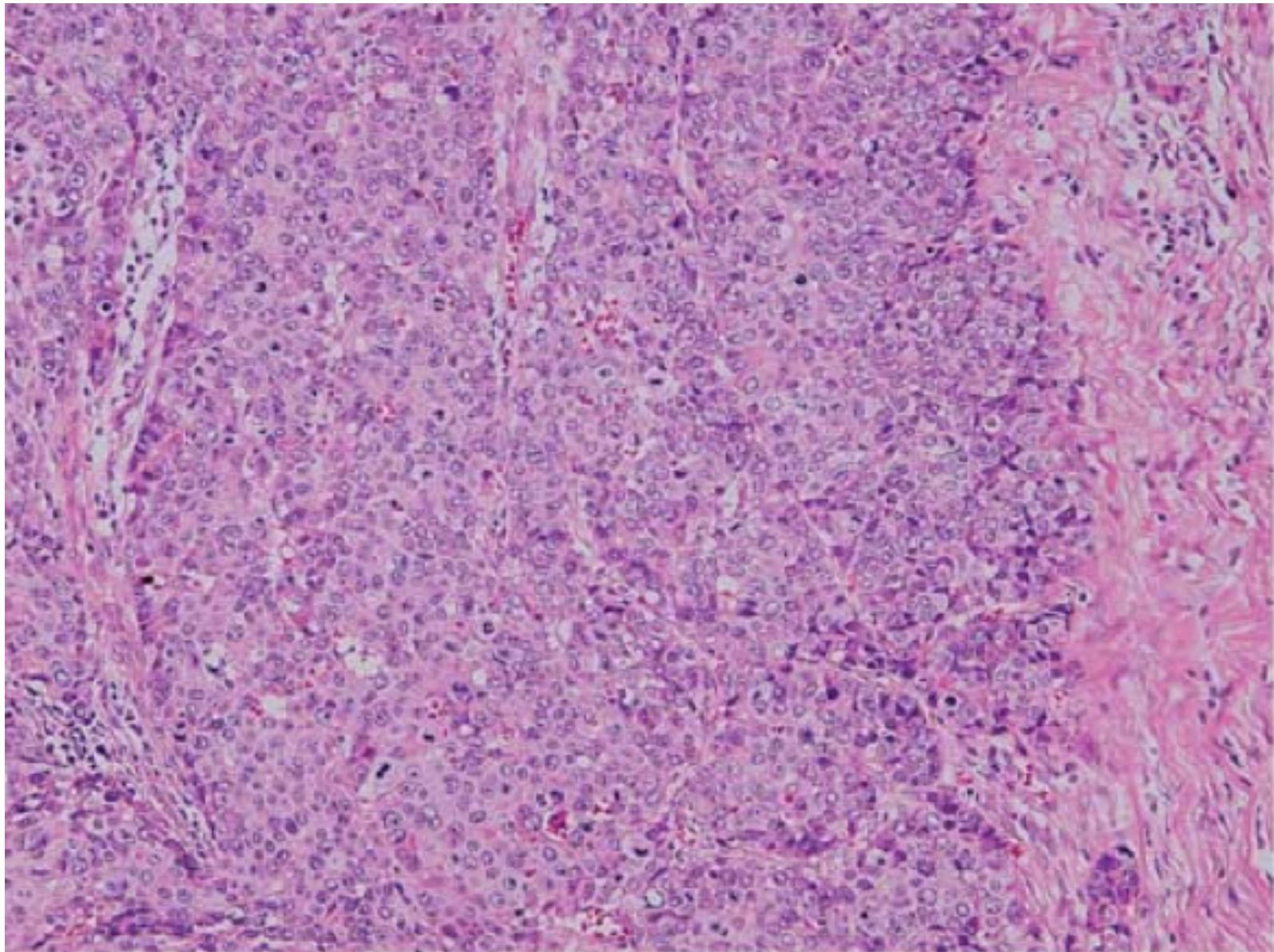
Tytherleigh et al. British J Surgery (2008)



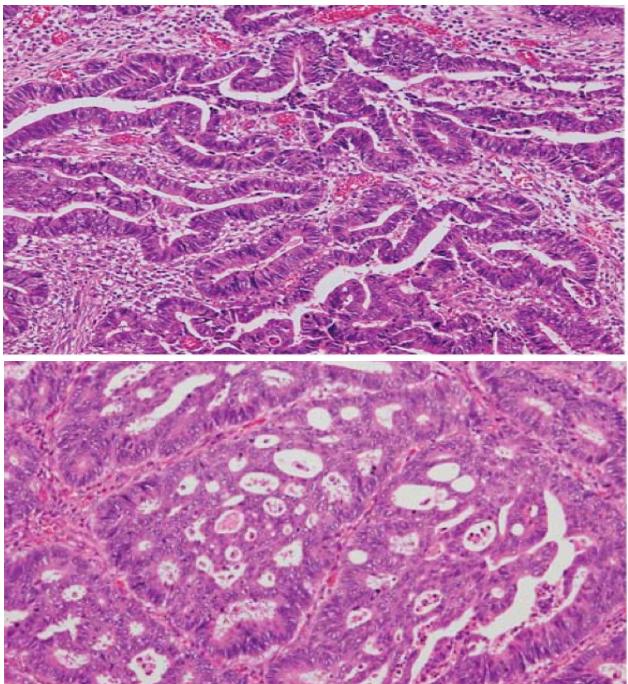
Well differentiated : simple tubular structure or « tree-like » branching



Moderate : cribriform pattern and a « sieve-like » branching



Poorly differentiated: lack of gland formation

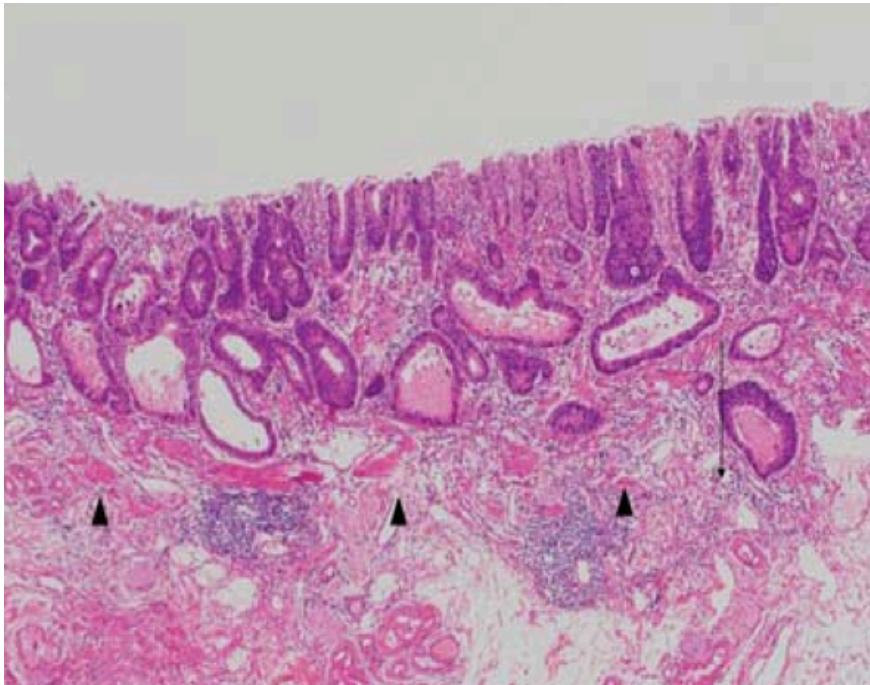


WHO categories :

