## Genome-wide screening of DNA methylation associated with lymph node metastasis in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma

## SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES AND TABLES











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**Supplementary Figure 1: Screening epigenetic biomarkers for prediction of the presence of LNM in primary ESCC cases using the Illumina Infinium HumanMethylation450 BeadChip. (A)** Raw data from DNA methylation analysis of 67 paired ESCC samples using the Illumina HumanMethylation450 BeadChip. One pixel in this matrix represents the beta value, which ranges from 0 to 1. As shown in the lower right panel, red boxes (beta value=1) represent hypermethylation, and green (beta value=0) represents hypomethylation. In each row, samples were ordered by LNM status according to the UICC 7<sup>th</sup> version. The numbers next to "N stage" indicate the number of samples. In each sequence, the array probes were ordered by the Illumina probe ID. (B) The heat map showing the delta beta values calculated from the raw *HOXB2* gene and the formula indicated on the lower middle panel. As shown in the lower right panel, boxes indicate hypermethylation (dark blue; delta beta value=1) and hypomethylation (white; delta beta value=-1).



Supplementary Figure 2: Analysis of DNA methylation of each candidate gene in the 67 ESCC patients of the discovery cohort. Comparison of methylation status between paired normal and tumor tissues. Mann-Whitney *U*-test was used for analysis.



Supplementary Figure 3: Analysis of DNA methylation of each candidate gene in the 93 ESCC patients in TCGA database. Comparison of methylation status between tissues with LNM positive and negative patients with ESCC. The data was downloaded from TCGA database. *Welch t-test* was used for analysis.

|                               |          | Ν  | %     |
|-------------------------------|----------|----|-------|
| Total number                  |          | 67 |       |
| Age                           |          |    |       |
| (average: 65.6, range: 46-83) | < 65     | 28 | 41.8% |
|                               | ≧65      | 39 | 58.2% |
| Gender                        |          |    |       |
|                               | Male     | 62 | 92.5% |
|                               | Female   | 5  | 7.5%  |
| Histological grading          |          |    |       |
|                               | Good     | 18 | 26.9% |
|                               | Moderate | 35 | 52.2% |
|                               | Poor     | 14 | 20.9% |
| TNM classification            |          |    |       |
| pT category                   |          |    |       |
|                               | T1       | 3  | 4.5%  |
|                               | T2       | 4  | 6.0%  |
|                               | T3       | 47 | 70.1% |
|                               | T4       | 13 | 19.4% |
| pN category                   |          |    |       |
|                               | NO       | 15 | 22.4% |
|                               | N1       | 15 | 22.4% |
|                               | N2       | 17 | 25.4% |
|                               | N3       | 20 | 29.9% |
| pM category                   |          |    |       |
|                               | M0       | 50 | 74.6% |
|                               | M1       | 17 | 25.4% |
| pStage                        |          |    |       |
|                               | Ι        | 1  | 1.5%  |
|                               | II       | 14 | 20.9% |
|                               | III      | 35 | 52.2% |
|                               | IV       | 17 | 25.4% |

## Supplementary Table 1: Characteristics of the 67 ESCC patients of the discovery cohort

|  | -        |                                    |          | -  |
|--|----------|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Target ID <sup>1</sup>                 | Gene     |                                    | Location | Major functions  |
| cg12121660<br>cg17807663<br>cg10788618 | HOXB2    | homeobox B2                        | 17q21.32 | transcription factor activity                                |
| cg01432561                             | NEFL     | neurofilament, light polypeptide   | 8p21.2   | structural constituent of cytoskeleton                       |
| cg18151345                             | SLC15A3  | solute carrier family 15, member 3 | 11q12.2  | transporter activity   |
| cg14535068                             | OBSL1    | obscurin-like 1                    | 2q35     | cytoskeletal adaptor activity                                |
| cg25900085<br>cg05474726<br>cg27313642 | MIR124-2 | microRNA 124-2                     | 8q12.3   | not known  |
| cg15234492<br>cg17452615               | KDM2B    | lysine (K)-specific demethylase 2B | 12q24.31 | oxidoreductase activity, histone<br>demethylase activity     |
| cg04938549<br>cg27011060               | PAX6     | paired box 6                       | 11p13    | protein kinase binding, histone<br>acetyltransferase binding |
| cg24507266                             | PLEC1    | plectin                            | 8q24.3   | ankyrin binding, structural constituent of muscle            |
| cg19948701<br>cg15229994               | SEPT9    | septin 9                           | 17q25.2  | GTP binding, GTPase activity                                 |
| cg09968620<br>cg14991487<br>cg09578028 | HOXD9    | homeobox D9                        | 2q31.1   | transcription factor activity                                |

| Supplementary Table 2: LNM | prediction marker candidates | s extracted from Illumina | Human Methylation 450 data |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|

<sup>1</sup> Illumina unique probe identifier.

