

**Supplementary table 1: list of microarray probes considered for statistical analysis.**

| Pathways                              | Gene Title   | Chin dataset |               | van de Vijver dataset |                      | present study       |                          |                       |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                       |  | GeneBank     | Affy ID       | GeneBank              | UGID<br>(build #204) | GeneBank            | Probe set Name           |                       |
| <b>Initiation of O-glycosylation</b>  | GALNT1   | NM 020474    | A.201722 s at | NM 020474             | Hs.514806            | NM 020474           | NM 020474.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT2   | AL525086     | A.217787 s at | NM 004481             | Hs.654649            | NM 004481           | NM 004481.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT3   | BF063271     | A.203397 s at | NM 004482             | Hs.170986            | NM 004482           | NM 004482.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT4   | NM 003774    | A.220442 at   | NM 003774             | Hs.25130             | NM 003774           | NM 003774.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT5   |              |               | AA534406              | Hs.269027            | NM 014568           | NM 014568.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT6   | NM 007210    | A.219956 at   | NM 007210             | Hs.505575            | NM 007210           | NM 007210.3 psr1 s at    |                       |
|                                       | GALNT7   | NM 017423    | A.218313 s at | NM 017423             | Hs.548088            | NM 017423           | NM 017423.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT8   | NM 017417    | A.220929 at   | NM 017417             | Hs.511985            | NM 017417           | NM 017417.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT9   |              |               |                       |                      | NM 021808           | NM 021808.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT10  | BE906572     | A.212256 at   | NM 017540             | Hs.655011            | NM 017540           | NM 017540.3 psr1 a at    |                       |
|                                       | GALNT11  | NM 022087    | A.219013 at   | A1985274              | Hs.647109            | NM 022087           | NM 022087.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT12  | NM 024642    | A.218885 s at | A1630798              | Hs.47099             | NM 024642           | NM 024642.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT13  |              |               |                       |                      | NM 052917           | NM 052917.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GALNT14  | NM 024572    | A.219271 at   | AA165698              | Hs.468058            | NM 024572           | NM 024572.2 psr1 s at    |                       |
|                                       | C1GALT1  | NM 020156    | A.219439 at   | NM 020156             | Hs.592180            | uc003sqz            | uc003sqz.1 psr1 a at     |                       |
|                                       | GCNT1  | NM 001490    | A.205505 at   | NM 001490             | Hs.521568            | NM 001097634        | NM 001097634.1 psr1 s at |                       |
|                                       | GCNT3  | NM 004751    | A.219508 at   | NM 004751             | Hs.194710            | NM 004751           | NM 004751.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | GCNT4  | NM 016591    | A.220831 at   | NM 016591             | Hs.272404            | NM 016591           | NM 016591.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | ST3GAL1  | NM 003033    | A.208322 s at | NM 003033             | Hs.584803            | NM 003033           | NM 003033.2 psr1 s at    |                       |
|                                       | ST6GALNAC1   |              |               | Y11339                | Hs.105352            | NM 018414           | NM 018414.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | ST6GALNAC2   | NM 006456    | A.204542 at   | NM 006456             | Hs.592105            | NM 006456           | NM 006456.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | <b>Elongation with type 2<br/>lactosaminic chain</b> | B4GALT1      | D29805        | A.201883 s at         | NM 001497            | Hs.651277           | NM 001497                | NM 001497.2 psr1 at   |
|                                       |  | B4GALT2      | BC002431      | A.209413 at           | NM 003780            | Hs.632403           | NM 003780                | NM 003780.3 psr1 at   |
|                                       |  | B4GALT3      | AF038661      | A.210243 s at         | NM 003779            | Hs.321231           | NM 003779                | NM 003779.2 psr1 a at |
|                                       |  | B3GALT4      | BC004523      | A.210540 s at         | NM 003778            | Hs.13225            | NM 003782                | NM 003782.3 psr1 at   |
|                                       |  | B3GNT1       | NM 006876     | A.203188 at           | NM 006876            | Hs.8526             | NM 006876                | NM 006876.2 psr1 at   |
|                                       |  | B3GNT2       | NM 006577     | A.219326 s at         | NM 006577            | Hs.173203           | NM 006577                | NM 006577.5 psr1 at   |
|                                       |  | B3GNT7       |               |                       | AK000770             | Hs.299329           | NM 145236                | NM 145236.1 psr1 s at |
| GCNT2                                 |  | L19659       | A.211020 at   | A1654230              | Hs.519884            | NM 145649           | NM 145649.3 psr1 s at    |                       |
| FUT3                                  |  | AW080549     | A.214088 s at | NM 000149             | Hs.169238            | NM 001097641        | NM 001097641.1 psr1 at   |                       |
| FUT5                                  |  | U27329       | A.211225 at   | NM 002034             | Hs.631843            | NM 002034           | NM 002034.2 psr1 at      |                       |
| FUT6                                  |  | U27335       | A.211465 x at | NM 000150             | Hs.631846            | NM 001040701        | NM 001040701.1 psr1 x at |                       |
| FUT7                                  |  | AA767713     | A.217696 at   | NM 004479             | Hs.457               | NM 004479           | NM 004479.2 psr1 at      |                       |
