## **Supplementary Information**

## Prognostic Impact of Signet Ring Cell Type in Node Negative Gastric Cancer

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**Supplemental Table 1.** Additional comparison of clinicopathologic characteristics between SRC and non-SRC LNs negative gastric cancer patients.

**Supplemental Table 2.** Comparison of clinicopathologic characteristics between excluded and enrolled LNs negative gastric cancer patients.

**Supplemental Table 3.** First site and the timing of recurrence (n = 98).

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**Supplemental Figure 1.** Kaplan-Meier survival curves comparing years of overall survival between diffuse and non-diffuse LNs negative gastric cancer patients.

**Supplemental Figure 2.** Kaplan-Meier survival curves comparing years of relapse-free survival between diffuse and non-diffuse LNs negative gastric cancer patients.

**Supplemental Figure 3.** Distribution of the number of lymph nodes examined for the entire cohort of 556 patients.

**Supplemental Figure 4.** Hematoxylin and eosin stain of different histologic type gastric carcinoma.

	SRC		Non-SRC		
Variable	No. of	%	No. of	%	P
	<b>Patients</b>		Patients		
	(n=90)		(n=390)		
Tumor location	,				
Upper stomach	20	22.2	131	33.6	0.044
Non-upper stomach	70	77.8	259	66.4	
AJCC stage					
2	29	32.2	85	21.8	0.040
1 + 3	61	67.8	305	78.2	
AJCC stage					
1	48	53.3	275	70.5	0.003
2 + 3	42	46.7	115	29.5	
Tumor stage					
$T_2$	27	30.0	64	16.4	0.004
Non-T <sub>2</sub>	63	70.0	326	83.6	
Tumor stage					
$T_3$	29	32.2	85	21.8	0.040
Non-T <sub>3</sub>	61	67.8	305	78.2	
Tumor stage					
$T_{1a}$	16	17.8	185	47.4	< 0.001
Non-T <sub>1a</sub>	74	82.2	205	52.6	

Abbreviation: SRC, Signet Ring Cell Carcinoma. AJCC, American Joint Committee on Cancer, 7th edition.

**Supplemental Table 1.** Additional comparison of clinicopathologic characteristics between SRC and non-SRC LNs negative gastric cancer patients.

	Excluded		Enrolled			
Variable	No. of	%	No. of	%	P	
	Patients		<b>Patients</b>			
	(n=76)		(n=480)			
Age, years						
Mean	57		56.2		0.442	
SD	11.0	5	12	12.3		
Sex					0.687	
Men	55	72.4	333	69.4		
Women	21	27.6	147	30.6		
Tumor location					0.601	
Upper stomach	31	40.8	221	46.0		
Middle stomach	23	30.2	111	23.1		
Lower stomach	17	22.3	114	23.8		
Overlapping	5	6.6	34	7.1		
AJCC stage					0.347	
1	45	59.2	321	66.9		
2	21	27.6	116	24.2		
3	10	13.2	43	8.9		
Tumor grade					0.221	
1	32	42.1	216	45		
2	23	30.3	172	35.8		
3	21	27.6	92	19.2		
Tumor stage					0.129	
${ m T_{1a}}$	22	28.9	201	41.9		
$T_{1b}$	8	10.5	31	6.5		
$T_2$	18	23.7	91	19.0		
$T_3$	17	22.4	114	23.8		
$T_4$	11	14.5	43	8.9		
Perineural invasion			-		0.263	
Negative	48	63.2	268	55.8		
Positive	28	36.8	212	44.2		
Vascular invasion		20.0			0.186	
Negative	63	82.9	425	88.5	0.100	
Positive	13	17.1	55	11.5		
Number of retrieved LNs	10	-/		11.0	0.110	
<15	4	5.3	10	2.1	3.113	
≥15	72	94.7	470	97.9		
Chemotherapy	, _	, · · · ·	., 0	, , , , ,	0.585	
Yes	24		135		0.505	
No	52		345			

Abbreviation: AJCC, American Joint Committee on Cancer. 7th edition, LNs Lymph Nodes.

