

Supplementary Table S1 Multivariable analyses of the prognostic factors for distant metastasis-free survival and overall survival of all patients

| Endpoints | Variable | HR (95% CI) | <i>P</i> -value |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Distant metastasis-free survival | GTVnd | 1.945(1.502-2.518) | <0.001 |
| | pre-EBV DNA | 2.111(1.523-2.928) | <0.001 |
| | gender | 1.564(1.115-2.193) | 0.010 |
| | T category ^a | 1.402(1.058-1.858) | 0.019 |
| | N category ^a | 1.909(1.463-2.491) | <0.001 |
| Overall survival | GTVnd | 1.921(1.520-2.429) | <0.001 |
| | pre-EBV DNA | 1.809(1.360-2.406) | <0.001 |
| | age | 1.597(1.275-2.000) | <0.001 |
| | T category ^a | 1.386(1.068-1.798) | 0.014 |
| | N category ^a | 1.745(1.371-2.221) | <0.001 |

GTVnd, gross tumor volume of cervical lymph node; Pre-EBV DNA, pretreatment plasma pretreatment serum Epstein–Barr virus DNA; IC, induction chemotherapy.

The following parameters were also included in the Cox proportional hazards model by backward elimination: age (>45 vs. ≤45 years), gender (male vs. female), T category (T3–4 vs. T1–2), N category (N2–3 vs. N1), use of chemotherapy (with vs. without), pre-EBV DNA (>2000 vs. ≤2000 copy/mL) and GTVnd (>20 vs. ≤20mL).