| ST3GAL3                               |  |              |               | NM 006279             | Hs.597915            | NM 006279           | NM 006279.2 psr1 a at    |                       |
| ST3GAL4                               |  | NM 006278    | A.203759 at   | NM 006278             | Hs.591947            | NM 006278           | NM 006278.1 psr1 at      |                       |
| CHST2                                 |  | NM 004267    | A.203921 at   | NM 004267             | Hs.8786              | NM 004267           | NM 004267.3 psr1 at      |                       |
| CHST4                                 |  | NM 005769    | A.220446 s at | NM 005769             | Hs.251383            | NM 005769           | NM 005769.1 psr1 s at    |                       |
| <b>Synthesis of<br/>sphingolipids</b> | UGCG   | NM 003358    | A.204881 s at | NM 003358             | Hs.304249            | NM 003358           | NM 003358.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | B4GALT5  | NM 004775    | A.206232 s at | NM 004776             | Hs.370487            | NM 004776           | NM 004776.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | B4GALT6  | NM 004776    | A.221485 at   | NM 004775             | Hs.591063            | NM 004775           | NM 004775.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | B3GNT5   |              |               | A1825936              | Hs.208267            | NM 032047           | NM 032047.4 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | FUT4   | AF305083     | A.209892 at   | NM 002033             | Hs.390420            | NM 002033           | NM 002033.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | ST3GAL6  | AB022918     | A.210942 s at | NM 006100             | Hs.148716            | NM 006100           | NM 006100.2 psr1 s at    |                       |
| <b>Synthesis of Heparan sulfate</b>   | XYLT1  | AI693140     | A.213725 x at | AW009370              | Hs.610023            | NM 022166           | NM 022166.3 psr1 x at    |                       |
|                                       | XYLT2  | NM 022167    | A.219401 at   |                       |                      | NM 022167           | NM 022167.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | B4GALT7  | AK022566     | A.222191 s at | NM 007255             | Hs.455109            | NM 007255           | NM 007255.1 psr1 s at    |                       |
|                                       | B3GALT6  |              |               | AI201722              | Hs.284284            | NM 080605           | NM 080605.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | B3GAT1   | NM 018644    | A.219521 at   | AB029396              | Hs.381050            | NM 018644           | NM 018644.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | B3GAT2   | NM 012200    | A.203452 at   | A1954745              | Hs.653102            | NM 080742           | NM 080742.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | B3GAT3   | AB009598     | A.35179 at    | NM 012200             | Hs.502759            | NM 012200           | NM 012200.2 psr1 a at    |                       |
|                                       | EXTL1  | NM 004455    | A.206329 at   | NM 004455             | Hs.150956            | NM 004455           | NM 004455.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | EXTL2  | AF000416     | A.209537 at   | AF000416              | Hs.357637            | NM 001033025        | NM 001033025.1 psr1 at   |                       |
|                                       | EXTL3  | AF001690     | A.209202 s at | NM 001440             | Hs.491354            | NM 001440           | NM 001440.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | EXT1   | NM 000127    | A.201995 at   | NM 000127             | Hs.492618            | NM 000127           | NM 000127.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | EXT2   | AA196245     | A.202012 s at | NM 000401             | Hs.368404            | NM 207122           | NM 207122.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | NDST1  | AL526632     | A.202607 at   | NM 001543             | Hs.222055            | NM 001543           | NM 001543.3 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | NDST2  | NM 003635    | A.203916 at   | NM 003635             | Hs.654758            | NM 003635           | NM 003635.2 psr1 a at    |                       |
|                                       | NDST3  | NM 004784    | A.220429 at   | NM 004784             | Hs.480596            | NM 004784           | NM 004784.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | NDST4  | NM 022569    | A.208334 at   |                       |                      | NM 022569           | NM 022569.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS2ST1   | NM 012262    | A.203284 s at | NM 012262             | Hs.48823             | NM 012262           | NM 012262.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS3ST1   | NM 005114    | A.205466 s at | NM 005114             | Hs.507348            | NM 005114           | NM 005114.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS3ST2   | NM 006043    | A.219697 at   | NM 006043             | Hs.115830            | NM 006043           | NM 006043.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS3ST3A1   | NM 006042    | A.219985 at   | NM 006042             | Hs.462270            | NM 006042           | NM 006042.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS3ST3B1   | NM 006041    | A.221062 at   | AI042497              | Hs.48384             | NM 006041           | NM 006041.1 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS3ST4   |              |               | AW204561              | Hs.655275            | NM 006040           | NM 006040.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS3ST5   |              |               |                       |                      | NM 153612           | NM 153612.2 psr1 a at    |                       |
|                                       | HS3ST6   |              |               |                       |                      | NM 001009606        | NM 001009606.2 psr1 at   |                       |
|                                       | HS6ST1   | NM 004807    | A.206997 s at | A1632014              | Hs.512841            | NM 004807           | NM 004807.2 psr1 at      |                       |
|                                       | HS6ST2   |              |               | A1767756              | Hs.385956            | NM 147175           | NM 147175.3 psr1 at      |                       |
| HS6ST3                                |  |              | H15259        | Hs.171001             | NM 153456            | NM 153456.2 psr1 at |                          |                       |