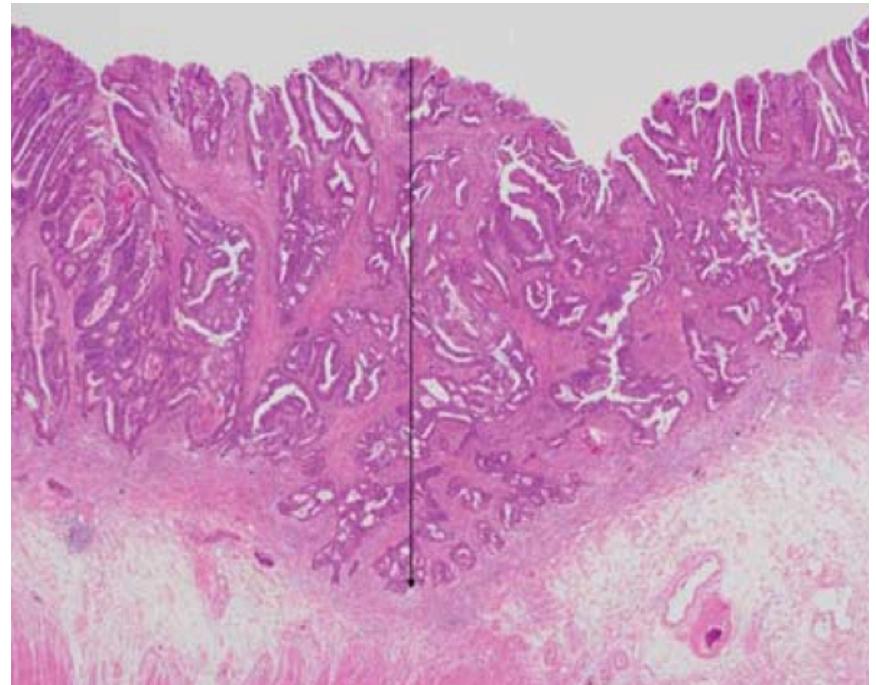
- grade 1 - 2 = well and moderately differentiated
→ Low risk of LN+

- grade 3: Poorly differentiated or mucinous carcinoma
→ high risk of LN+

Disruption of the muscularis mucosa



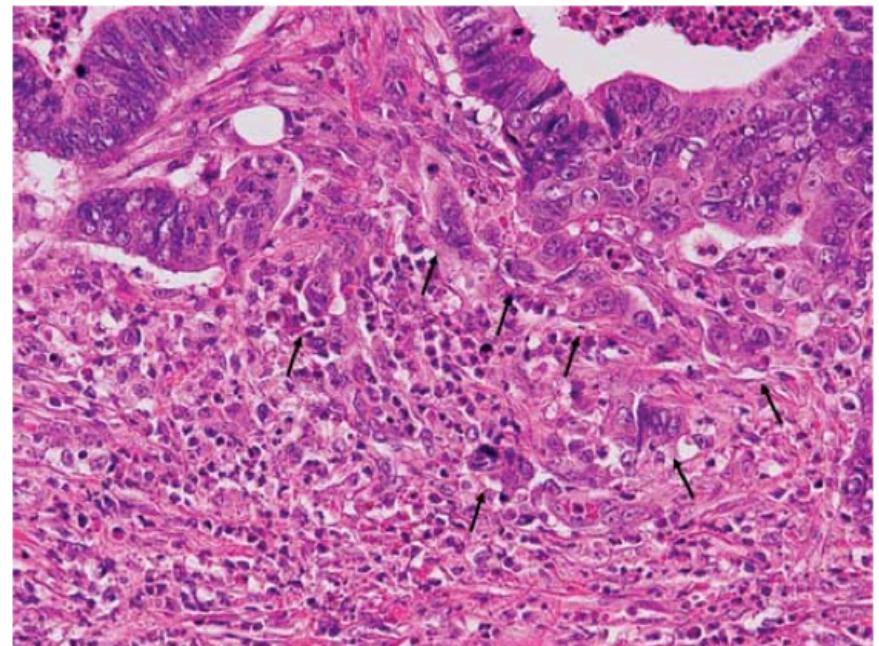
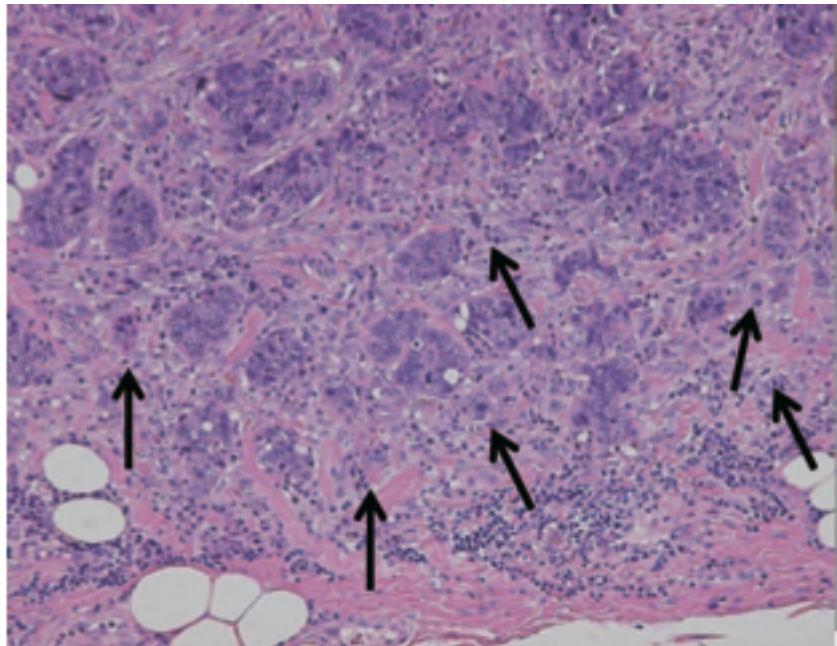
Type A = preserved muscularis mucosa



