

31. Neuroendocrine Tumors of the Jejunum and Ileum

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Emerging Prognostic Factors for Clinical Care

Measurement of the following prognostic factors is not required for clinical staging but may assist the clinician in monitoring the clinical care of patients with well-differentiated small bowel NETs.

Neurokinin A Level

Two independent commercial laboratories (one in the United States and one in Northern Ireland) using different radioimmunoassay methods for NKA determined that a plasma NKA level over 50 pg/mL was associated with poor survival.¹⁻⁶ AJCC Level of Evidence: III

Risk Assessment Models

The AJCC has recently established guidelines that will be used to evaluate published statistical prediction models for the purpose of granting endorsement for clinical use.⁷ Although this is a monumental step forward towards the goal of precision medicine, this work was only very recently published. For this reason, the existing models that have been published or may be in clinical use have not yet been evaluated for this cancer site by the Precision Medicine core of the AJCC. In the future, the statistical prediction models for this cancer site will be evaluated, and those that meet all AJCC criteria will be endorsed.

Recommendations for Clinical Trial Stratification

Although only a few prospective trials have been conducted to date concerning NETs of the small bowel, this expert panel proposes collecting data prospectively (see Registry Data Collection Variables for this disease) so that future groups can design trials based on the following stratification criteria.

Histologic grade

Percent of cytoreduction for optimal debulking

Laparoscopic vs. open resection outcomes

Preoperative pancreastatin

Preoperative neurokinin A

AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, 8th Edition stage

Nodal involvement

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