

The prevalence of lymph node metastases in low-grade endometrial carcinoma

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Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

Conflict of interests

- None

Background

Surgical Pathologic Spread Patterns of Endometrial Cancer

A Gynecologic Oncology Group Study

WILLIAM T. CREASMAN, MD,* C. PAUL MORROW, MD,† BRIAN N. BUNDY, PhD,‡
HOWARD D. HOMESLEY, MD,§ JAMES E. GRAHAM, MD,|| AND PAUL B. HELLER, MD¶

Creasman et al. 1987, GOG-33



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- 43 institutions
- Central review
- Clinical stage I
- TAH, BSO, selective PLND + PALND+ peritoneal cytology
- n= 621 patients (1977-1983)

Creasman et al. 1987, GOG-33



Background

TABLE 4. Frequency of Nodal Metastasis Among Risk Factors

Risk factor	Pelvic		Aortic	
	No. (%)	Significance (p-value)	No. (%)	Significance (p-value)
Stage				
Ia (N = 346)	23 (7%)	0.01	11 (3%)	0.008
Ib (N = 275)	35 (13%)		23 (8%)	
Histology				
Adenocarcinoma (N = 459)	40 (9%)	0.8	21 (5%)	0.006
Adenocanthoma (N = 41)	4 (10%)		0 (0%)	
Adenosquamous (N = 99)	12 (12%)		9 (9%)	
Others (N = 99)	2 (9%)		4 (18%)	
Grade				
1 Well (N = 180)	5 (3%)	<0.0001	3 (2%)	<0.0007
2 Moderate (N = 288)	25 (9%)		14 (5%)	
3 Poor (N = 153)	28 (18%)		17 (11%)	
Myometrial Invasion				
Endometrial only (N = 87)	1 (1%)	<0.0001	1 (1%)	<0.0001
Superficial (N = 279)	15 (5%)		8 (3%)	
Middle (N = 116)	7 (6%)		1 (1%)	
Deep (N = 139)	35 (25%)		24 (17%)	
Peritoneal Cytology				
Negative (N = 537)	38 (7%)	<0.0001	20 (4%)	<0.0001
Positive (N = 75)	19 (25%)		14 (19%)	
Site of Tumor Location				
Fundus (N = 524)	42 (8%)	0.01	20 (4%)	0.0001
Isthmus-Cervix (N = 97)	16 (16%)		14 (14%)	
Adnexal Involvement				
Positive (N = 34)	11 (32%)	0.0001	7 (20%)	0.0003
Negative (N = 587)	47 (8%)		27 (5%)	
Other Extrauterine Metastasis				
Positive (N = 35)	18 (51%)	0.0001	8 (23%)	0.0001
Negative (N = 586)	40 (7%)		26 (4%)	
Capillary-Like Space Involvement				
Positive (N = 93)	21 (27%)	0.0001	15 (19%)	0.0001
Negative (N = 528)	37 (7%)		19 (9%)	
Menopausal status				
Premenopause (N = 58)	4 (7%)	0.6	1 (2%)	0.3
Postmenopause (N = 549)	54 (10%)		32 (6%)	

Creasman et al. 1987, GOG-33

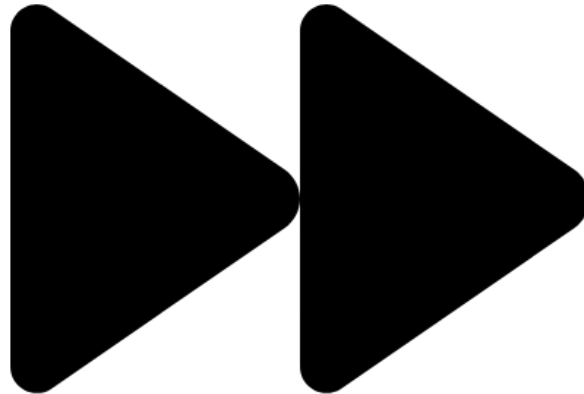
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Fast forward

