

MULTIPLE PRIMARIES AND OLIGOMETASTATIC CANCER

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Stage IV lung cancer includes the presence of distant metastases, regardless of the T or N status for lung cancer in the seventh TNM classification system for lung cancer was published by the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) [1]. According to this classification, the M category is subdivided into M1a, which includes the new descriptors added to this category, i.e., cases with pleural nodules or malignant pleural or pericardial effusion and additional pulmonary nodules in the contralateral lung and M1b for those cases with other distant metastases. While the definition of Stage IV was not changed in the eighth TNM classification proposal for lung cancer that were started to be used in 2017, Stage IV was divided into two subgroups (IVA and IVB), and M1 was divided into three subgroups (M1a, M1b, M1c) [2]. The definition M1a remains the same, however the category M1b was assigned to cases with is a single metastatic deposit (in one organ outside the thoracic cavity) (Figure 1 and 2), and M1a and M1b cases were moved to a new stage grouping, stage IVA. Also the more common situation involving multiple metastatic deposits, usually in more than one organ, was classified as M1c and staged as IVB (M1c).

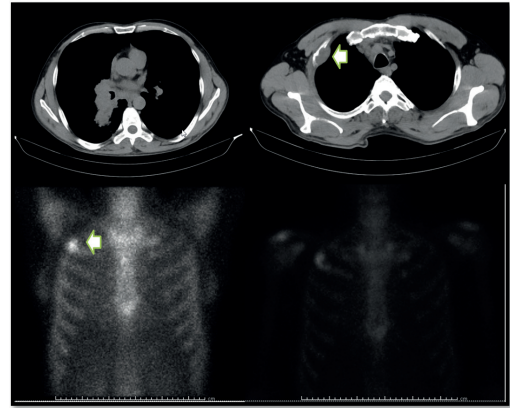


Figure 1. A 53 years old man. A lung cancer in the right intermedial bronchus and also right second rib metastasis. Metastasis is not outside the thoracic cavity. M category should be M1a, however that is still controversial.

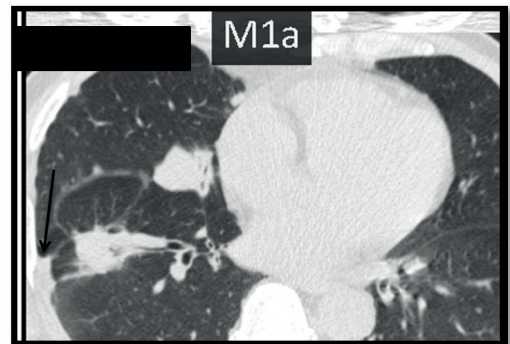


Figure 2. The definition M1a according to 8th TNM classification proposal. A nonsmall cell lung cancer cancer in the right lung and also pleural metastasis. The definition M1a according to 8th TNM classification proposal.

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