Table I. TNM Staging of Melanoma of the Skin

Definitions of TMN

Primary Tumor (T)			
TX	Primary tumor cannot be assessed		
ТО	No evidence of primary tumor		
Tis	Melanoma in situ		
T1	Melanomas ≤1.0 mm in thickness		
T1a	without ulceration and mitosis <1/mm²		
T1b	with ulceration or mitoses ≥1/mm²		
T2	Melanomas 1.01 – 2.0 mm		
T2a	without ulceration		
T2b	with ulceration		
Т3	Melanomas 2.01-4.0 mm		
Т3а	without ulceration		
T3b	with ulceration		
T4	Melanomas >4.0 mm		
T4a	without ulceration		
T4b	with ulceration		

Regional Lymph Nodes (N)			
NX	Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed		
N0	No regional lymph node metastasis		
N1	1 node		

N1a	micrometastasis*
N1b	macrometastasis**
N2	2-3 nodes
N2a	micrometastasis*
N2b	macrometastasis**
N2c	in transit met(s)/satellite(s) without metastatic nodes
N3	Clinical: ≥1 node with in transit met(s)/satellite(s); pathologic: 4 or more metastatic nodes, or matted nodes, or in transit met(s)/ satellite(s) with metastatic node(s)

^{*}Micrometastases are diagnosed after sentinel lymph node biopsy and completion lymphadenectomy (if performed).

Distant Metastasis (M)			
M0	No distant metastasis		
M1a	Metastases to skin, subcutaneous tissues or distant lymph nodes		
M1b	Metastases to lung		
M1c	Metastases to all other visceral sites or distant metastases to any site combined with an elevated serum LDH		

Anatomic Stage / Prognostic Groups

GROUP	Т	N	М
0	Tis	N0	MO
IA	T1a	N0	MO

^{**}Macrometastases are defined as clinically detectable nodal metastases confirmed by therapeutic lymphadenectomy or when nodal metastasis exhibits gross extracapsular extension.

IB	T1b	N0	M0
	T2a	N0	M0
IIA	T2b	N0	MO
	T3a	N0	M0
IIB	T3b	N0	M0
	T4a	N0	M0
IIC	T4b	N0	MO
III	Any T	≥N1	M0
IV	Any T	Any N	MO

*Clinical staging includes microstaging of the primary melanoma and clinical/radiologic evaluation for metastases. By convention, it should be used after complete excision of the primary melanoma with clinical assessment for regional and distant metastases.

^{*}Used with the permission of the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC), Chicago, Illinois. The original source of this material is the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, Seventh Edition (2010) published by Springer SBM, LLC.