

Supplementary Table 2. Clinical characteristics of the sample

Clinical Attribute	Overall Sample (N=382)	
	N	%
<b>Treatment Group</b>		
Acute	130	34.0
Early	70	18.3
Late	182	47.7
<b>Disease Stage</b>		
Localised	192	50.3
Locoregional	135	35.3
Unspecified	55	14.4
<b>Recurrence</b>		
Local	8	2.1
Locoregional	7	1.8
None	344	90.1
Unspecified	23	6.0
<b>Stoma</b>		
Permanent	17	9.5
Temporary	17	9.5
None	332	86.9
Unspecified	16	4.2
<b>Radiotherapy</b>		
IMRT	297	77.8
CRT	80	20.9
Unspecified	5	1.3
<b>Concurrent Chemotherapy</b>		
MMC Capecitabine	153	40.0
MMC 5-FU	134	35.1
Cisplatin 5-FU	39	10.2
Cisplatin only	15	3.9
Capecitabine only	4	1.0
Cisplatin Carboplatin	4	1.0

<b>Clinical Attribute</b>	<b>Overall Sample (N=382)</b>	
MMC only	3	0.8
5-FU only	1	0.3
None	17	4.5
Unspecified	11	2.9
<b>ECOG Performance status</b>		
0	249	63.2
1	98	25.7
2	12	3.1
3	2	0.5
Unspecified	21	5.5
<b>Comorbidity</b>		
Hypertension	102	26.7
Diabetes	41	10.7
Cardiac	61	16.0
Thyroid	36	9.4
Depression	34	8.9
Respiratory	36	9.4
Rheumatic	27	7.1
Previous cancer <sup>1</sup>	16	4.2
AIDS	15	3.9
HIV positive	4	1.0
Inflammatory bowel disease	10	2.6
Renal	7	18.3
Stomach ulcers	6	1.6
Liver	6	1.5
Other not categorised	69	18.1

<sup>1</sup>Previous cancers include breast cancer (n=15) and lung cancer (n=1)

<sup>2</sup> Other comorbidities include musculoskeletal problems, difficulties relating to hearing or sight or blood disorders