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Table 1a

UK- NICE recommendations	Risk of local recurrence		European-ESMO recommendations
A threatened (<1 mm) or breached resection margin or Low tumours encroaching onto the inter-sphincteric plane or Any levator involvement	High	Advanced disease	cT3 with any MRF involved or cT4b or levators threatened or lateral lymph node involvement
		Locally advanced disease	cT3c/d if very low rectal tumours, levators not threatened, MRF clear or cT3c/d mid or high rectal tumours, cN1-2 (extranodal) and EMVI positive
Any cT3b or greater, in which the potential surgical margin is not threatened or Any suspicious lymph node not threatening the surgical resection margin or The presence of extramural vascular invasion ^[a]	Moderate	Intermediate disease	cT3a/b if low rectal tumours with no involvement of levator muscles and MRF clear or cT3a/b mid or high rectal tumours, cN1-2 (not extranodal) and no EMVI
cT1 or cT2 or cT3a and No lymph node involvement	Low	Early disease	cT1 or cT2 or cT3a/b if middle or high rectal tumours, and No lymph node involvement and Not threatening the surgical resection margin and No EMVI

Table 1b

UK- NICE recommendations	Risk of local recurrence		European-ESMO recommendations
CRT and interval to TME	High	Advanced disease	CRT or SCPRT plus FOLFOX (and delay) and TME
CRT and interval to TME	Borderline high/ Moderate	Locally advanced disease	CRT or SCPRT and TME (or 'watch-and-wait' in high-risk patients if cCR achieved)
SCPRT then immediate TME	Moderate	Intermediate disease	TME alone or SCPRT/CRT if good quality mesorectal excision cannot be achieved
TME alone in most cases	Low	Early disease	TME alone in most cases or TEM, CRT or 'watch-and-wait' for high-risk patients or those rejecting TME