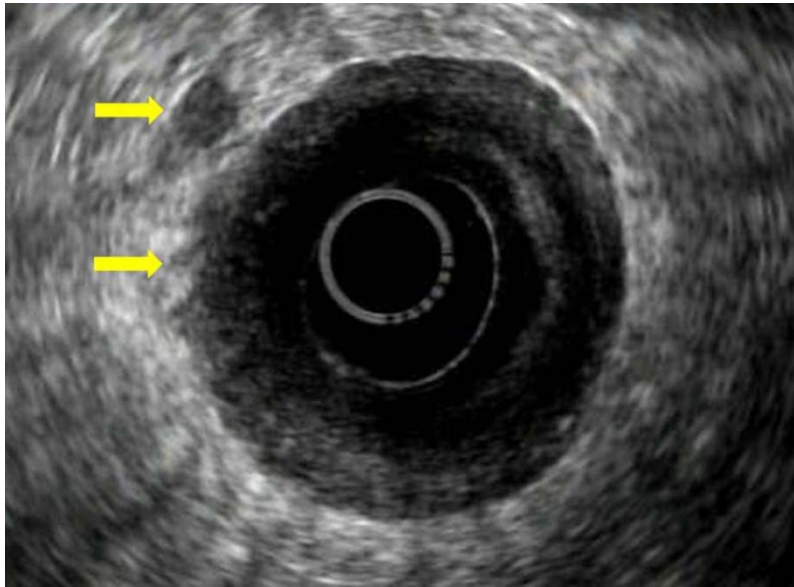


## Question 2 – September 7

A 56 year old male with long-standing Crohn's colitis was found to have a nearly 10 cm circumferential ulcerated lesion in the rectum involving the dentate line. Biopsies of this area revealed an invasive adenocarcinoma. An endoscopic ultrasound was performed which showed circumferential tumor with irregular outer margins extending into the perirectal fat without involving prostate or seminal vesicles or bladder. One abnormal peri-rectal lymph node was also seen.



How would you stage this lesion using EUS?

- A. T2N0
- B. T3N1
- C. T2N1
- D. T3N0
- E. T4N1

**Answer: B**

The rectal cancer is staged as T3N1 based on the EUS performed in this patient. Invasion into perirectal fat is classified as T3. N staging depends on the number of regional lymph nodes involved. Enlargement of three or less lymph nodes is classified as N1.

### Reference:

Colon and rectum. In: Edge SB, Byrd DR, Compton CC, et al., eds.: AJCC Cancer Staging Manual. 7th ed. New York, NY: Springer, 2010, pp 143-64.