A 45-year-old male underwent a colonoscopy for rectal bleeding. A 5 cm friable mass was found in the rectum. Biopsies of this area revealed an invasive adenocarcinoma. An endoscopic ultrasound was performed which showed the mass involved but did not go through the muscularis propria. One abnormal peri-rectal lymph node was also seen. How would you stage this lesion using EUS?

A. T2N1
B. T3N1
C. T1bN1
D. T4N1

Answer: A

Rationale: The rectal cancer is staged as T2N1 based on the EUS performed in this patient. Invasion into muscularis propria but not through it is considered T2. N staging depends on the number of regional lymph nodes involved. Enlargement of three or less lymph nodes is classified as N1.