## Supplementary table 2: primers used in qRT-PCR

| Gene         | Forward Primer (5'-3')      | Reverse primer (5'-3')      |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ACTB *       | CCCTCCATCGTCCACCGCAAATGCCTC | CGACTGCTGTCACCTTCACCGTTCCAG |
| RPLP0†       | CAGCATCTACAACCTGAAGTG       | GTGTAATCCGTCTCCACAGACA      |
| PUM1†        | GATTATTCAGGCACGCAGGT        | AGCAGCGCTGATGATGATG         |
| GCNT1 †      | AGAAGGATACACAAAACGTACC      | ACCTTTCTAGCTAACTGTGCTC      |
| ST6GALNAC2 † | GGCTTCACCTCCGTGCCACAAG      | CTAGGCCCTCAGGGACAGGCAC      |
| FUT3 †       | CCTGCTGGAGTCCTTTGTGGCC      | GCAGGCAAGTCTTCTGGAGGGG      |
| FUT4 *       | CTCTTTGAGCCTCTGTACCTGAAC    | CTTTCTCTGATTCCTGGTTTTCTGCC  |
| FUT5 †       | AATCTAGGTACCAGACGGTGCGC     | AGGTAGGTGAGGCCCTGGGAAAG     |
| FUT6 ‡       | CAAAGCCACATCGCATTGAA        | ATCCCCGTTGCAGAACCA          |
| FUT7 *       | GAGAGCCGATACCAACGCTTCTTTG   | ACCAACCCTCAAGGTCTCATAGAC    |
| ST3GAL3 *    | TACCCTTGGCAGTGTGGCAGTGACC   | AGACTCCTGTGTAGGTGGTGTGCTGGC |
| ST3GAL4 *    | TCTCTTCTACCCTGAATCTGCCAC    | ACCCTTTCGCACCCGTTCTTATCAC   |
| ST3GAL6 †    | AGAGTCCTTTGCACTACTATGG      | CACTGTTAGCATCATCTTCTGAG     |
| EXT1 †       | TGGCTACATGCCGCTGATCCAC      | CCCCCACTCAGCCGGATTCCTC      |
| HS3ST1 †     | CCGCAGACCATCATCATCGGCG      | AGCCCAAGCCGTGGCTGTAATG      |

\* Previously used in Julien et al. (1)

† Designed for this study using Primers3Plus opensource software (2)

‡ Previously used in Barthel et al. (3)

1. Julien S, Grimshaw MJ, Sutton-Smith M, et al. Sialyl-Lewis x on P-selectin glycoprotein ligand-1 is regulated during differentiation and maturation of dendritic cells: A mechanism involving the glycosyltransferases C2GnT1 and ST3Gal I. *Journal of Immunology* 2007;179:5701-10.
2. Untergasser A, Nijveen H, Rao X, Bisseling T, Geurts R, Leunissen JA Primer3Plus, an enhanced web interface to Primer3. *Nucleic Acids Res* 2007;35:W71-4.
3. Barthel SR, Gavino JD, Wiese GK, Jaynes JM, Siddiqui J, Dimitroff CJ Analysis of glycosyltransferase expression in metastatic prostate cancer cells capable of rolling activity on microvascular endothelial (E)-selectin. *Glycobiology* 2008;18:806-17.

