Table 18.4 Staging of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL).

(a) Rai classification

Stage

C (<20%)

Absolute lymphocytosis >15 × 10⁹/L⁺

As stage 0 + enlarged lymph nodes (adenopathy)

II As stage 0 + enlarged liver and/or spleen ± adenopathy

III As stage 0 + anaemia (Hb <10.0 g/dL)⁺ ± adenopathy ± organomegaly

IV As stage 0 + thrombocytopenia (platelets $< 100 \times 10^9 / \text{L}$) $+ \pm \text{adenopathy} \pm \text{organomegaly}$

(b) International Working Party classification

Not considered

Stage A (50–60%)	Organ enlargement*	Haemoglobin⁺ (g/dL)	Platelets [†] (\times 10 9 /L)
	0, 1 or 2 areas		
B (30%)	3, 4 or 5 areas	≥10	≥100

<10

and/or <100

Source: (b) Binet J.L. et al. (1981) Cancer 48, 198.

^{*} One area = lymph nodes >1 cm in neck, axillae, groins or spleen, or liver enlargement.

[†] Secondary causes of anaemia (e.g. iron deficiency) or autoimmune haemolytic anaemia or autoimmune thrombocytopenia must be treated before staging.