Type B = disrupted muscularis mucosa

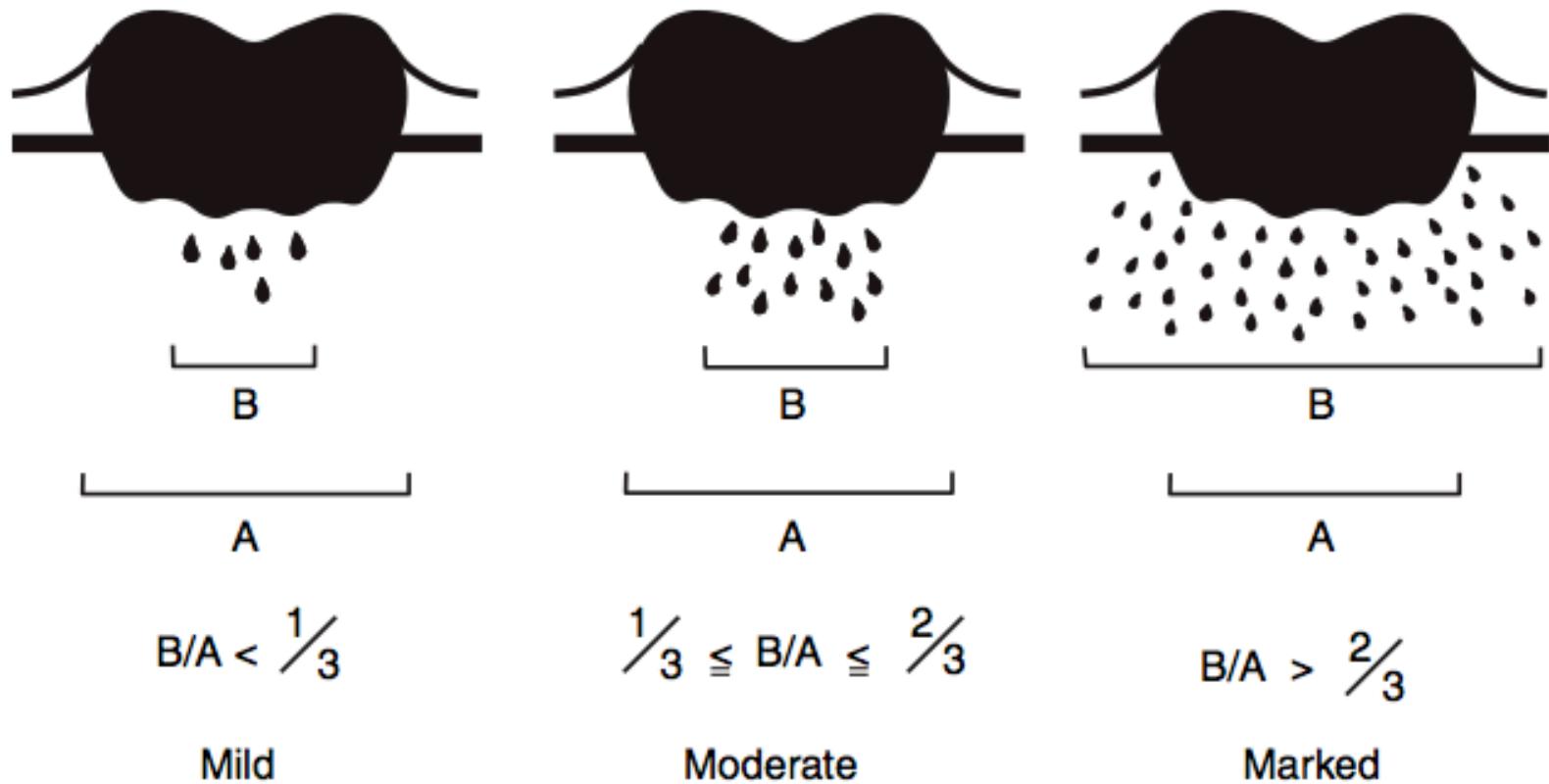
Tumour budding

Single cancer cell or a cluster containing < 5 cancer cells at the invasive front of the tumour



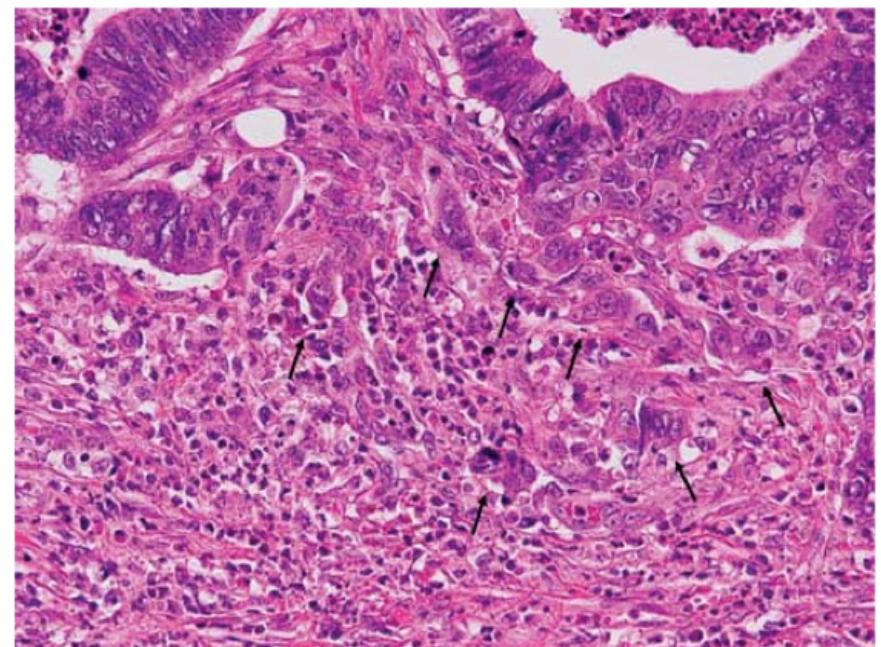
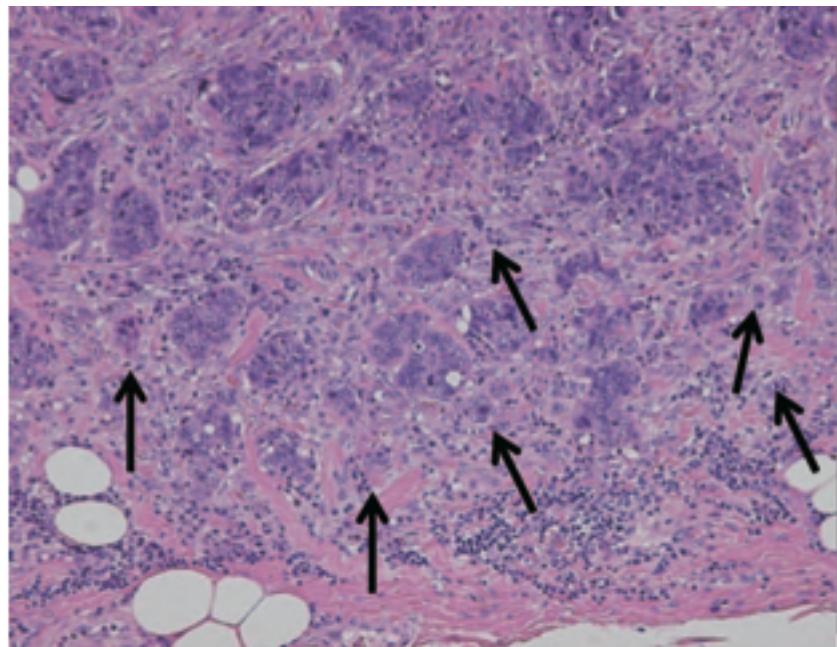
Morodomi et al. Cancer(1989)

