

Appendix 6. Multivariable analysis of **overall survival** in 891 patients with cT3-4 rectal cancer  $\leq 8$ cm from the anorectal junction, who were treated with neoadjuvant radiotherapy (short course or chemoradiotherapy). Lateral lymph nodes were included in the analysis based on visibility on primary staging MRI, and stratified for short-axis diameter with a cut-off value of 7mm.

Variable	No.	Univariable analysis			Multivariable analysis		
		HR	95% CI	P	HR	95% CI	P
<b>Enlarged (<math>\geq 7</math>mm) LLN</b>				<b>0.074</b>			0.623
No LLN	607	1			1		
$\geq 7$ mm	122	1.506	1.053-2.153		1.183	0.806-1.734	
$< 7$ mm	162	1.021	0.709-1.470		0.955	0.660-1.381	
<b>Gender</b>				0.696			
Male	581	1					
Female	310	1.058	0.797-1.404				
<b>Age in years</b>				<b>&lt;0.001</b>			<b>&lt;0.001</b>
$< 55$	50	1			1		
55-75	472	0.853	0.427-1.702		0.964	0.480-1.936	
75+	369	2.109	1.072-4.151		2.474	1.241-4.934	
<b>Neoadjuvant radiotherapy</b>				0.296			
5x5	338	1					
CRT	553	0.863	0.654-1.138				
<b>Clinical T stage</b>				<b>&lt;0.001</b>			<b>0.002</b>
T3a	174	1			1		
T3b	287	1.264	0.782-2.043		1.340	0.823-2.180	
T3c	221	1.861	1.158-2.990		1.709	1.044-2.798	
T3d	56	3.201	1.804-5.680		2.501	1.357-4.608	
T4a	53	2.920	1.608-5.304		2.327	1.239-4.369	
T4b	100	3.443	2.076-5.710		2.829	1.617-4.949	
<b>Mesorectal clinical N stage</b>				0.254			
N0	183	1					
N1	400	0.743	0.523-1.057				
N2	308	0.841	0.586-1.207				
<b>Extramural venous invasion (mrEMVI)</b>				<b>0.033</b>			0.552
Absent	577	1			1		
Present	314	1.351	1.025-1.782		1.098	0.806-1.496	
<b>Tumor deposits</b>				<b>0.001</b>			0.062
Absent	748	1			1		
Present	143	1.735	1.257-2.396		1.394	0.983-1.977	
<b>Surgery*</b>				<b>0.001</b>			0.060
Sphincter non-sparing	340	1			1		
Sphincter sparing	551	0.641	0.488-0.841		0.754	0.562-1.012	
<b>Margin status</b>				<b>&lt;0.001</b>			<b>&lt;0.001</b>
R0	823	1			1		
R1	68	3.614	2.519-5.185		2.285	1.556-3.356	