



Editorial Comment: Multiparametric Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Vesical Imaging-Reporting and Data System (VI-RADS) for Bladder Cancer Diagnosis and Staging: A Guide for Clinicians from the American College of Radiology VI-RADS Steering Committee

Valeria Panebianco ¹, Alberto Briganti ², Jason A Efstathiou ³, Samuel J Galgano ⁴, Lyndon Luk ⁵, Valdair F Muglia ⁶, et al.

¹ Department of Radiological Sciences, Oncology and Pathology, Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy; ² Unit of Urology/Division of Oncology, Urological Research Institute, IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Milan, Italy; ³ Department of Radiation Oncology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA; ⁴ Department of Radiology, University of Alabama at Birmingham Heersink School of Medicine, Birmingham, AL, USA; ⁵ Department of Radiology, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, NY, USA; ⁶ Department of Medical Images, Radiation Therapy, Oncology and Hematology, Ribeirao Preto Medical School, University of Sao Paulo, Ribeirao Preto, Brazil

Eur Urol. 2026 Jun;89(6):487-499

DOI: 10.1016/j.eururo.2025.10.010 | ACCESS: 41176432

Luciano A. Favorito ^{1, 2}

¹ Unidade de Pesquisa Urogenital - Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro - Uerj, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil; ² Serviço de Urologia, Hospital Federal da Lagoa, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil

COMMENT

Bladder cancer is one of the most common urologic cancers. This cancer has a high potential for aggression and about 1/3 of patients will be presented with muscle invasive disease, which is associated with a higher risk for metastatic disease. Treatment of the bladder cancer following transurethral resection will depend on the staging of the disease. Superficial tumors can be treated with intravesical therapy, whereas muscle-invasive tumors have conventional or robotic radical surgery as the treatment of choice (1-4).

The Vesical Imaging Reporting and Data System (VI-RADS), a scoring system emphasizing a standardized approach to multiparametric Magnetic Resonance Imaging (mpMRI) acquisition, has the purpose of to improve the diagnosis, staging and surveillance of patients with bladder cancer. mpMRI has been useful in the assessment of complete response after neoadjuvant chemotherapy and the response to immunotherapy (1).

In the paper of Panebianco (5), the authors show in a very interesting narrative review the importance of VI-RADS to bladder cancer diagnostic and therapeutic pathway. The authors show that mpMRI with VI-RADS improves the accuracy of preoperative staging, helps in

avoiding repeat transurethral resection of bladder tumor in selected non muscular invasive bladder cancer cases, and supports decision-making in muscle invasive bladder cancer in MRI-based pathways. The authors concluded that mpMRI, VI-RADS and nacVI-RADS represent essential tools for enhancing risk stratification and personalizing bladder cancer management in clinical urology practice. I congratulate the authors on the importance of this paper.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

REFERENCES

- Villoldo GM, Gonzalez MI, Faune AV, Molina RC, Montoya FM, Salcedo JGC, et al. Multicenter retrospective registry study on BCG use in non-muscle invasive bladder cancer in Latin America: BLATAM (Bladder Cancer in Latin America) Group. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2025;51(3):e20240615. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2024.0615
- Sighinolfi MC, Panio E, Calcagnile T, Assumma S, Gavi F, Sarchi L, et al. Radical cystectomy with elective indication to cutaneous ureterostomy: single-center comparative analysis between open and robotic surgery in frail patients. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2025;51(3):e20240556. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2024.0556
- Faria EF, Rodrigues A, Pompeo A, Fazoli A, Vaz C, Watanabe C, et al. Robot-assisted radical cystectomy: recommendations from Latin American experts consensus on surgical strategy, urinary reconstruction, and oncological and functional outcomes. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2026;52(6):e20260431. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2026.0431
- de Araújo Neto FJ, de Sousa FRC, Aggensteiner CR, de Melo GBJ, das Chagas PAS, de Queiroz TS, et al. New evidence on an old question: a meta-analysis of Wallace versus Bricker anastomoses. *Int Braz J Urol.* 2025;51(5):e20250100. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2025.0100
- Panebianco V, Briganti A, Efstathiou JA, Galgano S, Luk L, Muglia VF, et al. Multiparametric magnetic resonance imaging and vesical imaging-reporting and data system (VI-RADS) for bladder cancer diagnosis and staging: a guide for clinicians from the American College of Radiology VI-RADS Steering Committee. *Eur Urol.* 2026;89(4):487-499. doi: 10.1016/j.eururo.2025.10.022

ARTICLE INFO



Luciano A. Favorito

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1562-6068>

Submitted for publication:
June 10, 2026

Accepted:
July 15, 2026

Published as Ahead of Print:
July 08, 2026

Correspondence address:

Luciano A. Favorito, MD, PhD

Unidade de Pesquisa Urogenital
da Universidade do Estado de Rio de Janeiro - UERJ,
Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil
E-mail: lufavorito@yahoo.com.br

Editor in Chief
Luciano Alves Favorito

Associate Editor
Luciano Alves Favorito

Data Availability
Data Not Provided