## Supplementary Table 1. Patient and tumor related characteristics in the surgery-alone and nCRT group before propensity score matching in EC patients treated between 2000-2015 (n=395).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Surgery-alone (*n*=222)**  **No. (%)** | **nCRT (*n*=173)**  **No. (%)** | ***P* value** |
| Male | 179 (80.6%) | 138 (79.8%) | 0.831*a* |
| Age in years; median (IQR) | 66 (59-71) | 63 (57-68) | 0.001*b* |
| Histology  Adenocarcinoma  Squamous cell carcinoma | 188 (84.7%)  34 (15.3%) | 150 (86.7%)  23 (13.3%) | 0.571*a* |
| Tumor location  Middle esophagus  Distal esophagus  GEJ | 23 (10.4%)  160 (72.1%)  39 (17.6%) | 15 (8.7%)  126 (72.8%)  32 (18.5%) | 0.842*a* |
| Tumor length (cm); median (IQR) | 5 (2-7) | 5 (4-7) | 0.011*b* |
| cT-stage  T1  T2  T3/T4a | 30 (13.5%)  37 (16.7%)  155 (69.8%) | 1 (0.6%)  27 (15.6%)  145 (83.8%) | <0.001*a* |
| cN-stage  N0  N1  N2  N3 | 112 (50.5%)  78 (35.1%)  28 (12.6%)  4 (1.8%) | 36 (20.8%)  68 (39.3%)  61 (35.3%)  8 (4.6%) | <0.001*a* |
| pT-stage  T0  T1  T2  T3/T4 | 0 (0.0%)  36 (16.2%)  49 (22.1%)  137 (61.7%) | 30 (17.3%)  26 (15.0%)  27 (15.6%)  90 (52.0%) | <0.001*a* |
| pN-stage  N0  N1  N2  N3 | 82 (36.9%)  63 (28.4%)  46 (20.7%)  31 (14.0%) | 109 (63.0%)  38 (22.0%)  18 (10.4%)  8 (4.6%) | <0.001*a* |
| R1-resection | 22 (9.9%) | 9 (5.2%) | 0.084*a* |
| Perineural growth | 57 (25.8%) | 37 (21.6%) | 0.034*a* |
| Lymph-angioinvasion | 72 (32.9%) | 41 (24.0%) | 0.055*a* |
| Number of resected LN; median (IQR) | 14 (9-18) | 16 (12-22) | <0.001*b* |
| Number of positive LN; median (IQR) | 1 (0-4) | 0 (0-1) | <0.001*b* |
| Lymph node ratio >0.2 | 80 (36.4%) | 24 (13.9%) | <0.001*a* |
| Follow-up in months; median (IQR) | 22.3 (11.0-48.0) | 19.5 (10.4-40.9) | 0.044*b* |

*Abbreviations: nCRT=neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy, IQR=interquartile range, GEJ=gastroesophageal junction, pretreatment staging: cT=clinical tumor stage, cN=clinical nodal stage, pT=pathological tumor stage, pN=pathological nodal stage, LN=lymph node, R1=microscopic positive resection margin. a=Chi-square test, b= Mann-Whitney U test, c=likelihood ratio. \*=difference in pCR between adenocarcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma.*