# **Supplemental Online Content**

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This supplemental material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

eTable 1. Optimal Hyperparameters, DeepSurv and N-MTLR Models

| Parameter                   | DeepSurv Model              | N-MTLR Model   |  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--|
| Neural Network Structure    | 1: LeCun Tanh; 64           | 1: Sinc; 32    |  |
| (Layer: activation; nodes)  | 2: Sinc; 128                | 2: Sigmoid; 32 |  |
|                             | 3: Log Sigmoid; 32          | 3: Log Log; 8  |  |
|                             | 4: Inverse Square Root; 128 | 4: Arc Tan; 8  |  |
|                             | 5: Swish; 16                |                |  |
| Learning Rate               | 0.00001                     | 0.0001         |  |
| Number of Epochs            | 6000                        | 4000           |  |
| Dropout                     | 0.1                         | 0.1            |  |
| L2 Regularization           | 0.0001                      | 0.001          |  |
| Batch Normalization         | False                       | False          |  |
| L2 Smoothing Regularization |                             | 0.001          |  |
| Bins                        |                             | 100            |  |

eTable 2. Optimal Hyperparameters, Random Survival Forest

| Parameter           | Random Survival Forest Model |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Trees               | 80                           |
| Max Features        | 0.1                          |
| Max Depth           | 40                           |
| Min Node Size       | 80                           |
| Sample Size Percent | 60%                          |
| Importance Mode     | Permutation                  |

eTable 3. Missing Values for Features in the Final Data Set, Prior to Imputation

|                                                            | Number Missing (% Total) |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gender                                                     | 0 (0)                    |
| Age                                                        | 0 (0)                    |
| Year of Diagnosis                                          | 0 (0)                    |
| Ethnicity                                                  | 279 (0.8)                |
| Academic Center                                            | 1,199 (3.6)              |
| Charlson/Deyo Score                                        | 0 (0)                    |
| Status At Last Contact                                     | 0 (0)                    |
| Primary Site                                               | 0 (0)                    |
| Tumor stage                                                | 0 (0)                    |
| Nodal Stage                                                | 0 (0)                    |
| Measured Tumor Size                                        | 5,027 (15.0)             |
| Tumor Thickness (n, % of oral cavity cancers) <sup>a</sup> | 9,670 (61.1)             |
| Differentiation                                            | 2,518 (7.5)              |
| LVI                                                        | 15,969 (47.6)            |
| Lymph Nodes Positive                                       | 4,465 (13.3)             |
| Lymph Node Levels Involved                                 |                          |
| 1, 11, 111                                                 | 2,211 (6.6)              |
| IV, V, Retropharyngeal                                     | 2,269 (6.8)              |
| Parapharyngeal                                             | 2,227 (6.6)              |
| HPV Positivity <sup>b</sup>                                |                          |
| Oropharynx                                                 | 5,972 (53.5)             |

| Non-oropharynx                        | 18,182 (81.3) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Multiagent Chemotherapy               | 1,581 (0)     |
| Time from Surgery to Completion of RT | 1,508 (4.7)   |
| RT Dose                               | 0 (0)         |
| Adequate Lymph Node Dissection        | 79 (0.2)      |
| (18+ Nodes Examined)                  |               |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>For tumor thickness, percent missing is calculated as a percentage of oral cavity cancers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>For HPV positivity, percent missing values are calculated as a percentage of total oropharynx cancers, and as a percentage of total non-oropharynx cancers.

### eTable 4. Permutation Feature Importance

**Given as % decrease in concordance index with permutation.** A high reduction in concordance index with variable permutation indicates that feature is important in prediction of prognosis.

| Feature                             | DeepSurv | N-MTLR | RSF     | Average |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--------|---------|---------|
| Life Expectancy                     | 4.0922   | 4.4706 | 4.5369  | 4.3666  |
| Year of Diagnosis 2013 - 2016       | 2.4761   | 1.5635 | 2.8574  | 2.299   |
| Tumor Stage T4                      | 2.3638   | 2.0986 | 0.6507  | 1.7044  |
| HPV+ (Oropharynx)                   | 1.157    | 1.0594 | 1.4945  | 1.237   |
| Tonsillar Subsite                   | 0.8495   | 1.2884 | 0.921   | 1.0196  |
| 5-9 Lymph Nodes Positive            | 1.4671   | 0.5078 | 0.5448  | 0.8399  |
| Tumor Size                          | 0.4326   | 0.1226 | 1.644   | 0.7331  |
| 2-4 Lymph Nodes Positive            | 0.656    | 0.729  | 0.2707  | 0.5519  |
| 10+ Lymph Nodes Positive            | 0.8419   | 0.6268 | 0.126   | 0.5316  |
| Tongue Subsite                      | 0.6829   | 0.7121 | 0.0724  | 0.4892  |
| Tumor Stage T3                      | 0.7585   | 0.6258 | 0.0643  | 0.4828  |
| Charlson/Dayo Score 0-1             | 0.6489   | 0.4133 | 0.1649  | 0.409   |
| HPV+ (Non-oropharynx)               | 0.4005   | -0.048 | 0.6712  | 0.3414  |
| Level II Lymph Nodes Involved       | 0.1787   | 0.3874 | 0.3788  | 0.315   |
| Larynx primary                      | 0.1357   | 0.5185 | 0.1998  | 0.2847  |
| Floor of Mouth Subsite              | 0.2739   | 0.4239 | 0.1008  | 0.2662  |
| Nodal Stage N2                      | 0.2095   | 0.4524 | 0.00498 | 0.2223  |
| Adequate Lymph Node Dissection (18+ |          |        |         |         |
| Nodes Examined)                     | 0.3122   | 0.227  | 0.12    | 0.2197  |

