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Impact of using elastic stains for detection of venous invasion in the prognosis of patients with lymph node negative colorectal cancer

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Author(s) Baumhoer, Daniel; Thiesler, Thore; Maurer, Christoph A; Huber, Andreas; Cathomas, Gieri

Author(s) at UniBasel [Maurer, Christoph A.](#) ; [Cathomas, Gieri](#) ;

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Patients with nodal negative colorectal cancer (CRC) suffer recurrent or metastatic disease in 40% of cases after surgical resection. To investigate a potential prognostic impact of vascular tumor infiltration, we retrospectively analyzed 185 nodal negative stage I and II CRC specimens for the presence of intra- and/or extramural venous invasion (V1IM/V1EM) using elastic stains of all tumor sections and correlated our findings with the clinical follow-up.

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