**Table S3. Correlation analysis between the expression of MAEL and clinicopathological parameters in ESCC patients.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variables** | **All cases** | **MAEL** | ***P*ab** |
|  |  | **Low-expression** | **High-expression** |  |
| **Tissue types** |  |  |  |  |
| Marginal | 120  | 62  | 58  | 0.0024  |
| Tumor | 120  | 62  | 58  |  |
| **Lymph node metastasis** |  |  |  |  |
| 0  | 79  | 53  | 26  | 0.0076  |
| 1  | 41  | 9  | 32  |  |
| **Stage** |  |  |  |  |
| stage 0-2 | 79  | 52  | 27  | 0.0398  |
| stage 3-4 | 41  | 10  | 31  |  |
| **Age** |  |  |  |  |
| ≤60years | 47  | 22  | 25  | 0.7312  |
| >60years | 73  | 40  | 33  |  |
| **Gender** |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 79  | 39  | 40  | 0.3913  |
| Female | 41  | 23  | 18  |  |
| **Differentiation** |  |  |  |  |
| Ⅰ | 36  | 21  | 15  | 0.0378  |
| Ⅱ+Ⅲ | 84  | 41  | 43  |  |
| **Size** |  |  |  |  |
| ≤3cm | 71  | 50  | 21  | 0.0338  |
| ＞3cm | 49  | 12  | 37  |  |

a *P* values for comparing clinicopathological parameters in MAEL low-expression

group verus high-expression group.

b*P*<0.05 is considered significant.