**Supplemental Table 2.** Comparison of clinicopathologic characteristics between excluded and enrolled LNs negative gastric cancer patients.

	SRC				Non-SRC			
	1	No. of Patients			No. of Patients			
		(n=37)			(n=71)			
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late	Total		
Liver	14	1	15	15	5	20	0.207	
Locoregional	3	1	4	1	3	4	0.486	
Peritoneum	2	1	3	8	1	9	0.455	
Distant LNs	6	0	6	12	4	16	0.541	
Mixed type	8	1	9	14	8	22	0.220	
Total	33	4	37	50	21	71	0.032	

Early: within 2 years after surgery (≤2 years). Late: 4 years later after surgery (≥4 years). Mixed type: liver or Peritoneum or locoregional and distant lymph node metastasis. LNs: lymph nodes

**Supplemental Table 3.** First site and the timing of recurrence (n = 108).

		SRC				Non-SRC			
		No. of Patients				No. of Patients			
		(n=49)				(n=99)			
	Early	Late	Middle	Total	Early	Late	Middle	Total	
Liver	14	1	6	21	15	5	15	35	
Locoregional	3	1	3	7	1	3	3	7	
Peritoneum	2	1	1	4	8	1	2	11	
Distant LNs	6	0	1	7	12	4	4	20	
Mixed type	8	1	1	10	14	8	4	26	
Total	33	4	12	49	48	21	28	99	

Early: within 2 years after surgery (≤2 years). Late: 4 years later after surgery (≥4 years). Middle: Between 2 and 4 years. Mixed type: liver or Peritoneum or locoregional and distant lymph node metastasis. LNs: lymph nodes.

**Supplemental Table 4.** Total first site and the timing of recurrence (n = 148).

Characteristic	Hazard Ratio	95% CI	P
SRC histology	1.13	0.70 to 1.85	0.612
Age at diagnosis	1.03	1.01 to 1.04	0.006
Female sex	1.65	1.04 to 3.09	0.022
AJCC stage			
1	1.00		< 0.001
2	2.64	1.64 to 4.24	
3	3.70	2.40 to 5.72	
Tumor stage			
$T_{1a}$	1.00		< 0.001
$T_3$	2.15	1.21 to 3.16	
$T_4$	3.09	1.54 to 6.19	
Perineural invasion	1.64	1.14 to 2.36	0.008
Vascular invasion	1.32	0.84 to 2.08	0.230
Chemotherapy	1.77	1.14 to 2.74	0.011

Abbreviation: SRC, Signet Ring Cell Carcinoma. AJCC, American Joint Committee on Cancer, 7th edition.

**Supplemental Table 5.** Multivariate analyses of prognostic factors for overall survival.

Characteristic	Hazard Ratio	95% CI	P
SRC histology	2.37	1.42 to 4.26	0.033
Age at diagnosis	1.03	1.02 to 1.05	< 0.001
AJCC stage			
1	1.00		< 0.001
2	2.04	1.12 to 4.26	
3	3.89	2.59 to 5.84	
Tumor stage			
$T_{1a}$	1.00		< 0.001
$T_3$	2.88	2.04 to 4.21	
$T_4$	5.34	3.63 to 8.48	< 0.001
Perineural invasion	1.39	0.98 to 1.98	0.067
Vascular invasion	2.16	1.41 to 3.30	< 0.001
Chemotherapy	1.05	0.70 to 1.59	0.802

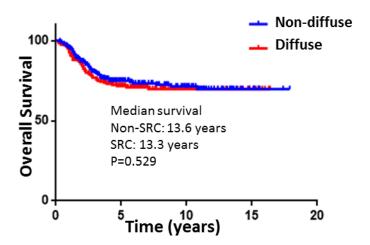
Abbreviation: SRC, Signet Ring Cell Carcinoma. AJCC, American Joint Committee on Cancer, 7th edition.