| Sunnlementary | v Table 3. Primer    | and probe sea | mences for nyros  | equeneng analysis |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Supprementary | y rable 5. r r miter | and probe seq | ucinees for pyros | queneng analysis  |

| Assay    |   | Forward primer (5'-3')         |   | Reverse primer (5'-3')  |
|----------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| HOXB2    |   | AGGGAGATTGGGTTTATAAATAGTT      | 0 | AATTTCTTCTTCATCCAAAAAAACTC                                    |
| NEFL     | 0 | ATGAAATTTGGGGGGATTTTTAATATTATG |   | AAAAACTCCACACCCAAACTTCTTCAA                                   |
| SLC15A3  |   | AGTGAATATGGGGTTGAGATG          | 0 | ACCCTACCCCCAACTCCTAAATAACA                                    |
| OBSL1    |   | GGTGTTGGAGGTGATTGT             | 0 | CCTACCCCTACCCAATTAACTTTACTC                                   |
| MIR124-2 | 0 | TGTGTTGTAAATGGTATGGAGATAT      |   | CATAACTCATAAACCCAACTCCTATC                                    |
| KDM2B    |   | AGTGGATAGGGATTTAATGATATTTATG   | 0 | ATTCTACCCCCCTCTATAAACTCCTTTACT                                |
| PAX6     |   | GATAAAGGAGGGATGGGGAATATTATGA   | 0 | ATCCAAATTTCCCCACCTCCAATACAA                                   |
| PLEC     |   | GGATTTTGTTTGGTGGTGGTATA        | 0 | TACACCCAACCAAAAATCACTATATAAT                                  |
| SEPT9    |   | AGTATTTTGGGAGGTTAAGGT          | 0 | CCCCCCACAAAATTTATA  |
| HOXD9    |   | GGGTATATGGATTTGGGTTTG          | 0 | AACTACAACCTCCACCATTAATC                                       |
| Assay    |   | Sequencing primer probe        |   | Sequence to analyze   |
| HOXB2    |   | AAGAGAGTAGAAGATGGGTTTG         |   | TTTTGTYGTYGTTATYGTYGTYGTTATTTTYGTTGTTTTTYGGTTTT               |
| NEFL     |   | CAAAAAACACCCAAATACTT           |   | AAAACTAACRCACRCRATAAC   |
| SLC15A3  |   | GGTTGATTTTGATTTAGTTTG          |   | AGGTYGGTGTTTTTTTAATTTYGATTTATTTGTGGTTTTTTATGGTTYGTAGGTTT      |
| OBSL1    |   | TGGAGGTGATTGTGT                |   | TTYGTTYGGGGGGGTTAYGTGTGGTTGGTTGYGGGAGGGGGGTYGAGTTGTGTTYGG     |
| MIR124-2 |   | СТАССААААССССТАТТААТТААТС      |   | TATTCCRTAAAAATATAAACRATACRTATACCTACRTATACATATACATATATCTCCATAC |
| KDM2B    |   | TTTTTAGTTTTTGAGTATTTATTTG      |   | TTTTTTTTGTYGAGYGTAAGAATTTTTAAAAAATGTTTAAT                     |
| PAX6     |   | GAAATAAAGAGAGTAGTGGTTG         |   | GTGYGAATYGATTTTYGGTTTTAAGTTTTATTTGYGGTGGTYGGA                 |
| PLEC     |   | TTTAGTTTAGGAGTAGATATGGAT       |   | TTTTYGYGAGTTATTTAGAAYGAGATTAG                                 |
|          |   |                                |   |   |
| SEPT9    |   | ATTTGTTTATTTATTTATTAGATT       |   | TTTTGTYGGGGTTTGTYGTGAGTTTTAYGTTGTTTTGAAGAAAGTYGGGTT           |

 $\circ$  biotin-labeled.

Supplementary Table 4: Univariate analysis and receiver operating characteristic (ROC) analysis of pyrosequencing data for N-/N+ prediction

