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New Lung Cancer Tumor Staging Manual to Shape Lung Cancer Clinical Treatment

Vienna, Austria—December 6, 2016—A revised tumor classification based on more than 70,000 non-small cell lung cancer patients and 6,100 small cell lung cancer patients is now available to lung cancer specialists around the world in the form of the 8th Edition of the Tumor, Node, and Metastasis (TNM) Classification. The new edition is published by the Union for International Cancer Control, the American Joint Committee on Cancer and the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) in their respective staging manuals.

According to Dr. Ramon Rami-Porta from Hospital Universitari Mutua Terrassa, Terrassa, Spain, the new edition seeks to improve the classification of anatomical extent of lung cancer. He presented his overview of the 8th edition at **IASLC 17th World Conference on Lung Cancer** in Vienna, Austria.

In 1998, IASLC established its Lung Cancer Staging Project, which led to the development of an international lung cancer database. Once established, IASLC can create updates to stay current with evolving research and new clinical practice and guidelines.

At the time of the 17th World Conference on Lung Cancer, the 8th edition of TNM classification of lung cancer will have already been published. The innovations introduced are based on the analyses of the new IASLC database that includes 70,967 evaluable patients with non-small cell lung cancer and 6,189 with small cell lung cancer.

“These innovations will lead to some changes in clinical practice that are worth reflecting on,” said Dr. Rami-Porta. “For example, tumor size is a much more relevant prognostic factor than in previous editions and is now a descriptor in all T categories. Tumor size measurement should be carefully performed because small changes in size mean important changes in prognosis.”

“Still, other categories may not see any significant changes between the publication of the 7th and 8th editions,” Dr. Rami-Porta added. “The 8th edition will help us refine prognosis both at clinical and pathologic staging and stratify tumors in future clinical trials, but will require more attention from us at measuring tumor size, at determining nodal disease, at searching for metastases, and at using clinical judgment to indicate treatment.”



IASLC members can purchase a copy of the IASLC Staging Manual in Thoracic Oncology (2nd Edition), which includes the 8th Edition of the Tumor, Node, and Metastasis Classification at the IASLC booth at the IASLC WCLC Meeting.

About the WCLC:

The WCLC is the world's largest meeting dedicated to lung cancer and other thoracic malignancies, attracting more than 6,000 researchers, physicians, and specialists from more than 100 countries. The goal is to increase awareness, collaboration, and understanding of lung cancer, and to help participants implement the latest developments across the globe. Organized under the theme of "Together Against Lung Cancer," the conference will cover a wide range of disciplines and unveil several research studies and clinical trial results. For more information, visit <http://wclc2016.iaslc.org/>.

About the IASLC:

The International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) is the only global organization dedicated to the study of lung cancer. Founded in 1974, the association's membership includes more than 5,000 lung cancer specialists in over 100 countries. Visit www.iaslc.org for more information.

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