Supplemental Table 6. Multivariate analyses of prognostic factors for relapse-free survival.

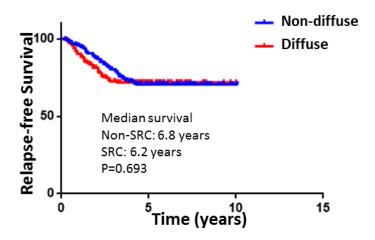
-	Diffuse		Non-dffuse		
Variable	No. of	%	No. of	%	P
	<b>Patients</b>		<b>Patients</b>		
	(n=167)		(n=269)		
Age, years					
Mean	56.8	56.8 57.7		7	0.448
SD	12.3	3	11.	0	
Sex					
Men	122	73.1	194	72.1	0.832
Women	45	26.9	75	27.9	
Tumor location					
Upper stomach	57	34.1	80	29.7	0.716
Middle stomach	44	26.3	74	27.5	
Lower stomach	50	29.9	82	30.5	
Overlapping	16	9.6	33	12.3	
AJCC stage					
1	107	64.1	183	68.0	0.112
2	39	23.3	68	25.3	
3	21	12.6	18	6.7	
Number of retrieved LNs					
<15	11	6.6	16	5.9	0.839
≥15	156	93.4	253	94.1	
Chemotherapy					
Yes	52	31.1	71	26.4	0.325
No	115	68.9	198	73.6	

Abbreviation: SRC, Signet Ring Cell Carcinoma. SD, Standard Deviation. AJCC, American Joint Committee on Cancer, 7th edition, LNs, Lymph Nodes.

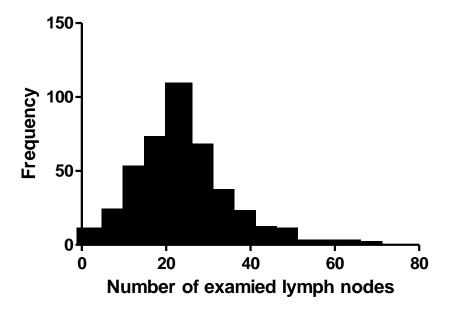
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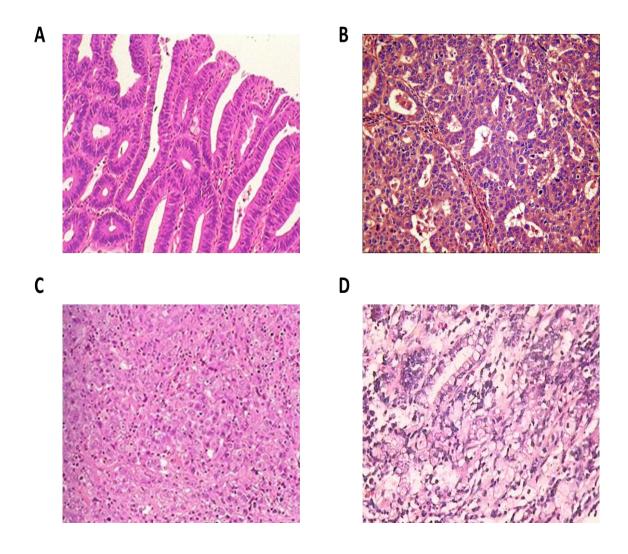
**Supplemental Figure 1.** Kaplan-Meier survival curves comparing years of overall survival between diffuse and non-diffuse LNs negative gastric cancer patients.



**Supplemental Figure 2.** Kaplan-Meier survival curves comparing years of relapse-free survival between diffuse and non-diffuse LNs negative gastric cancer patients.



**Supplemental Figure 3.** Distribution of the number of lymph nodes examined for the entire cohort of 556 patients.



**Supplemental Figure 4.** Hematoxylin and eosin stain of different histologic type gastric carcinoma. (A) Grade 1 gastric carcinoma, (B) Grade 2 gastric carcinoma, (C) Grade 3 gastric carcinoma, (D) Signet ring cell gastric carcinoma.