Tumor budding



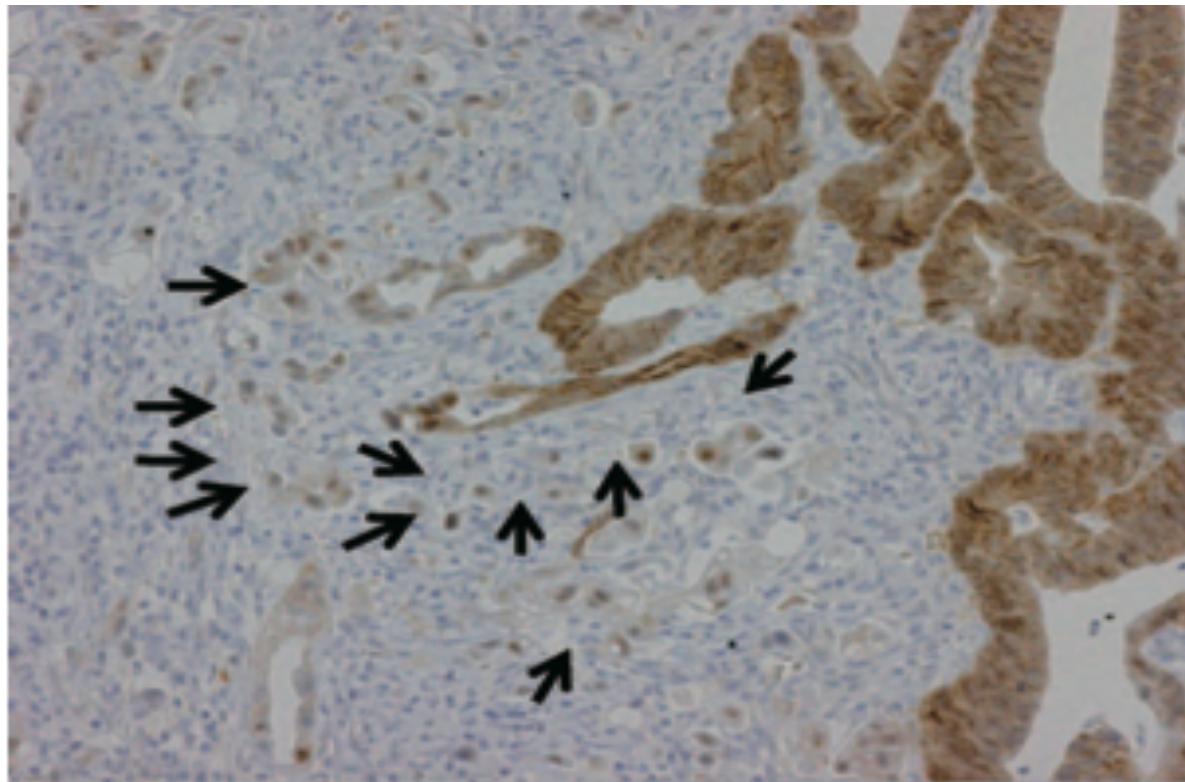
Tumour budding

Hematoxylin-eosin (HE) staining difficult



β -catenin expression

- Wnt/ β -catenin pathway is altered



Accumulation
in the nucleus

Umemura et al. J of Experimental Medicine (2013)

Tumor budding

Table 3. Multivariate analysis of risk factors affecting lymph node metastasis.

| | Odds ratio | 95% confidence interval | P |
|---|------------|-------------------------|-------|
| Gender | 1.154 | 0.291 - 4.568 | 0.838 |
| Mean age (years) | 0.918 | 0.841 - 1.002 | 0.055 |
| Budding (β -catenin, Grade2) | 7.124 | 1.407 - 36.062 | 0.018 |
| Budding (HE staining) | 1.073 | 0.181 - 6.344 | 0.938 |
| Depth of submucosal invasion (mean, μm) | 1 | 1 - 1.001 | 0.033 |
| Blood vessel invasion (HE staining) | < 0.001 | < 0.001 - > 999.999 | 0.982 |
| Lymphatic vessel invasion (HE) | 0.742 | 0.024 - 22.701 | 0.864 |
| Lymphatic vessel invasion (D2-40) | 6.166 | 0.313 - 121.326 | 0.232 |

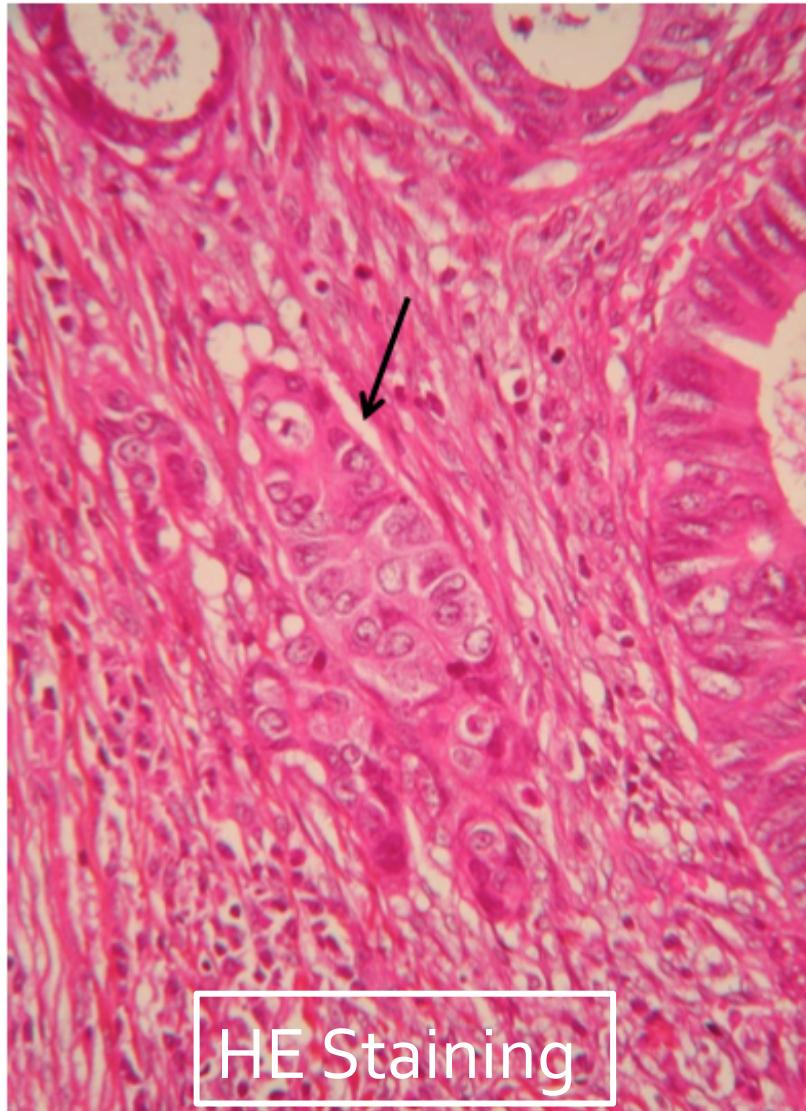
(Multivariate logistic model)

Tumour budding

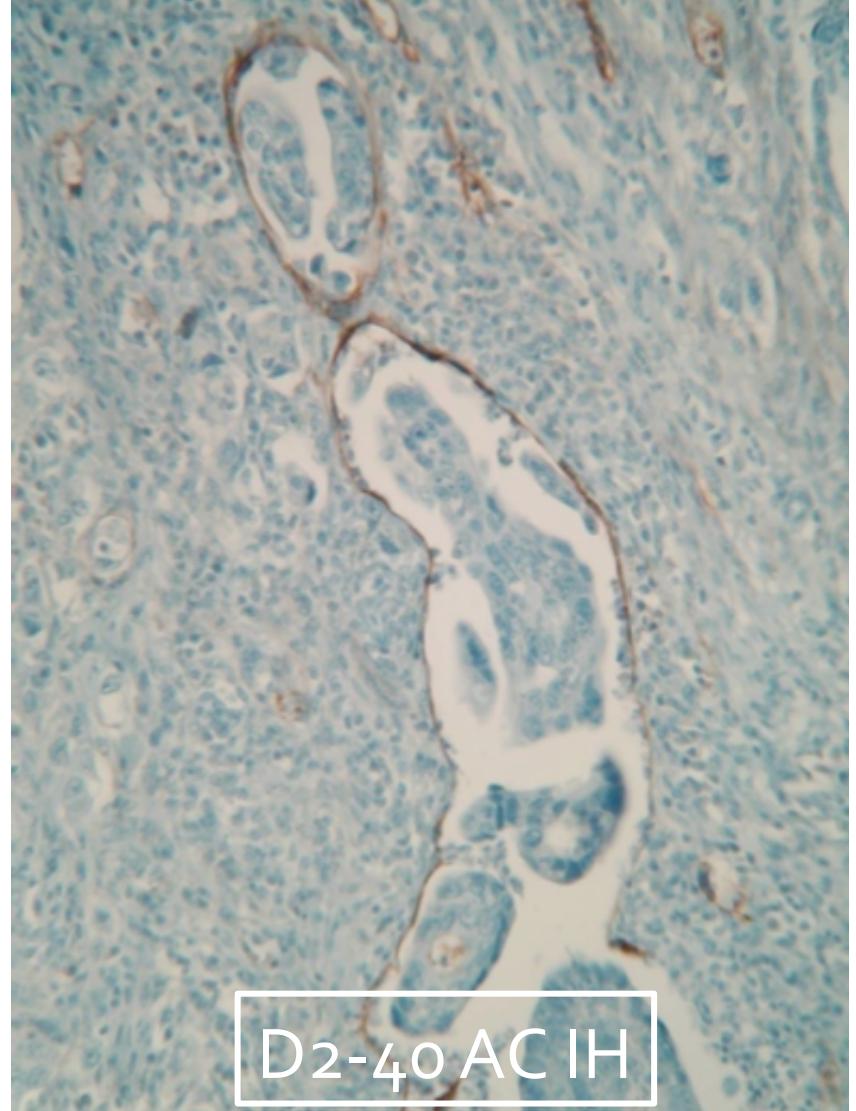
Correlation with

- Number of positive lymph nodes
- Development of extranodal tumour deposits
- Local recurrence

