



HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

To effectively care for any patient with cancer it is essential to consider three factors;

- The site of origin of the cancer (e.g. breast, prostate, colon);
- The histologic/biologic characteristics (e.g. Gleason 8 adenocarcinoma, Her 2-neu+ve adenocarcinoma, CD20+ve diffuse large cell lymphoma; c-kit+ve GIST);
- The anatomical extent of the cancer or its stage. The globally accepted method of describing the anatomical extent of cancer is the TNM Classification. The TNM system was developed based on a wealth of data indicating that in general, for similar tumours, the prognosis is better for small tumours than large ones and for those confined to the primary site than those with involvement of lymph nodes or distant metastasis. The anatomic disease extent has proven to be the most important variable to select treatment and to predict treatment outcome.

FURTHER

For more detailed description of T N and M categories and stage groupings go to how to use the TNM Classification.