Appendix 1: Regional Lymph Node Stations for Staging Esophageal Cancer

Locoregional (N stage) disease was redefined in the seventh edition of the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual as any periesophageal lymph node from cervical nodes to celiac nodes and subclassified by the number of involved nodes (N0 = 0; N1 = 1–2; N2 = 3–6; N4 > 7).

Supraclavicular and mediastinal nodes are considered N stage.

Metastatic (M stage) disease is simply M1 or M0 (and the subclassifications M1a, M1b, and Mx, used in the sixth edition, have been removed). Periportal and retroperitoneal nodes are considered M1.
Courtesy of Hong SJ, et al. New TNM staging system for esophageal cancer: what chest radiologists need to know. Radiographics. 2014;34(6):1722–40. Regional lymph nodes according to the seventh edition of the staging manual for esophageal cancer. 1L left supraclavicular, 1R right supraclavicular, 2L left upper paratracheal, 2R right upper paratracheal, 4L left lower paratracheal, 4R right lower paratracheal, 5 aortopulmonary, 6 anterior mediastinal, 7 subcarinal, 8L lower paraesophageal, 8M middle paraesophageal, 9 pulmonary ligament, 10L left tracheobronchial, 10R right tracheobronchial, 15 diaphragmatic, 16 aracardial, 17 left gastric, 18 common hepatic, 19 splenic, 20 celiac. The posterior mediastinal lymph node (3P) is not shown.
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