Lymphatic infiltration

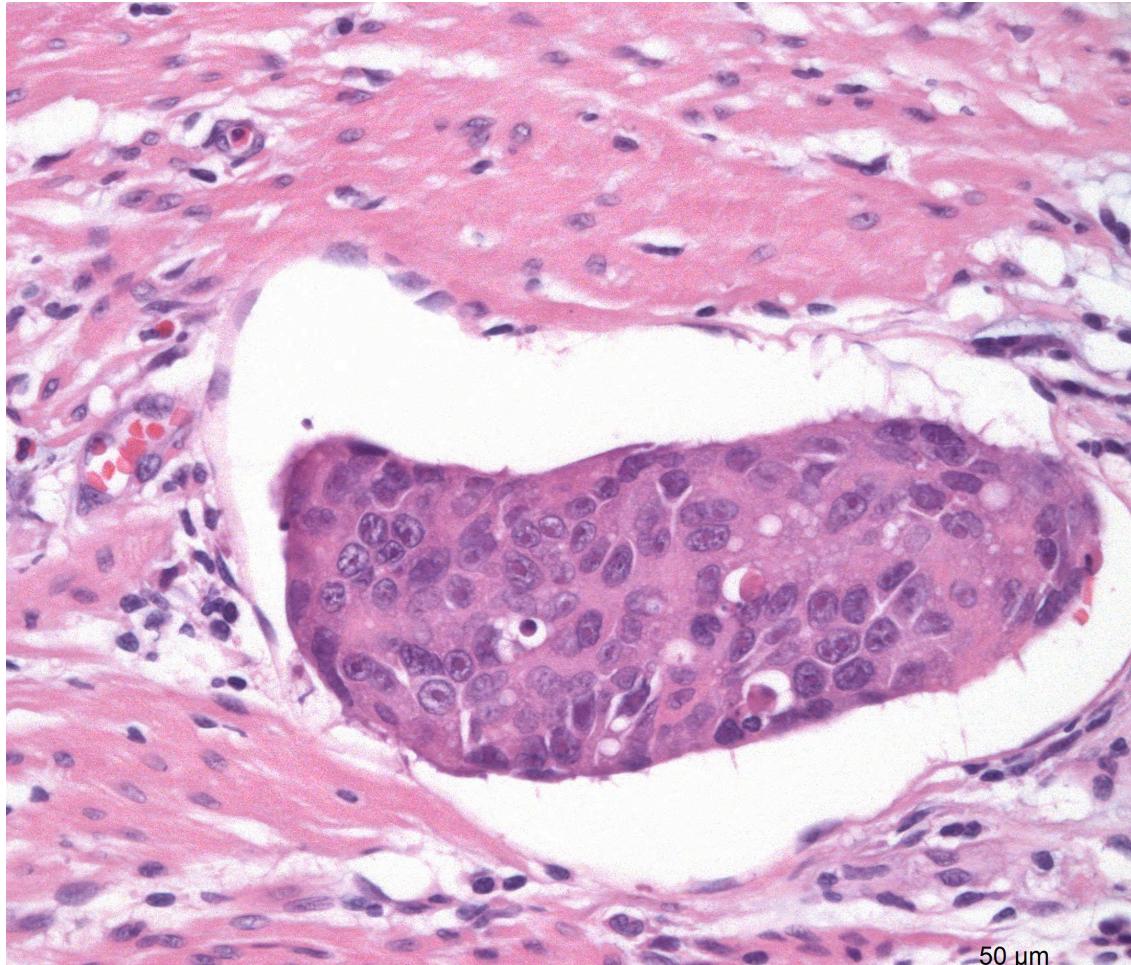


HE Staining



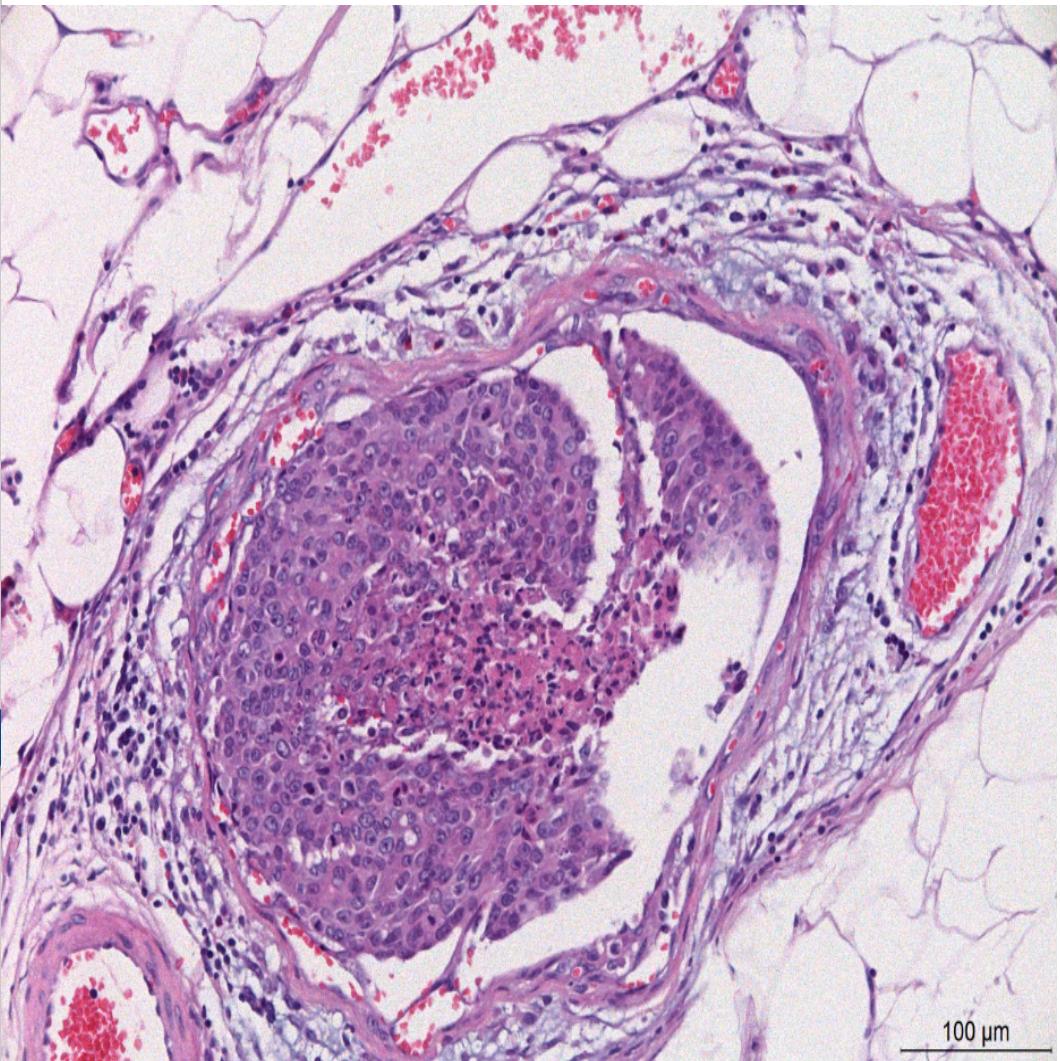
D2-40 AC IH

Vascular invasion



| Variables | Number of patients | P values |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Age (years) | | 0.18 |
| < 50 | 4 | |
| ≥ 50 | 55 | |
| Gender | | 1.0 |
| Male | 36 | |
| Female | 23 | |
| Morphology | | 0.53 |
| Sessile | 51 | |
| Pedunculated | 8 | |
| Histology | | 0.40 |
| No pre-existing adenoma | 11 | |
| Tubular | 16 | |
| Tubulovillous | 19 | |
| Villous | 13 | |
| Degree of differentiation | | 0.64 |
| Well | 16 | |
| Moderate | 42 | |
| Poor | 1 | |
| Degree of invasion | | 0.41 |
| 0 | 5 | |
| 1 | 2 | |
| 2 | 3 | |
| 3 | 0 | |
| 4 | 49 | |
| Lymphatic invasion present | 4 | 0.31 |
| Venous invasion present | 7 | <0.01 |
| Desmoplastic reaction present | 14 | 1.0 |
| Lymphocytic infiltration | | 0.78 |
| None | 4 | |
| Mild | 31 | |
| Moderate | 8 | |
| Severe | 16 | |
| Lymphoid follicles present | 10 | 0.58 |
| Margins | | 1.0 |
| Pushing | 14 | |
| Infiltrating | 45 | |

Vascular invasion



Bayar et al, Eur J Surg Oncol (2002)

LYMPHATIC (LY) OR VASCULAR (v) INVASION

ABSENT ly(0),v(0)

SLIGHT ly(1),v(1)

MODERATE ly(2),v(2)

MASSIVE ly(4),v(4)

Japanese Society for Cancer of Colon and Rectum



Swedish Rectal Cancer Registry

Distribution of T-stage and lymph node metastases.

| T-stage | Distribution of T-stage (%) | Proportion with lymph node metastases (%) |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---|
| T1, $n = 205$ | 13 | 12 |
| T2, $n = 472$ | 29 | 22 |
| T3, $n = 830$ | 51 | 46 |
| T4, $n = 105$ | 7 | 65 |

Swedish Rectal Cancer Registry

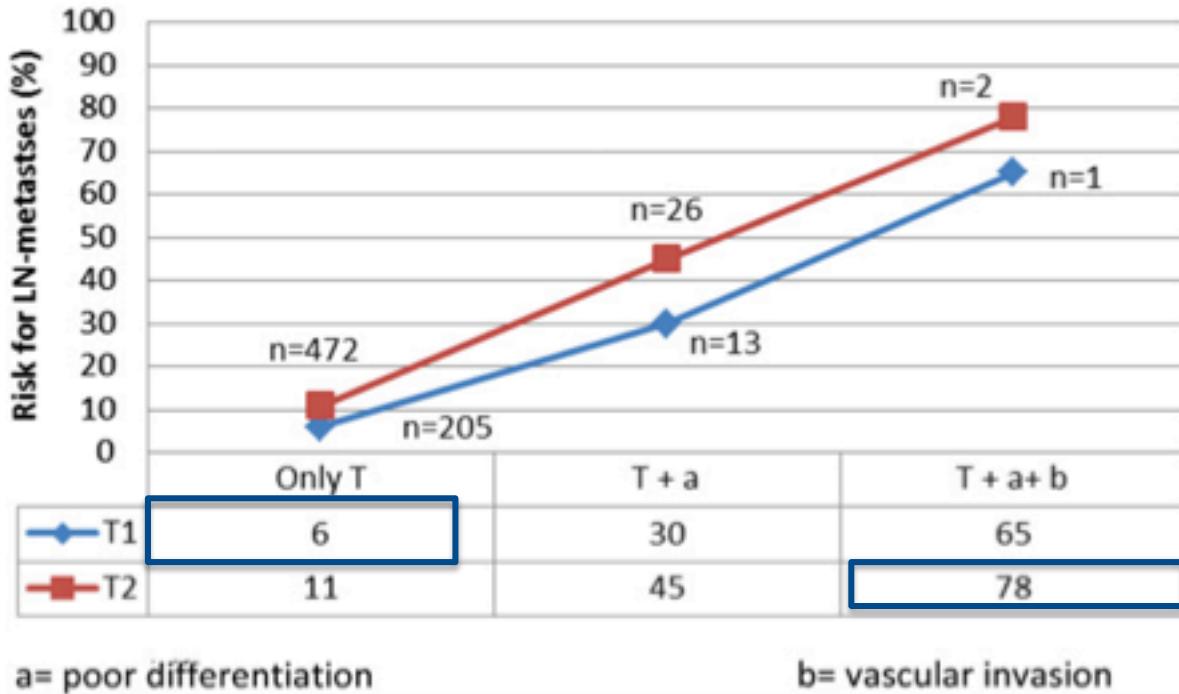
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| T1, n = 205 | 13 | 12 |
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| T3, n = 830 | 51 | 46 |
| T4, n = 105 | 7 | 65 |

| Univariate analysis | Number | OR | 95% CI | Multivariate analysis | OR | 95% CI |
