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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Iron-deficient patients** | **Stage 3a****n=14** | **Stage 3b****n=32** | **Stage 4****n=44** | **Stage 5****n=17** | ***p*a** |
| Without iron | 0 (0%) | 3 (9.4%) | 9 (20.5%) | 1 (5.9%) | 0.0420 |
| With iron | 7 (50%) | 14 (43.8%) | 22 (50%) | 14 (82.4%) |
| Not specified | 7 (50%) | 15 (46.9%) | 13 (29.5%) | 2 (11.8%) |