| Time from Surgery to Completion of   |          |          |          |        |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Adjuvant Treatment > 100 Days        | 0.4894   | -0.00636 | 0.1667   | 0.2166 |
| Level I Lymph Nodes Involved         | 0.2214   | 0.2486   | 0.1676   | 0.2125 |
| Base of Tongue Subsite               | 0.1352   | 0.3989   | 0.0103   | 0.1815 |
| Received Chemo                       | 0.2981   | 0.2099   | -0.00742 | 0.1669 |
| Buccal Mucosa Subsite                | 0.2326   | 0.1229   | -0.00064 | 0.1183 |
| Nodal Stage N1                       | 0.071    | 0.1966   | 0.039    | 0.1022 |
| Male Gender                          | 0.2082   | 0.0606   | 0.029    | 0.0993 |
| Alveolar Ridge Subsite               | 0.0516   | 0.2616   | -0.039   | 0.0915 |
| Nodal Stage N3                       | 0.0645   | 0.2072   | 0.00155  | 0.0911 |
| Retromolar Trigone Subsite           | 0.0963   | 0.1469   | 0.0208   | 0.088  |
| Well Differentiated                  | -0.00415 | 0.2316   | 0.0115   | 0.0797 |
| Radiation Dose                       | -0.015   | -0.032   | 0.2644   | 0.0723 |
| Lymphovascular Invasion              | -0.0024  | 0.1139   | 0.0554   | 0.0556 |
| Treatment at Academic Center         | 0.0538   | 0.0991   | 0.0106   | 0.0545 |
| 1 Lymph Node Positive                | 0.1959   | -0.061   | -0.00494 | 0.0434 |
| Moderately Differentiated            | 0.0406   | -0.021   | 0.0912   | 0.0368 |
| Black Race                           | 0.00727  | 0.0638   | 0.0278   | 0.0329 |
| Multiagent Chemotherapy              | 0.0628   | 0.0387   | -0.00352 | 0.0327 |
| Retropharyngeal Lymph Nodes Involved | 0.0337   | 0.0527   | -0.00041 | 0.0287 |
| Hypopharynx primary                  | -0.08    | 0.1568   | -0.00887 | 0.0228 |
| Parapharyngeal Lymph Nodes Involved  | 0.0587   | -0.019   | 0        | 0.0133 |
| Tumor Thickness (Depth)              | 0.0645   | 0.0146   | -0.04    | 0.0129 |

| Level IV Lymph Nodes Involved  | 0.0858  | -0.122   | 0.0695 | 0.0112   |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|--------|----------|
| Year of Diagnosis 2009 - 2012  | -0.0127 | -0.00885 | 0.0287 | 0.00237  |
| Poorly Differentiated          | -0.054  | 0.0304   | 0.0249 | 0.000514 |
| Level III Lymph Nodes Involved | 0.0672  | -0.23    | 0.1524 | -0.00361 |
| Level V Lymph Nodes Involved   | -0.077  | 0.0299   | 0.0322 | -0.0049  |

# eTable 5. Hazard Ratios for Subgroups

Hazard ratios are calculated for survival of patients receiving treatment recommended by a model compared to those who did not.

| HR (95% CI) | HPV+ Oropharynx    | HPV-               | Age > 70           | Age ≤ 70           |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| DeepSurv    | 0.95 (0.53 – 1.69) | 0.79 (0.63–1.00)   | 0.74 (0.62 – 0.89) | 0.87 (0.79– 0.95)  |
| N-MLTR      | 0.67 (0.66 – 1.04) | 0.83 (0.66 – 1.04) | 0.86 (0.71 – 1.03) | 0.89 (0.81 – 0.98) |
| RSF         | 0.46 (0.25 – 0.84) | 0.80 (0.64 – 1.01) | 0.89 (0.74 – 1.06) | 0.93 (0.84 – 1.02) |

#### eFigure. Survival Outcomes for Treatment According to Machine Learning Model Recommendations,

#### **Test Cohort**

Top – DeepSurv Model, Middle – N-MLTR Model, Bottom – RSF Model.