|--------------------------------------|--------|------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| T-stage/sm-level | | | | | | |
| Sm1 | 54 | 1 | Ref | | | |
| Sm2 | 24 | 0.54 | (0.06–5.12) | | | |
| Sm3 | 50 | 2.38 | (0.67–8.46) | | | |
| Sm missing | 77 | 2.08 | (0.63–6.93) | | | |
| T2 | 472 | 3.45 | (1.22–9.77) | 1.97 | | (1.19–3.25) |
| Tumour differentiation | | | | | | |
| High | 114 | 1 | Ref | 1 | Ref | |
| Intermediate | 498 | 1.98 | (1.04–3.75) | 1.72 | (0.93–3.18) | |
| Low | 39 | 7.29 | (3.06–17.4) | 6.47 | (2.71–15.4) | |
| Differentiation missing | 26 | 0.71 | (0.15–3.38) | | | |
| Vascular infiltration | | | | | | |
| Yes | 61 | 4.81 | (2.75–8.40) | 4.34 | (2.46–7.65) | |
| No | 492 | 1 | Ref | 1 | Ref | |
| Missing | 124 | 0.96 | (0.56–1.66) | | | |
| Perineural infiltration | | | | | | |
| Yes | 10 | 1.85 | (0.46–7.31) | | | |
| No | 458 | 1 | Ref | | | |
| Missing | 209 | 0.93 | (0.61–1.42) | | | |
| Mucinous type | | | | | | |
| Yes | 52 | 1.87 | (0.99–3.55) | | | |
| No | 539 | 1 | Ref | | | |
| Missing | 86 | 0.97 | (0.54–1.77) | | | |
| Tumour location (cm from anal verge) | | | | | | |
| 0–5 cm | 118 | 1.03 | (0.59–1.84) | | | |
| 6–10 cm | 259 | 1.23 | (0.80–1.88) | | | |
| 11–15 cm | 300 | 1 | Ref | | | |
| Gender | | | | | | |
| Male | 389 | 0.94 | (0.63–1.39) | | | |
| Female | 288 | 1 | Ref | | | |
| Age ^a | | | | | | |

| Univariate analysis | Number | OR | 95% CI | Multivariate analysis | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| | | | | OR | 95% CI |
| T-stage/sm-level | | | | | |
| Sm1 | 54 | 1 | Ref | | |
| Sm2 | 24 | 0.54 | (0.06–5.12) | | |
| Sm3 | 50 | 2.38 | (0.67–8.46) | | |
| Sm missing | 77 | 2.08 | (0.63–6.92) | | |
| T2 | 472 | 3.45 | (1.22–9.77) | 1.97 | (1.19–3.25) |
| Tumour differentiation | | | | | |
| High | 114 | 1 | Ref | 1 | Ref |
| Intermediate | 498 | 1.98 | (1.04–3.75) | 1.72 | (0.93–3.18) |
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| Male | 389 | 0.94 | (0.63–1.39) | | |
| Female | 288 | 1 | Ref | | |
| Age ^a | | | | | |
| | | 0.99 | (0.98–1.01) | | |

