

Supplementary Table S2. PPAR γ status in ESCC and patient mortality.

Factors	n	Disease-free survival		Cancer-specific survival	
		Univariate HR ^{*1} (95%CI ^{*2})	Multivariate HR (95%CI)	Univariate HR (95%CI)	Multivariate HR (95%CI)
PPAR γ -negative	109	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)	1 (Reference)
PPAR γ -positive	36	0.408 (0.173 – 0.967) P=0.042	0.389 (0.161 – 0.940) P=0.036	0.338 (0.119 – 0.961) P=0.042	0.339 (0.117 – 0.983) P=0.046

The statistically correlation between all pairs of the patients background was checked and a strong correlation (Spearman's rank correlation coefficients $\rho=0.847$ was observed between the pN and TMN classification and the other pairs were not observed a strong correlation ($\rho>0.700$). We performed multivariate Cox regression analysis to compute a HR according to male sex, age ≥ 65 , location (Ce, Ut or Mt), pT (pT3), the present of lymph node metastasis, lymphatic invasion and vascular invasion. Backward stepwise regression (likelihoods methods) with a threshold of $P=0.20$ was used to select variables in the final model. Ce; Cervical esophagus, Ut; upper thoracic esophagus, Mt; middle thoracic esophagus.

*¹ Hazard ratio, *² Confidence interval.