**Supplementary table 3: Correlation of glyco-genes expression with ER status or distant metastasis (extended version).**

| Pathways §  | Datasets ‡ | ER status * |         |         | Distant metastasis † |          |       |     |
|---|------------|-------------|---------|---------|----------------------|----------|-------|-----|
|   |            | ERpos n=    | A       | B       | C                    | DMpos n= | A     | B   |
|   |            | ERneg n=    | 43      | 69      | 10                   | DMneg n= | 31    | 101 |
|   | Gene Title | p values    |         |         | p values             |          |       |     |
| <b>Initiation of O-glycosylation and Core synthesis</b> | GALNT2**   |             |         | 0.0087  |                      |          | 0.089 |     |
|   | GALNT3**   |             | 0.0045  | 0.0013  |                      |          |       |     |
|   | GALNT4     |             |         |         | 0.0866               |          |       |     |
|   | GALNT5     |             | NA ‡‡   | 0.0196  |                      |          |       |     |
|   | GALNT6     |             | <0.0001 | <0.0001 |                      |          |       |     |
|   | GALNT7     |             | 0.0009  | <0.0001 |                      |          | <0.01 |     |
|   | GALNT10    |             | 0.0687  | <0.0001 |                      |          |       |     |
|   | GALNT11    |             |         |         |                      | <0.05    | <0.05 |     |
|   | GALNT12**  |             |         | 0.0505  |                      |          |       |     |
|   | GALNT14    |             |         | <0.0001 |                      |          | <0.01 |     |
|   | C1GALT1**  |             | 0.0009  | 0.0005  |                      |          |       |     |
| GCNT1**   |            |             | <0.0001 |         |                      | <0.05    |       |     |
| ST3GAL1   |            |             |         |         | 0.069                |          |       |     |
| ST6GALNAC   |            |             |         | 0.0542  |                      |          |       |     |
| <b>Elongation with type 2 lactosamine chain</b>         | B4GALT3    |             |         | 0.1255  |                      |          |       |     |
|   | B3GALT4    |             |         |         |                      |          |       |     |
|   | B3GNT1**   |             | 0.0162  | 0.0004  |                      |          | 0.078 |     |
|   | B3GNT7     |             | NA      | <0.0001 |                      |          |       |     |
|   | GCNT2**    |             |         | <0.0001 |                      |          |       |     |
|   | FUT3**     |             |         | <0.0001 |                      |          | <0.05 |     |
|   | FUT5       |             |         | 0.0031  |                      |          |       |     |
|   | FUT6       |             |         |         |                      | 0.059    |       |     |
|   | FUT7       |             |         | <0.0001 |                      |          |       |     |
|   | CHST2      |             | <0.0001 | <0.0001 |                      |          |       |     |
|   | CHST4      |             |         | 0.0969  |                      |          |       |     |
| <b>Synthesis of sphingolipids</b>                       | UGCG**     |             | <0.0001 | <0.0001 |                      | <0.01    | 0.063 |     |
|   | B4GALT5    |             | 0.0216  | 0.0027  | 0.0158               |          | <0.01 |     |
|   | B3GNT5**   |             | NA      | <0.0001 | 0.0415               |          |       |     |
|   | FUT4       |             | 0.0019  | <0.0001 |                      |          | 0.064 |     |
|   | ST3GAL6**  |             | 0.1275  | 0.0186  |                      |          |       |     |
| <b>Synthesis of Heparan sulfate</b>                     | B3GAT1**   |             |         | 0.0793  |                      |          | <0.05 |     |
|   | B3GAT3     |             |         |         |                      | <0.05    | <0.05 |     |
|   | EXTL1      |             |         |         |                      | <0.05    | 0.077 |     |
|   | EXT1       |             | <0.0001 | 0.0343  | 0.0221               |          | <0.05 |     |
|   | HS3ST1     |             |         | 0.0002  |                      |          | 0.070 |     |
|   | HS3ST3B1   |             |         | 0.0674  |                      |          |       |     |
| HS6ST3  |            | NA          | 0.0402  |         |                      |          |       |     |

\* ER: estrogen receptor alpha. Glyco-genes significantly more expressed in ER-negative tumours than ER-positive ones are shaded. Glycogenes significantly less expressed are left on white background. Blank: no statistical significance found.

† Glyco-genes significantly more expressed in metastatic tumours (DMpos) than in non metastatic ones (DMneg) are shaded. Glycogenes significantly less expressed are left on white background. Blank: no statistical significance found.

‡ A: Chin et al (24), B: van de Viver et al. (25), C: present study. Number of cases for ER and DM groups are indicated accordingly.

§ Pathways are referring to Figure 1

|| statistical significance was tested with the unpaired Student's t-test. All p values were two tailed. For ER status, multiple testing correction was applied using the Westfall and Young permutation is a step-down procedure (1993, Resampling-Based Multiple Testing: Examples and Methods for P-Value Adjustment, Volume 1). For distant metastasis, only the original p values obtained by simple Student test are reported, and can be considered as a trend. p<0.05 was considered as statistically significant. Borderline p values are indicated in italic.

\*\* Glycogenes varying accordingly to ER status in each dataset but only reaching statistical significance in one or two of them.

‡‡ NA: Not available, there was no probe targeting this glycogene on the microarray chip used (supplementary table 1).