

status in cutaneous oncology prognostication, should further studies confirm these findings.

#### REFERENCES

1. Schwaederle M, Krishnamurthy N, Daniels GA, et al. Telomerase reverse transcriptase promoter alterations across cancer types as detected by next-generation sequencing: a clinical and molecular analysis of 423 patients. *Cancer*. 2018;124:1288-1296.
2. Heidenreich B, Kumar R. TERT promoter mutations in telomere biology. *Mutat Res*. 2017;771:15-31.
3. Kumar M, Lechel A, Güneş Ç. Telomerase: the devil inside. *Genes (Basel)*. 2016;7:E43.
4. Campos MA, Macedo S, Fernandes M, et al. TERT promoter mutations are associated with poor prognosis in squamous cell carcinoma. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2019; 80:660-669.e6.
5. Walton KE, Garfield EM, Zhang B, et al. The role of the TERT promoter mutations in differentiating recurrent nevi from recurrent melanomas: a retrospective, case-control study. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2019;80: 685-693.

---

## JAAD Game Changers: Multivariate analysis of potential risk factors for lymph node metastasis in patients with cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck



Eden Lake, MD  
Loyola University Medical Center

#### Capsule Summary

- Risk factors for metastasis from cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma are incorporated in tumor staging by the seventh edition of the American Joint Committee on Cancer - Cancer Staging Manual.
- We confirmed most risk factors and also identified moderate differentiation as a predictor for lymph node metastasis.
- Moderate differentiation can be considered in tumor staging.

#### How did this article change the practice of dermatology?

The independent risk factors for the development of lymph node metastasis in head and neck cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma include location on the ear, tumor diameter >50 mm, moderate and poor differentiation, and tumor thickness >2 mm. This article added moderate differentiation as a predictor for lymph node metastasis.<sup>1</sup>

Funding sources: None

Conflicts of interest: None disclosed

Accepted for publication October 25, 2018.

Correspondence to: Eden Lake, MD, Dermatology Division, Loyola University Medical Center, 321 N La Grange Rd, La Grange Park, IL 60526-5622. E-mail: [Eden.Lake@lumc.edu](mailto:Eden.Lake@lumc.edu).

© 2018 Published by Elsevier on behalf of the American Academy of Dermatology, Inc.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaad.2018.10.049>

#### REFERENCE

1. Haisma MS, Plaat BEC, Bijl HP, et al. Multivariate analysis of potential risk factors for lymph node metastasis in patients with cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck. *J Am Acad Dermatol*. 2016;75(4):722-730.