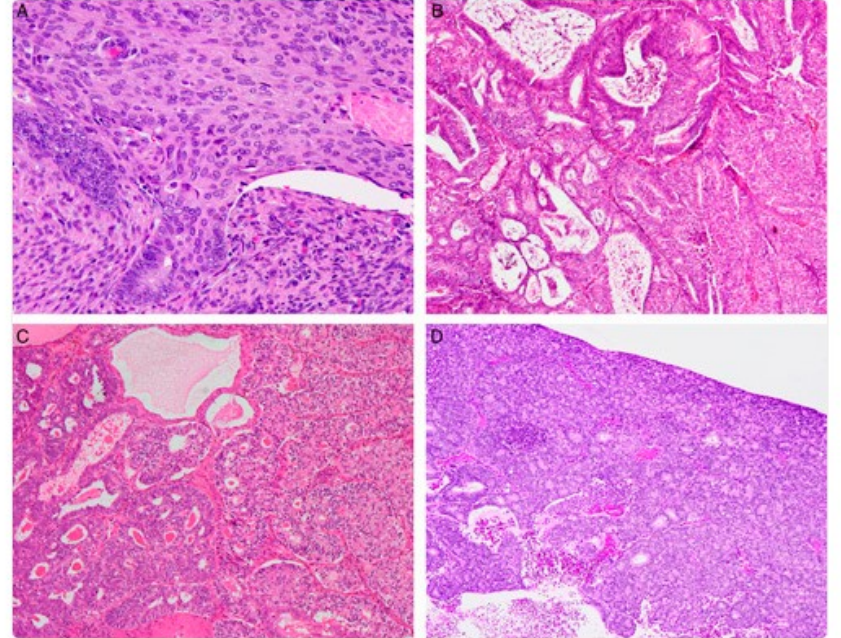


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from Noun Project



What is low-grade?

- Endometroid grade 1 and 2 = low-grade



Soslow et al. 2018

What is low risk?

- Low-grade ≠ low risk
- Endometroid grade 1 and 2 = low-grade
- Myoinvasion?
- LVSI?
- Molecular features?

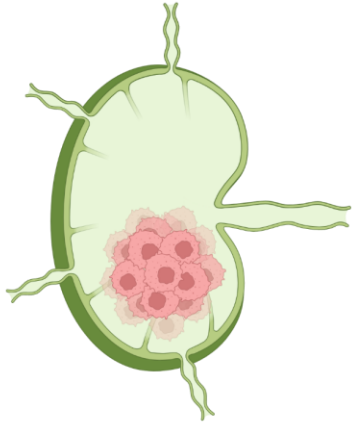
TABLE 8. **Determination of Risk Factors for Nodal Metastasis Using Multivariate Analysis**

Risk factor	Lymph node metastasis	
	Pelvic	Aortic
Low Risk (No moderate or high risk factors) Grade 1, endometrium only, no intraperitoneal disease	0/44 (0%)	0/44 (0%)
Moderate Risk (Inner mid invasion, Grade 2 or 3—no intraperitoneal disease)		
Only one factor	4/158 (3%)	3/158 (2%)
Both factors	15/268 (6%)	6/268 (2%)
High Risk (Intraperitoneal disease, deep myometrial invasion)		
Deep invasion only	21/116 (18%)	17/116 (15%)
Intraperitoneal disease only	4/12 (33%)	1/12 (8%)
Both	14/23 (61%)	7/23 (30%)

Creasman et al. 1987, GOG-33

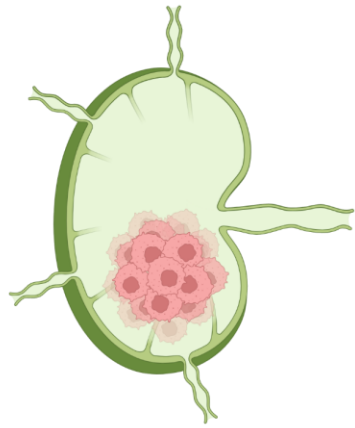
What is a metastasis?