|          |       | ι        | Jnivariate | e analysis      |   |         |                         |                         | ROC analysis |         |             |             |      |      |
|----------|-------|----------|------------|-----------------|---|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------|------|
| Gene     | LN n  | netastas | is +       | LN metastasis - |   | p-value | Adjusted p-value        |                         |              |         |             |             |      |      |
|          | Mean  |          | SE         | Mean            |   | SE      |                         |                         | Cut-off      | AUC     | Sensitivity | Specificity | PPV  | NPV  |
| HOXB2    | 19.43 | ±        | 2.43       | 5.37            | ± | 1.55    | **7.30x10 <sup>-6</sup> | **7.30x10 <sup>-5</sup> | 16.31        | 0.76*** | 0.46        | 1.00        | 1.00 | 0.33 |
| NEFL     | 21.07 | ±        | 1.79       | 11.53           | ± | 1.98    | **9.54x10-4             | **3.18x10 <sup>-3</sup> | 21.26        | 0.73*** | 0.44        | 0.93        | 0.96 | 0.33 |
| SLC15A3  | 18.43 | ±        | 1.72       | 8.72            | ± | 1.50    | **8.61x10 <sup>-5</sup> | **4.31x10 <sup>-4</sup> | 12.99        | 0.74*** | 0.62        | 0.80        | 0.91 | 0.38 |
| OBSL1    | 19.19 | ±        | 2.13       | 10.07           | ± | 2.37    | **6.68x10 <sup>-3</sup> | *0.0134                 | 12.62        | 0.71*** | 0.62        | 0.82        | 0.91 | 0.42 |
| MIR124-2 | 45.03 | ±        | 2.21       | 38.51           | ± | 3.15    | 0.1024                  | 0.1138                  | 38.99        | 0.63    | 0.69        | 0.60        | 0.86 | 0.36 |
| KDM2B    | 44.26 | ±        | 2.49       | 30.90           | ± | 4.32    | *0.0132                 | *0.0188                 | 31.83        | 0.71*** | 0.77        | 0.60        | 0.87 | 0.43 |
| PAX6     | 17.32 | ±        | 1.60       | 10.95           | ± | 1.32    | **3.40x10 <sup>-3</sup> | **8.51x10 <sup>-3</sup> | 16.43        | 0.65    | 0.48        | 0.87        | 0.93 | 0.37 |
| PLEC     | 23.41 | ±        | 2.41       | 16.05           | ± | 4.14    | 0.1376                  | 0.1376                  | 4.81         | 0.65    | 0.92        | 0.40        | 0.84 | 0.54 |
| SEPT9    | 36.49 | ±        | 2.98       | 20.27           | ± | 5.50    | *0.0163                 | *0.0204                 | 29.76        | 0.73*** | 0.65        | 0.80        | 0.92 | 0.40 |
| HOXD9    | 35.02 | ±        | 2.25       | 22.36           | ± | 3.92    | **9.91x10 <sup>-3</sup> | *0.0165                 | 41.42        | 0.71*** | 0.54        | 0.80        | 0.90 | 0.33 |

\*p< 0.05 \*\*p< 0.01 Welch t-test \*\*\*AUC  $\geq$  0.7: Moderate Accuracy.

|                               |        | Ν  | 0⁄0   |
|-------------------------------|--------|----|-------|
| Total number                  |        | 59 |       |
| Age                           |        |    |       |
| (average: 67.1, range: 46-88) | <65    | 24 | 40.7% |
|                               | ≧65    | 35 | 59.3% |
| Gender                        |        |    |       |
|                               | Male   | 45 | 76.3% |
|                               | Female | 14 | 23.7% |
| TNM classification            |        |    |       |
| pT category                   |        |    |       |
|                               | T1     | 0  | 0.0%  |
|                               | T2     | 17 | 28.8% |
|                               | Т3     | 37 | 62.7% |
|                               | Τ4     | 5  | 8.5%  |
| pN category                   |        |    |       |
|                               | N0     | 16 | 27.1% |
|                               | N1     | 13 | 22.0% |
|                               | N2     | 22 | 37.3% |
|                               | N3     | 8  | 13.6% |
| pM category                   |        |    |       |
|                               | M0     | 51 | 86.4% |
|                               | M1     | 8  | 13.6% |
| pStage                        |        |    |       |
|                               | Ι      | 8  | 13.6% |
|                               | II     | 12 | 20.3% |
|                               | III    | 32 | 54.2% |
|                               | IV     | 7  | 11.9% |

## Supplementary Table 5: Characteristics of the 59 ESCC patients of the independent set of ESCC cases

| Step | Parameter | Action   | *seqSS | **SigProb | Rsquare | ***p | ****AICc | ****BIC |
|------|-----------|----------|--------|-----------|---------|------|----------|---------|
| 1    | HOXB2     | entered  | 11.911 | 0.001     | 0.175   | 2    | 60.490   | 64.679  |
| 2    | SLC15A3   | entered  | 4.062  | 0.044     | 0.234   | 3    | 58.625   | 64.807  |
| 3    | SEPT9     | entered  | 2.654  | 0.103     | 0.273   | 4    | 58.239   | 66.342  |
| 4    | NEFL      | entered  | 1.467  | 0.226     | 0.295   | 5    | 59.116   | 69.065  |
| 5    | HOXD9     | entered  | 0.667  | 0.414     | 0.304   | 6    | 60.873   | 72.588  |
| 6    | OBSL1     | entered  | 0.319  | 0.572     | 0.309   | 7    | 63.061   | 76.458  |
| 7    | PAX6      | entered  | 0.229  | 0.632     | 0.312   | 8    | 65.427   | 80.418  |
| 8    | KDM2B     | entered  | 0.167  | 0.683     | 0.315   | 9    | 67.948   | 84.441  |
| 9    | MIR124-2  | entered  | 0.088  | 0.767     | 0.316   | 10   | 70.646   | 88.543  |
| 10   | PLEC      | entered  | 0.021  | 0.883     | 0.316   | 11   | 73.513   | 92.711  |
| 11   | best      | specific |        |           | 0.273   | 4    | 58.239   | 66.342  |

| Supplementary Table 6: Step history of logistic regression analysis and selection of candidate | genes |
|--|-------|
|--|-------|

\*sequential sum of squares.

\*\*significance probability.

\*\*\*number of parameters.

\*\*\*\* corrected Akaike's Information Criterion.

\*\*\*\*\*Bayesian Information Criterion.