**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.