Grades of bladder cancer

Grading your cancer

The grade is a measure of how aggressive the cancer is. We work out the grade of your cancer by taking a sample of tissue from your tumour and examining it under a microscope. The appearance of the cells tell us how aggressive the cancer is.

The different grades of cancer are:

- **G1** - Not aggressive (also known as low grade)
- **G2** - Moderately aggressive
- **G3** - Aggressive (also known as high grade)

Invasive bladder cancer

- Invasive bladder cancers are normally grade three

Non-muscle invasive bladder cancer

- **Low risk**: Cancers that are confined to the surface lining of the bladder (urothelium) and are not high grade are considered low-risk. This includes pTaG1 and pTaG2 tumours
- **High risk**: Cancers that are confined to the surface lining of the bladder (urothelium) or to the connective tissue layer (lamina propria) and are high grade are considered high-risk. This includes carcinoma in situ, pTaG3, pT1G2 and pT1G3 tumours, either singly or in combination.