

Table 7.3. Continued**TNM Definitions**

T3: Tumor >4 cm in greatest dimension

T4a: Tumor invades the larynx, deep/extrinsic muscle of tongue, medial pterygoid, hard palate, or mandible

T4b: Tumor invades lateral pterygoid muscle, pterygoid plates, lateral nasopharynx, or skull base or encases carotid artery

*Regional Lymph Nodes (N)**Nasopharynx*

NX: Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed

N0: No regional lymph node metastasis

N1: Unilateral metastasis in lymph node(s), 6 cm or less, above the supraclavicular fossa

N2: Bilateral metastasis in lymph node(s), 6 cm or less, above the supraclavicular fossa

N3: Metastasis in lymph node(s) 6 cm or greater and/or to supraclavicular fossa

N3a: Greater than 6 cm in dimension

N3b: Extension to the supraclavicular fossa

Oropharynx/Hypopharynx

NX: Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed

N0: No regional lymph node metastasis

N1: Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node, ≤3 cm in greatest dimension

N2: Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node, >3 cm but ≤6 cm in greatest dimension, or in multiple ipsilateral lymph nodes, ≤6 cm in greatest dimension, or in bilateral or contralateral lymph nodes, ≤6 cm in greatest dimension

N2a: Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node >3 cm but ≤6 cm in greatest dimension

N2b: Metastasis in multiple ipsilateral lymph nodes, ≤6 cm in greatest dimension

N2c: Metastasis in bilateral or contralateral lymph nodes, ≤6 cm in greatest dimension

N3: Metastasis in a lymph node >6 cm in greatest dimension

Distant Metastasis (M)

MX: Distant metastasis cannot be assessed

M0: No distant metastasis

M1: Distant metastasis

*AJCC Stage Groupings**Nasopharynx*

Stage 0	Tis, N0, M0
Stage I	T1, N0, M0
Stage IIa	T2a, N0, M0
Stage IIb	T1, N1, M0
Stage IIb	T2, N1, M0
Stage IIb	T2a, N1, M0
Stage IIb	T2b, N0, M0
Stage IIb	T2b, N1, M0
Stage III	T1, N2, M0
Stage III	T2a, N2, M0
Stage III	T2b, N2, M0
Stage III	T3, N0, M0
Stage III	T3, N1, M0
Stage III	T3, N2, M0
Stage IVA	T4, N0, M0
Stage IVA	T4, N1, M0
Stage IVA	T4, N2, M0
Stage IVB	Any T, N3, M0
Stage IVC	Any T, Any N, M1