Table 2

Tumour, Nodal, Metastases classification of gastric cancer [44]

Primary tumour (T)	
T1a	Tumour invades lamina propria or muscularis mucosae
T1b	Tumour invades submucosa
T2	Tumour invades muscularis propria
T3	Tumour penetrates subserosal connective tissue without invasion of peritoneum
T4a	Tumour invades serosa (visceral peritoneum)
T4b	Tumour invades adjacent structures

Regional lymph nodes (N)	
N0	No regional lymph node metastasis
N1	Metastasis in 1-2 regional lymph nodes
N2	Metastasis in 3-6 regional lymph nodes
N3a	Metastasis in 7-15 regional lymph nodes
N3b	Metastasis in 16 or more regional lymph nodes

Distant metastasis (M)	
M0	No distant metastasis
M1	Distant metastasis