

Supplementary Table 4: Subgroup analysis of biochemical recurrence-free survival

	Number of included articles	Number of cases	Pooled HR (95% CI)	ES	Heterogeneity	P (het)	Publication bias	
					I ² (%)		Begg's P	Egger's P
Region								
Asian	8	1625	1.479 (1.139–1.921) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=2.94 P=0.003	32.2	0.171	0.108	0.405
Other	13	6818	2.322 (1.771–3.043) Random, (inverse variance)	Z=6.10 P<0.001	62.9	0.001	0.035	0.058
Number of patients								
<200	8	998	2.590 (1.539–4.360) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=3.58 P=0.000	69.2	0.002	0.386	0.209
200–500	8	2771	2.219 (1.454–3.387) Random, (inverse variance)	Z=3.69 P=0.000	63.7	0.007	0.902	0.757
>500	5	4872	1.582 (1.281–1.953) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=4.27 P=0.000	0.0	0.963	-	-
Pathologic N stage								
pN–	4	1016	2.493 (1.471–4.224) Random, (inverse variance)	Z=3.39 P=0.001	69.1	0.021	-	-
pN+	1	116	1.9 (1.1–3.5)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Median follow-up								
≤24 months	4	897	3.645 (2.091–6.353) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=4.56 P=0.000	19.0	0.295	-	-
24–36 months	3	3173	1.442 (1.059–1.965) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=2.32 P=0.020	43.5	0.170	-	-
>36 months	12	4048	2.031 (1.536–2.685) Random, (inverse variance)	Z=4.97 P=0.000	64.3	0.001	0.902	0.511
LVI independent predictor?								
No	9	4519	1.374 (1.088–1.734) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=2.67 P=0.008	0.0	0.598	0.536	0.496
Yes	12	3924	2.618 (1.953–3.509) Random, (inverse variance)	Z=6.44 P=0.000	63.3	0.002	0.019	0.038
Definition of BCR								
PSA≥0.1	3	2075	1.765 (1.353–2.301) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=4.19 P=0.000	0.0	0.623	-	-
PSA≥0.2	14	4926	2.311 (1.610–3.318) Random, (inverse variance)	Z=4.54 P=0.000	70.2	0.000	0.902	0.544
PSA≥0.4	4	1442	1.691 (1.252–2.285) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=3.43 P=0.001	0.0	0.733	-	-
Stain method								
HE	9	5192	1.776 (1.483–2.128) Fix, (inverse variance)	Z=6.23 P=0.000	35.9	0.131	0.386	0.117
IHC and HE	1	412	4.39 (2.47–7.8)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

PSA: prostate-specific antigen; BCR: biochemical recurrences; HE: hematoxylin and eosin; IHC: immunohistochemistry; HR: hazard ratio; CI: confidence interval; LVI: lymphovascular invasion; ES: effect size; NA: not available