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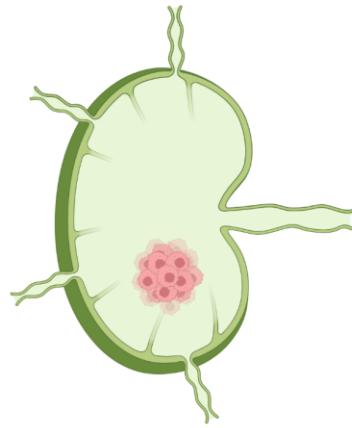


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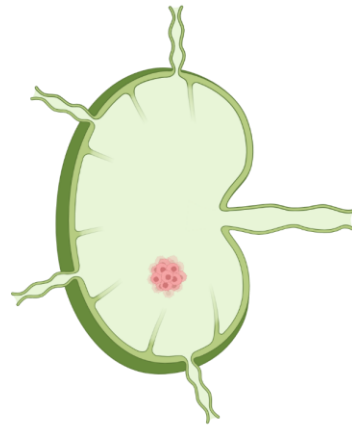
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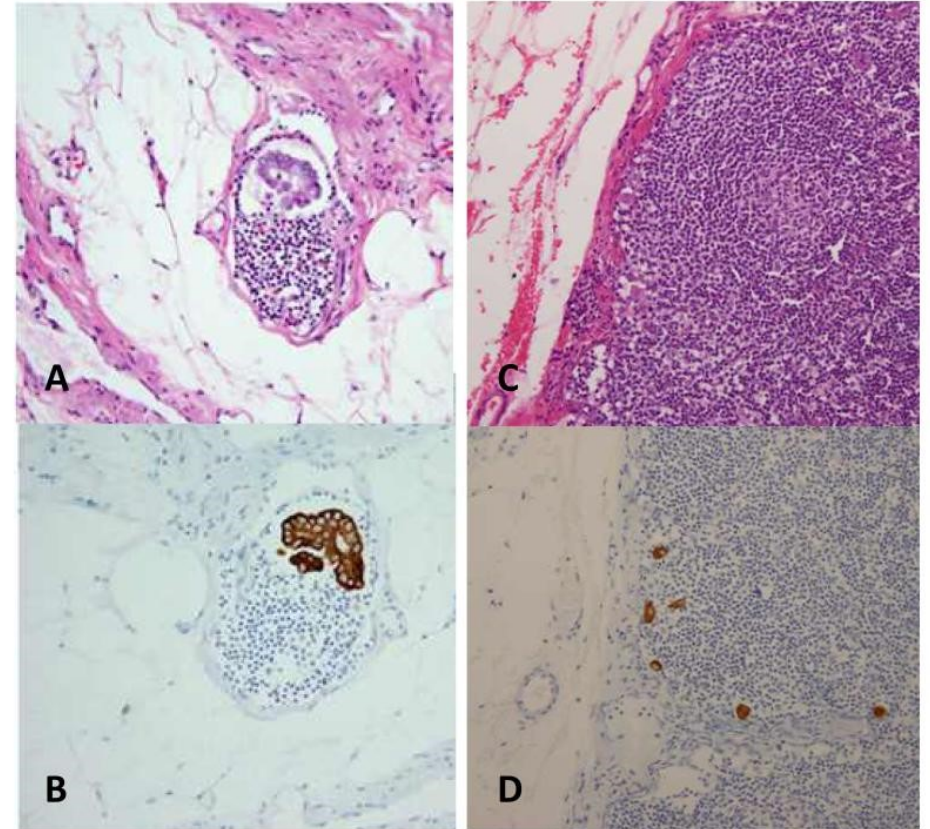
Macrometastasis:
>2mm



