

**Supplementary Table S3:** Adjusted Cox regression modeling of NND\*.

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>p-value</b>	<b>DSS</b>	
				<b>HR</b>	<b>CI</b>
NND by number	$\geq 1$	8	0.074	2.75	(0.91, 8.34)
	$< 1$	69	ref.	1.0	
NND by area	$\geq 1$	7	0.325	1.83	(0.55, 6.11)
	$< 1$	70	ref.	1.0	

\* Adjusted for tumor clinical stage (AJCC 7<sup>th</sup> edition), differentiation, and comorbidities.

HR = hazard ratio

CI = 95% confidence interval

IND and NND values were log-transformed to fit the model