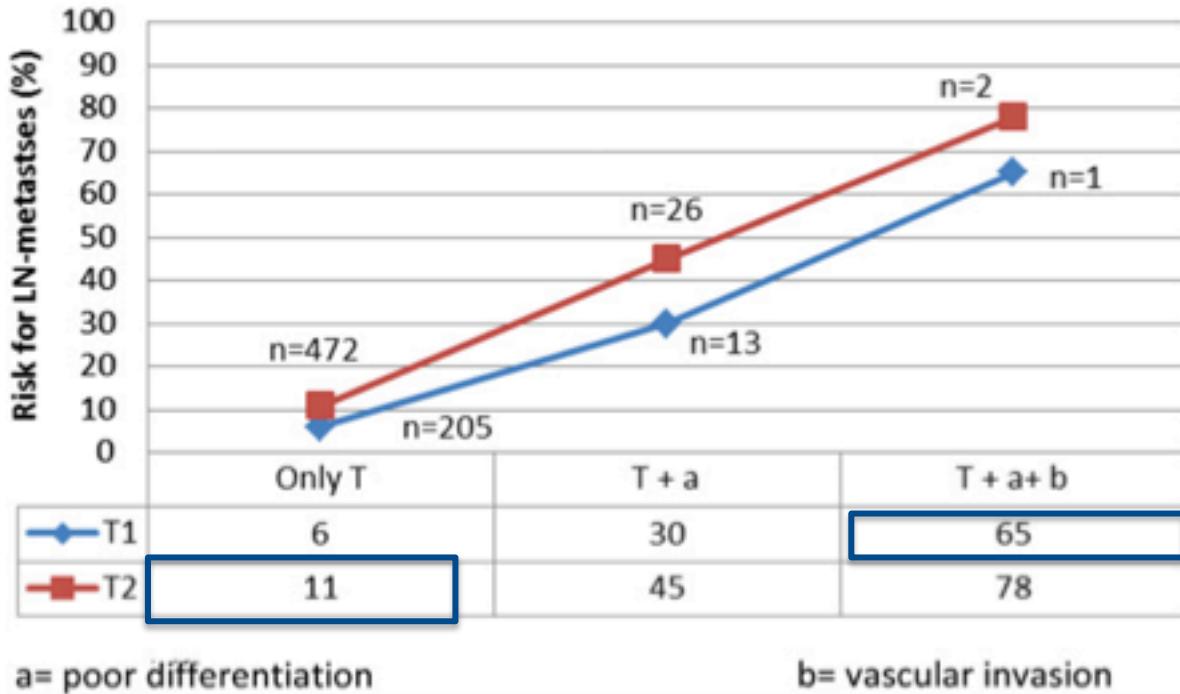
Risk stratification index



a = poor differentiation; b = vascular invasion.

The variables chosen for inclusion into the risk index are the variables with statistical significance in the multivariate analysis.

Risk stratification index



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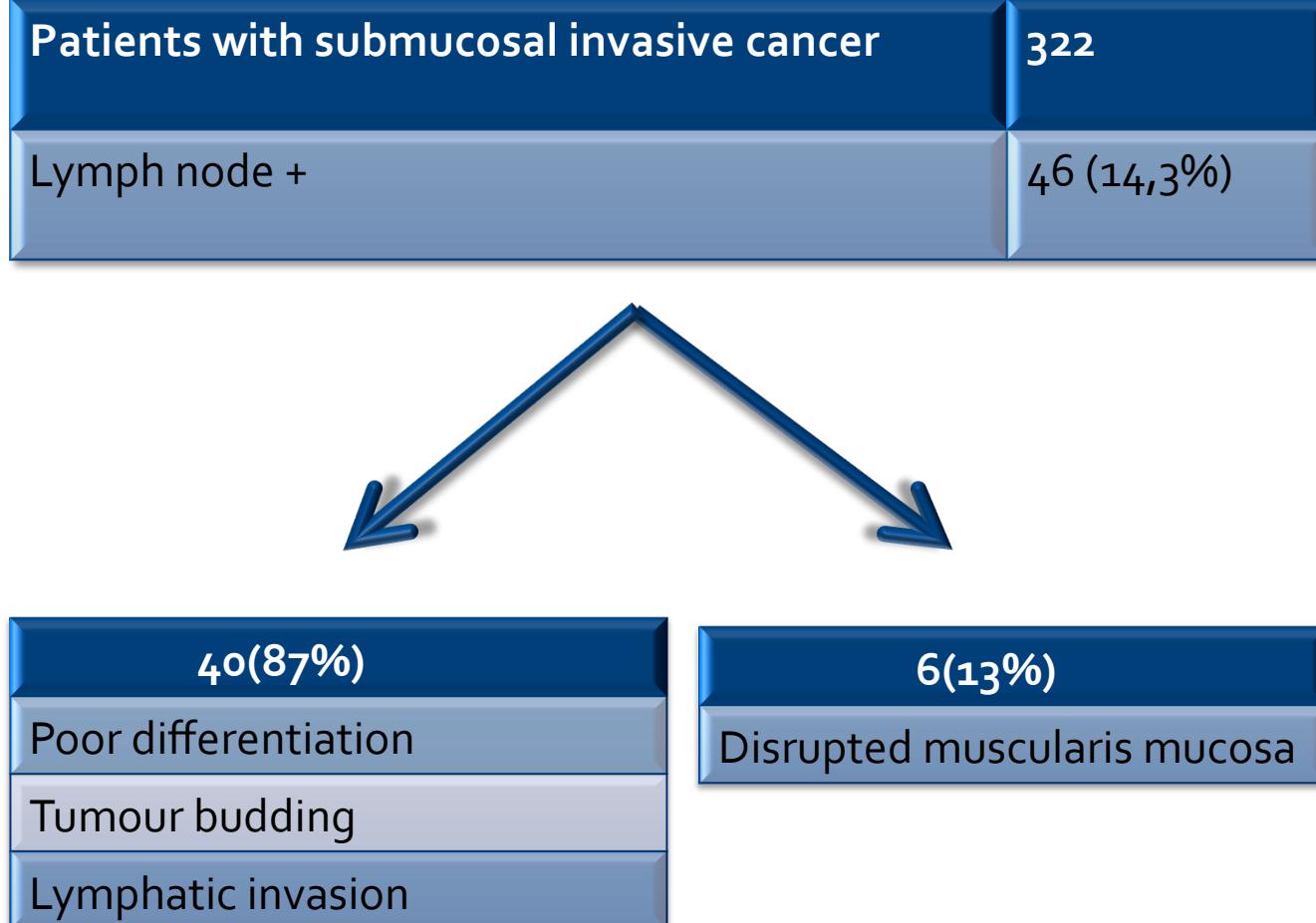
Multivariate analysis of risk factors associated with lymph node metastasis in patients with early rectal cancer.

