

Disclaimer: This algorithm has been developed for MD Anderson using a multidisciplinary approach considering circumstances particular to MD Anderson's specific patient population, services and structure, and clinical information. This is not intended to replace the independent medical or professional judgment of physicians or other health care providers in the context of individual clinical circumstances to determine a patient's care. This algorithm should not be used to treat pregnant women.

Note: Consider Clinical Trials as treatment options for eligible patients.

INITIAL EVALUATION

- Confirm outside pathology
- History
 - Chief complaint
 - History of present illness and previous treatment
- Past medical history (including but not limited to)
 - Social history (including tobacco and alcohol use)
- Physical examination
 - Full head and neck exam
 - General medical examination
- Stage T and N (AJCC)
- Imaging studies
 - High resolution CT neck with contrast and bone windows
 - CT chest, as clinically indicated (if smoking history of > 30 pack-year, consider CT chest)
 - Consider PET/CT scan for stage III or IV
- Lifestyle risk assessment¹

CONSULTATIONS

- Dental oncology²
- Radiation oncology
- Medical oncology for patients with stage III or IV
- Speech pathology for patients whose treatment may impact swallowing and/or speech
- Plastic surgery for patients who will require major reconstruction (pharyngeal or bony reconstruction)
- Nutritional assessment
- Smoking cessation for active smokers only
- Conditions for pre-operative Internal Medicine³
- Audiogram, if receiving chemotherapy

Patient information presented at multidisciplinary planning conference

PRE-TREATMENT EVALUATION

Primary tumor
T1-T2, N0

Primary tumor
T1-2, N1-3

Primary tumor
T3-4a, N0-1

Primary tumor
T4b, any N

See Page 2

AJCC = American Joint Committee on Cancer

¹ See [Physical Activity](#), [Nutrition](#), and [Tobacco Cessation](#) algorithms; ongoing reassessment of lifestyle risks should be a part of routine clinical practice

² Consider dental extraction based on results of dental evaluation prior to initiation of primary treatment

³ Conditions for pre-operative Internal Medicine Perioperative Assessment Center (IMPAC) consult:

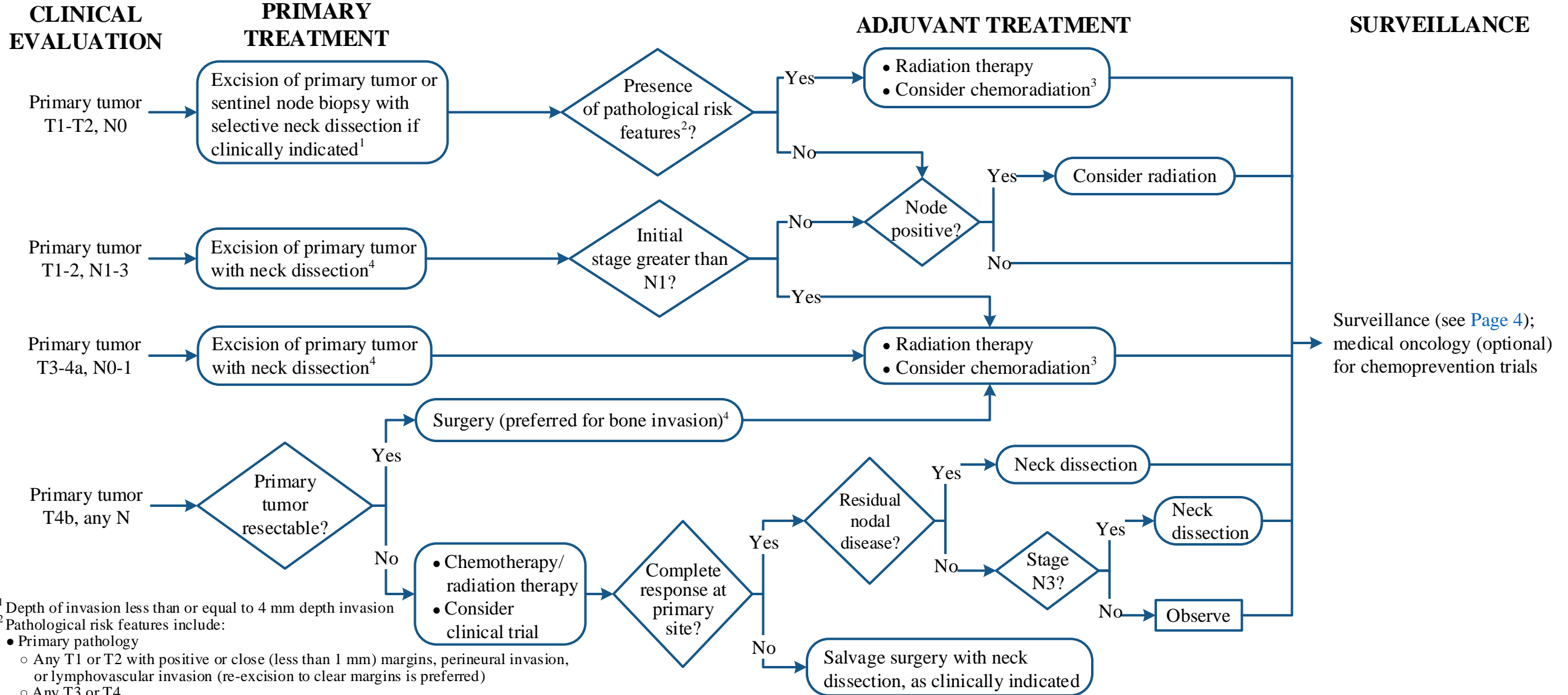
- Hypertension
 - Uncontrolled or newly diagnosed
 - Poorly compliant patient
 - Multi-drug regimen for control
- Cardiac disease
 - History of myocardial infarction or angina
 - History of cardiac or vascular surgery
 - Cardiac murmur or valvular heart disease
 - Congestive heart failure
- Anticoagulation

