**Supplementary Table 1** Baseline clinico-pathological characteristics from patients included versus not included in the ctDNA analysis

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **No ctDNA subset****(N=118)** | **ctDNA****subset****(N=62)** | **Total (N=180)** | **P value** |
| **Age**, median [range]  | 62 (32-75) | 62 (33-75) | 62 (32-75) | 0.707 |
| **Gender**, male, n (%) | 78 (66.1%) | 40 (64.5%) | 118 (65.6%) | 0.832 |
| **Treatment**, n (%) |  |  |  |  |
| mFOLFOX6 + Aflibercept | 79 (66.9%) | 36 (58.1%) | 115 (63.9%) | 0.238 |
| mFOLFOX6 | 39 (33.1%) | 26 (41.9%) | 65 (36.1%) |  |
| **cT stage**, n (%) |  |  |  |  |
| T2 | 0 (0.0%) | 1 (1.6%) | 1 (0.6%) | 0.085 |
| T3 | 83 (70.9%) | 44 (72.1%) | 127 (71.3%) |  |
| T4 | 34 (29.1%) | 16 (26.2%) | 50 (28.1%) |  |
| Missing | 1 | 1 | 2 |  |
| **cN stage**, n (%) |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 36 (30.5%) | 19 (30.6%) | 55 (30.6%) | 0.111 |
| 2 | 82 (69.5%) | 43 (69.4%) | 125 (69.4%) |  |
| **Tumor Location**, n (%) |  |  |  |  |
| Middle | 89 (75.4%) | 44 (71.0%) | 133 (73.9%) | 0.593 |
| Distal | 29 (24.6%) | 18 (29.0%) | 47 (26.1%) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **CEA basal**, median [range] | 4.2 (0.4 - 185.7) | 3.7 (0.5 - 115.5) | 3.8 (0.4- 185.7) | 0.246 |
| **ypT stage**, n (%) |  |  |  | 0.194 |
| ypT0 | 27 (25.7%) | 8 (13.3%) | 35 (21.2%) |  |
| ypTis | 3 (2.9%) | 2 (3.3%) | 5 (3.0%) |  |
| ypT1 | 7 (6.7%) | 3 (5.0%) | 10 (6.1%) |  |
| ypT2 | 26 (24.8%) | 15 (25.0%) | 41 (24.8%) |  |
| ypT3 | 39 (37.1%) | 30 (50.0%) | 69 (41.8%) |  |
| ypT4 | 3 (2.9%) | 2 (3.3%) | 5 (3.0%) |  |
| Missing | 13  | 2  | 15  |  |
| **ypN stage**, n (%) |  |  |  | 0.928 |
| 0 | 82 (78.1%) | 43 (71.7%) | 125 (75.8%) |  |
| 1 | 11 (10.5%) | 12 (20.0%) | 23 (13.9%) |  |
| 2 | 12 (11.4%) | 5 (8.3%) | 17 (10.3%) |  |
| Missing | 13 | 2 | 15 |  |
| **Path. response**, n (%) |  |  |  | 0.061 |
| pCR | 27 (25.7%) | 8 (13.3%) | 35 (21.2%) |  |
| Residual disease | 78 (74.3%) | 52 (86.7%) | 130 (78.8%) |  |
| Missing | 13 | 2 | 15 |  |
| **NAR**, median [range] | 8.4 (0 - 65) | 8.4 (0-50.4) | 8.4(0 - 65) | 0.393 |
| **NAR,** n (%) |  |  |  |  |
| Low | 36 (30.5%) | 12 (19.4%) | 48 (26.7%) | 0.273 |
| Medium | 58 (49.2%) | 35 (56.5%) | 93 (51.7%) |  |
| High | 24 (20.3%) | 15 (24.2%) | 39 (21.7%) |  |
| **CEA pre-op**, median [range] | 1.4 (0.2-81.3) | 1.4 (0.3-7.6) | 1.4 (0.2-81.3) | 0.249 |
| **Recurrence**, yes (%) | 31 (26.3%) | 12 (19.4%) | 43 (23.9%) | 0.301 |
| **Death**, yes (%) | 14 (11.9%) | 5 (8.1%) | 19 (10.6%) | 0.430 |