

Treatment of Different Stages in Gastric Cancer

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Stage 0

In stage 0, abnormal cells are found in the mucosa (innermost layer) of the stomach wall. These abnormal cells may become cancer and spread into nearby normal tissue. Stage 0 is also called carcinoma in situ.

Stage I

Stage I is divided into stages IA and IB.

Stage IA: Cancer has formed in the mucosa (innermost layer) of the stomach wall and may have spread to the submucosa (layer of tissue next to the mucosa).

Stage IB: Cancer: has formed in the mucosa (innermost layer) of the stomach wall and may have spread to the submucosa (layer of tissue next to the mucosa). Cancer has spread to 1 or 2 nearby lymph nodes or has formed in the mucosa of the stomach wall and has spread to the muscle layer.

Stage II

Stage II gastric cancer is divided into stages IIA and IIB.

Stage IIA: Cancer: may have spread to the submucosa (layer of tissue next to the mucosa) of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 3 to 6 nearby lymph nodes or has spread to the muscle layer of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 1 or 2 nearby lymph nodes; or has spread to the subserosa (layer of connective tissue next to the muscle layer) of the stomach wall.

Stage IIB: Cancer may have spread to the submucosa (layer of tissue next to the mucosa) of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 7 to 15 nearby lymph nodes or has spread to the muscle layer of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 3 to 6 nearby lymph nodes or has spread to the subserosa (layer of connective tissue next to the muscle layer) of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 1 or 2 nearby lymph nodes; or has spread to the serosa (outermost layer) of the stomach wall.

Stage III

Stage III gastric cancer is divided into stages IIIA, IIIB, and IIIC.

Stage IIIA: Cancer has spread to the muscle layer of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 7 to 15 nearby lymph nodes; or to the subserosa (layer of connective tissue next to the muscle layer) of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 3 to 6 nearby lymph nodes or to the serosa (outermost layer) of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 1 to 6 nearby lymph nodes or to nearby organs.

Stage IIIB: Cancer may have spread to the submucosa (layer of tissue next to the mucosa) or to the muscle layer of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 16 or more nearby lymph nodes or has spread to the subserosa (layer of connective tissue next to the muscle layer) or to the serosa (outermost layer) of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 7 to 15 nearby lymph nodes or has spread from the stomach to nearby organs, such as the spleen, colon, liver, diaphragm, pancreas, abdomen wall, adrenal gland, kidney, or small intestine, or to the back of the abdomen. Cancer has spread to 1 to 6 nearby lymph nodes.

Stage IIIC: Cancer has spread to the subserosa (layer of connective tissue next to the muscle layer) or to the serosa (outermost layer) of the stomach wall. Cancer has spread to 16 or more nearby lymph nodes or from the stomach into nearby organs, such as the spleen, colon, liver, diaphragm, pancreas, abdomen wall, adrenal gland, kidney, or small intestine, or to the back of the abdomen. Cancer has spread to 7 or more nearby lymph nodes.

Stage IV

In stage IV, cancer has spread to other parts of the body, such as the lungs, liver, distant lymph nodes, and the tissue that lines the abdomen wall.