- Pulmonary disease
 - 20 or more pack-year smoking history
 - Moderate to severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) with < 2 flight exercise tolerance
 - Reactive airway disease
 - Previous lung resection
 - Multiple history of pneumonias
 - History of tuberculosis
- Diabetes
 - Type I
 - Type II

- Cerebrovascular disease
 - Previous cerebrovascular accident
 - History of transient ischemic attack
 - Carotid bruit or known stenosis
- Hepatic disease
 - History of cirrhosis
 - Laboratory of hepatic dysfunction

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¹Depth of invasion less than or equal to 4 mm depth invasion

²Pathological risk features include:

- Primary pathology
 - Any T1 or T2 with positive or close (less than 1 mm) margins, perineural invasion, or lymphovascular invasion (re-excision to clear margins is preferred)
 - Any T3 or T4
- Regional pathology
 - Multiple lymph nodes (any N2, N3)
 - Lymph node(s) with extracapsular extension
 - Lymph node(s) in level IV or V

³Pathological risk factors for addition of chemotherapy include:

- Positive margins (re-excision to clear margins is preferred)
- Extracapsular extension

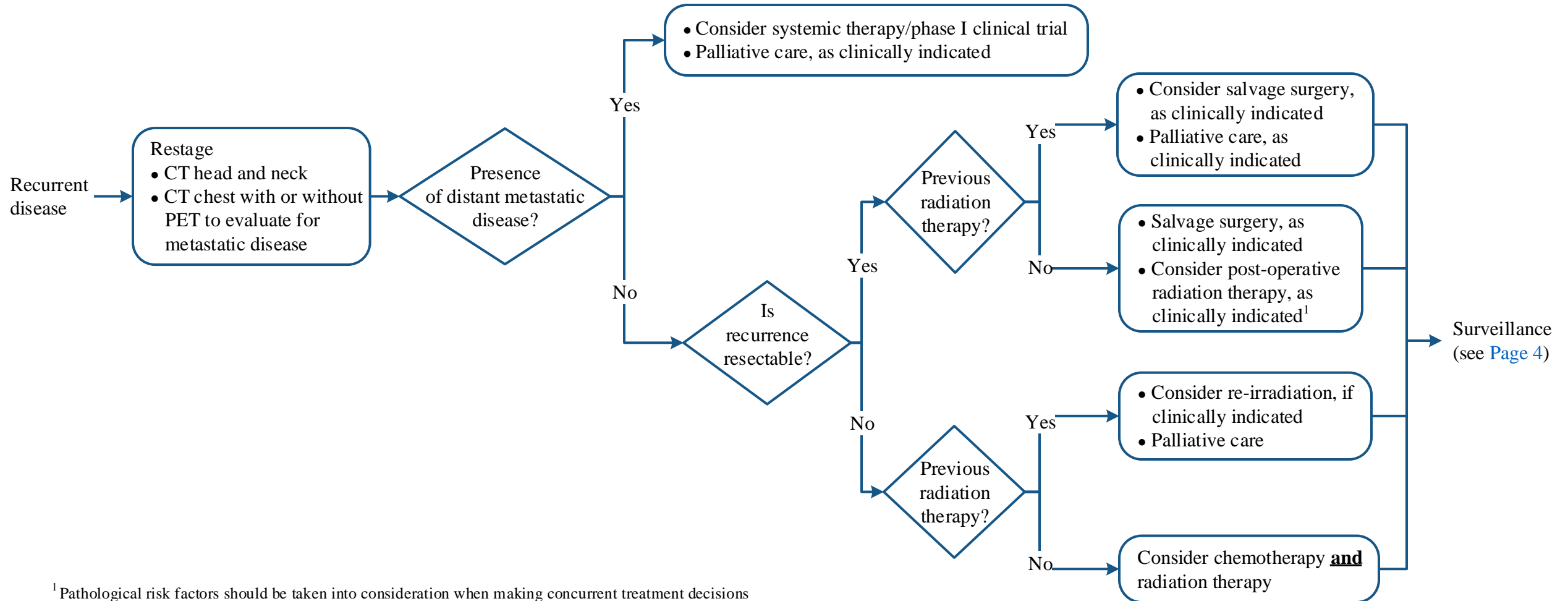
⁴Bilateral neck dissection for N2c neck disease. Consider bilateral neck dissection for midline lesion.

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CLINICAL PRESENTATION

RECURRENT TREATMENT



¹ Pathological risk factors should be taken into consideration when making concurrent treatment decisions

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Oral Cavity Cancer Surveillance

Total years for surveillance				Year 1			Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Frequency of surveillance by month	2-3	6	9	12	16	20	24	36	48	60
Head and neck history and physical exam	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Baseline post-treatment CT neck with contrast	x									
Consider surveillance CT neck with contrast, if clinically indicated		x		x			x	x	x	x
Thyroid function, if radiation therapy	x			x			x	x	x	x
Chest x-ray yearly (CT chest if smoker)				x			x	x	x	x

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SUGGESTED READINGS

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