Micrometastasis:
≤2mm - >0.2mm

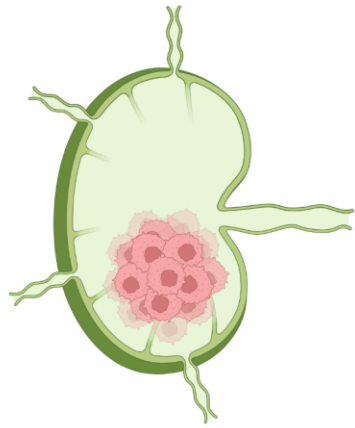


Isolated tumor cells (ITC):
a small cluster of cancer
cells with a diameter of no
greater than 0.2 mm or 200
cells

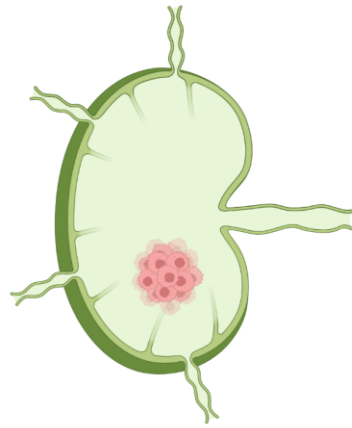


H&E stain vs immunohistochemistry

What is a metastasis?



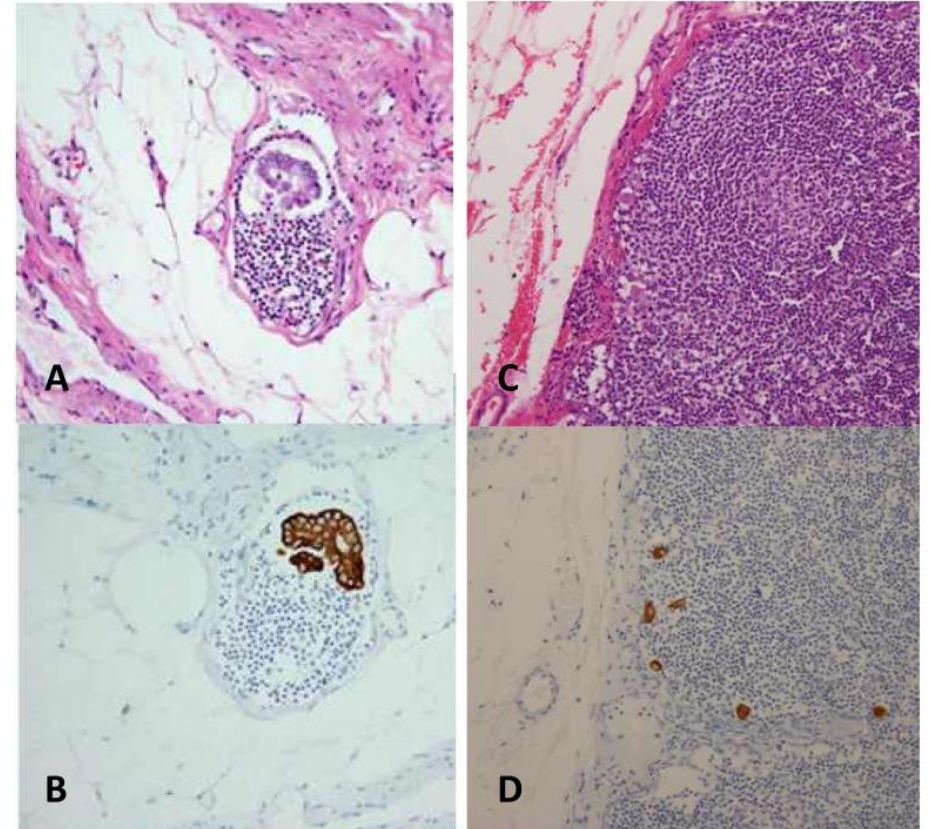
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H&E stain vs immunohistochemistry

Why is it important to know the lymph node status also in low-grade tumors?