| Risk factor | B | OR | 95% CI | P-value |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------------|---------|
| Depth of tumour penetration | | | | |
| Sm1 | 0 | 1 | | |
| Sm2 | -0.349 | 0.706 | 0.051–9.861 | 0.796 |
| Sm3 | -0.762 | 0.467 | 0.070–3.127 | 0.432 |
| Muscularis propria (T ₂) | -0.276 | 0.759 | 0.156–3.682 | 0.732 |
| Tumour type | | | | |
| Adenocarcinoma | 0 | 1 | | |
| Mucinous/signet cell | 0.302 | 1.352 | 0.386–4.733 | 0.637 |
| Tumour grade | | | | |
| Well differentiated | 0 | 1 | | |
| Moderately differentiated | 0.839 | 2.315 | 0.910–5.886 | 0.078 |
| Poorly differentiated | 2.459 | 11.696 | 3.262–41.945 | <0.001 |
| Vascular invasion | | | | |
| Nil | 0 | 1 | | |
| Intra-mural | 0.399 | 1.490 | 0.630–3.523 | 0.363 |
| Extra-mural | 2.300 | 9.973 | 2.218–44.836 | 0.003 |

| | No. of patients with LNM (n = 46) | No. of patients without LNM (n = 276) | Univariate P-value |
|--|---|---|-----------------------|
| <i>Status of the muscularis mucosa</i> | | | |
| Type A ^a | 1 (2%) | 40 (98%) | 0.02 |
| Type B ^b | 45 (16%) | 236 (84%) | |
| <i>Submucosal invasion depth (μm)</i> | | | |
| <1000 | 1 (3%) | 33 (97%) | 0.05 |
| >1000 | 45 (16%) | 243 (84%) | |
| <i>Tumor budding</i> | | | |
| Positive | 28 (26%) | 78 (74%) | <0.01 |
| Negative | 18 (8%) | 198 (92%) | |
| <i>Tumor differentiation</i> | | | |
| Well | 23 (9%) | 225 (91%) | <0.01 |
| Moderate/poor | 23 (31%) | 51 (69%) | |
| <i>Lymphatic invasion</i> | | | |
| Positive | 25 (33%) | 51 (67%) | <0.01 |
| Negative | 21 (9%) | 225 (91%) | |
| <i>Venous invasion</i> | | | |
| Positive | 13 (29%) | 32 (71%) | <0.01 |
| Negative | 33 (12%) | 244 (88%) | |

Multivariate analysis of risk factors for lymph node metastasis

| <i>Factors</i> | <i>Odds ratio</i> | <i>95% CI</i> | <i>P-value</i> |
|---|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Lymphatic invasion (+) vs lymphatic invasion (-) | 3.19 | 0.22–0.94 | <0.01 |
| Well differentiation vs moderate/poor differentiation | 3.02 | 0.20–0.90 | <0.01 |
| Tumor budding (+) vs tumor budding (-) | 2.59 | 0.12–0.83 | <0.01 |



| Lymph node metastasis (including ITCs and micrometasis) | | Sensitivity (%) | Specificity (%) | Positive predictive value (%) | Negative predictive value (%) |
|---|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Present | Absent | | | | |
| <i>Lymphatic invasion</i> | | | | | |
| Present | 6 | 1 | 37.5 | 97.5 | 85.7 |
| Absent | 10 | 39 | | | 79.6 |
| <i>Tumour budding</i> | | | | | |
| Present | 16 | 26 | 100.0 | 65.0 | 38.1 |
| Absent | 0 | 14 | | | 100.0 |
| <i>Lymphatic invasion or tumour budding</i> | | | | | |
| Present | 16 | 26 | 100.0 | 65.0 | 38.1 |
| Absent | 0 | 14 | | | 100.0 |
| <i>Lymphatic invasion and tumour budding</i> | | | | | |
| Present | 7 | 0 | 43.7 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Absent | 9 | 40 | | | 81.6 |

ITC = isolated tumour cells.

Clinicopathological studies addressing risk factors for synchronous regional lymph node metastases in early invasive colorectal carcinoma (pT1) by multivariate regression

| Author | No. | Years of operation | Node positive of all (%) | Method of assessment | BUDhigh (%) | Node positive (%)‡ | Risk factors by multivariate regression |
|-----------------------------|-----|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|--|
| Hase et al. (1995) | 79 | 1970-1985 | 13.9 | Scoring | 55.7 | 25.0 / 0 | Budding Depth of infiltration (SM), grading, lymphatic invasion |
| Ueno et al. (2004) | 251 | 1980-2005 | 13.1 | Counting H&E | 15.1 | 42.1/7.9 | Budding Depth of infiltration (> 500 lm), grading, lymphatic invasion |
| Wang et al. (2005) | 159 | 1969-2002 | 10.1 | Scoring | 15.1 | 45.8/3.7 | Budding Depth of infiltration (SM), grading, lymphatic invasion |
| Kazama et al (2006) | 56 | 1990-2001 | 14.2 | Scoring IHCT | 75.0 | 38/0 | Budding Lymphatic invasion |
| Sohn DK et al. (2007) | 48 | 2000-2006 | 14.6 | Counting H&E | 20.8 | 60/2 | Budding |
| Ishikawa Y et al. (2008) | 71 | 1990-2006 | 39.0 | Counting H&E | 64.8 | 82/16 | Budding Lymphatic invasion |

Well or moderately

differentiated

adenocarcinoma and no
mucinous
adenocarcinoma

No vascular or lymphatic
invasion

Kikuchi Sm1 and possibly
Sm2

Haggitt 1–3

Low-risk early rectal cancer

Well or moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma and no mucinous adenocarcinoma

No vascular or lymphatic invasion

Kikuchi Sm1 and possibly Sm2 

Haggitt 1–3

High-risk early rectal cancer

Poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma and mucinous adenocarcinoma

Signet ring and undifferentiated adenocarcinoma

Vascular or lymphatic invasion

Kikuchi Sm3 and possibly Sm2

 Positive resection margin

 Relative factors

Absence of lymphoid infiltration

Tumour budding

Poor demarcation at invasive front

Poor differentiation at invasive front

Cribriform-type structural atypia

Position in distal third of rectum

Calculate the St Mark's LNP Score

Choose a value in **each** category that matches your patient from the drop down lists describing the patient and histopathological criteria. Default values are shown for each category. Simply submitting the form as it is without changing the values (i.e. a young fit patient having a T1 well differentiated adenocarcinoma without any vascular or perineural invasion and conspicuous lymphocytic infiltration) still gives a % risk for lymph node metastases.

Questions? - contact [Jason Smith](#) or [Paris Tekkis](#)

Parameters

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Age | > 75 yrs old |
| Depth of invasion (T-stage) | T1 |
| Differentiation | Well |
| Histological type | Adenocarcinoma / mucinous |
| Lymphocytic infiltration | Conspicuous infiltration |
| Vascular invasion | No invasion |

| | Patient 1 | Patient 2 | Patient 3 | Patient 4 | Patient 5 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Age (years) | > 75 | > 75 | > 75 | > 75 | > 75 |
| Depth of invasion | T1 | T1 | T1 | T1 | T1 |
| Differentiation | Well | Moderate | Poor | Well | Poor |
| Histological type | Adenoca | Adenoca | Adenoca | Adenoca | Adenoca |
| Lymphocytic infiltration | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No |
| Vascular invasion | No | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Perineural invasion | No | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Positive lymph node probability (%) | 3.7 | 7.2 | 24 | 27.8 | 75.9 |



Decision making



Future perspectives

- Cancer biology
 - p-27 (kip1) kinase inhibitor expression
 - β -catenin expression
 - E-cadferin expression
 - DCC(deleted in colorectal cancer) protein

Conclusions

Various factors have been identified as risk factors for lymph node metastases in early rectal cancer

The influence of each of these factors is still uncertain

Their detection on anatomo-pathology may be helpful in preoperative decision-making

Conclusions

Clearer knowledge of the risk factors for lymph node metastases in histopathological analysis

Improvements in the diagnostic accuracy of radiology regarding lymph node metastases

- 
- Will improve the chances of local excision alone being sufficient for cure of early rectal cancer in selected patients

