## Supplemental file

Figure A1: Matrix representing the causal diagram explaining confounding variable to enter in the Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)

	TYA SCL	QOL	Age	Choice	cs	СТ	DoH	Ethnicity	Finances	Gender	Geography	I&C	LTC	RtD	SE	SES	SS	Treat- ment
TYA SCL		Ð	¢ħ	Ą	¢ħ	¢ħ	Ð	Ą	Ą	0	4	Ď	Ą	ŶĮ.	Ď	Ŷ,	Ď	Ą
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CS						Å	Ð	Ą	ΣŶ	0	Ą	Ð	Å	Å,	Ď	Ą	Ď	Ð
CT							ΣŶ	Ą	ΣŶ	Å	4	Ď	Å	Ð	Ď	Ą	Ď	Ð
DoH								Ą	Å	Å	Ą	Ð	Å	Å,	Ď	Ą	Ď	Ą
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Finances										0	4	Ą	Ą	¢ħ	0	Ą	Å	Ð
Gender											0	Ď	Ď	Ð	Ð	0	Ď	Ð
Geography												ΣŶ	ΣŶ	Ð	Ď	ΣŶ	Ď	Ð
I&C													Å	ŶĮ.	Ď	Ą	Ď	Ð
LTC														Ð	Ð	Ą	Ď	Ð
RtD															Ď	Ą	Ď	Ď
SE																Ą	Ď	Ď
SES																	ΣŶ	Ď
SS																		Ð
Treatment																		

CS: cancer severity; CT: cancer type; DoH: duration of hospitalisation; I&C: information & communication; LTC: long-term condition; QOL: quality of life; RtD: route to diagnosis; SE: symptom experience; SES: socioeconomic status; SS: social support

O – indicates a null relationship