

Supp. Data 2. Relation between the numer of circulating tumor cells (CTCs) and serum tumor markers and disease stage (UICC guidelines). A, Number of CTCs per 3 mL blood. B, Cytology performed on filters showing representive images of CTCs or CTMs (circulating tumor microemboli) for patient 5 and patient 8, respectively. Hematoxylin & Eosin staining. C, Serum concentration of the tumor markers CEA and D, CA19.9 (normal levels of CEA < 5 μ g/L and of CA19.9, 37 kU/L). Statistics were performed by the Kruskal-Wallis test followed by a multiple comparaison test with significance α <0,05 (*) or <0,01 (**).