

# Lymphoma Essential TNM

## Key points for lymphoma staging

1. The TNM and Essential TNM classification for lymphomas applies to both Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma.
2. Remember that lymphomas can have lymphatic and extralymphatic disease.
  - Lymphatic disease involves lymph nodes as well as other lymphatic structures such as the Waldeyer ring (the tonsils), the spleen, the appendix, the thymus, and Peyer patches (lymphoid tissue in the small intestine).
3. Staging of lymphomas may include an initial report of a bone marrow biopsy.
4. Look for documentation of disseminated (multifocal) involvement of one or more extralymphatic organs (such as the bone marrow, brain, liver, lung, and gastrointestinal tract). This is advanced disease (Stage IV).
5. Look for involvement of lymphatic nodes on both sides of the diaphragm, which **may** be accompanied by involvement of the spleen. This is advanced disease (Stage III).

**Fig. 8.** Lymphoma Essential TNM flow chart. A, advanced extension; L, localized extension; TNM, Tumour, Node, Metastasis. \*The most common extralymphatic organs include the bone marrow, brain, liver, lung, and gastrointestinal tract, but any organ can be involved by lymphoma. \*\*Nodal group = lymphatic structures including lymph node(s), Waldeyer ring, spleen, appendix, thymus, and Peyer patches.