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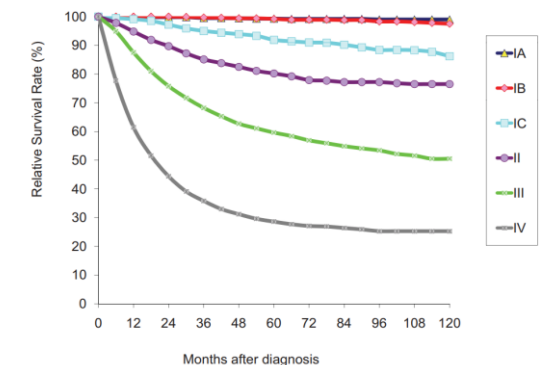
- Define risk groups
- Compare
- Allocate patients towards correct adjuvant therapy

Why is it important to know the lymph node status also in low-grade tumors?

- Define risk groups
- Compare
- Allocate patients towards correct adjuvant therapy
- Stage remains an important prognostic factor

- Role of ITCs remain unknown

Figure 15.1: Adenocarcinoma of the Corpus Uteri: Relative Survival Rate (%) by AJCC Stage (SEER modified 3rd edition), Ages 20+, 12 SEER Areas, 1988-2001



Cancer Survival Among Adults: U.S. SEER Program, 1988-2001

Sample

- Large, unselected population

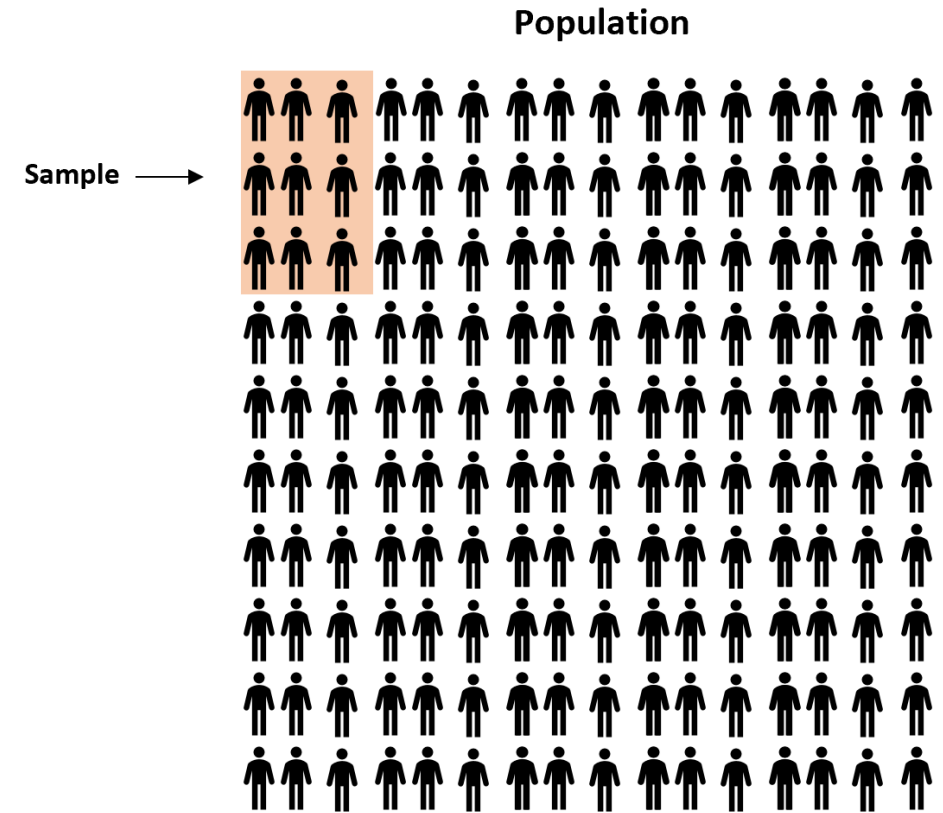


Image: statology.org

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Lymph node metastases in staged patients

Study	n	Metastatic nodes	G1/2 <50% MI	G1/2 ≥50% MI	Comment
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*Pelvic only

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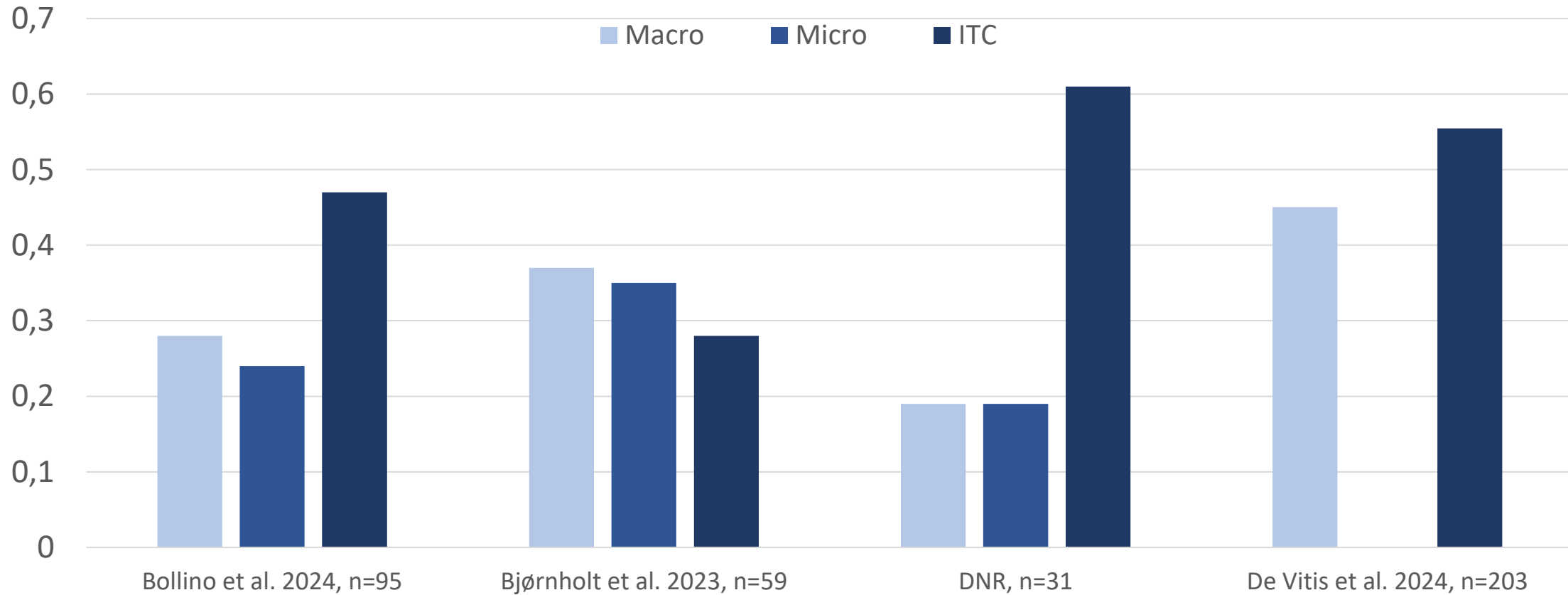
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De Vitis 2024	2094	4% (91/2094) 10% (212/2094)	2% (32/1770) 6% (99/1770)	18% (59/324) 34% (113/324)	Excl ITCs Incl ITCs

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Size of metastases



Conclusion

- The prevalence of macro- or micrometastases in low-grade endometrial carcinoma is 2-18% depending on myometrial invasion
- Including ITCs the prevalence is 6-34% depending on myometrial invasion

- To be established: the role of ITCs

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Thank you!



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