

Table S1

| Variable                                         | High NETs area<br>(n=20) | Low NETs area<br>(n=21) | <i>P</i> value |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Age                                              |                          |                         |                |
| Median (range)                                   | 67 (52-85)               | 68 (45-82)              | 0.97           |
| Sex                                              |                          |                         |                |
| Female                                           | 13                       | 7                       | 0.06           |
| Male                                             | 7                        | 14                      |                |
| Morphology                                       |                          |                         |                |
| MF                                               | 13                       | 16                      | 0.51           |
| MF + PI                                          | 7                        | 5                       |                |
| Differentiation                                  |                          |                         |                |
| Well                                             | 2                        | 1                       | 0.28           |
| Moderate                                         | 15                       | 14                      |                |
| Poor                                             | 2                        | 6                       |                |
| Other                                            | 1                        | 0                       |                |
| Tumor location                                   |                          |                         |                |
| Hilar                                            | 15                       | 9                       | 0.06           |
| Peripheral                                       | 5                        | 12                      |                |
| Tumor size                                       |                          |                         |                |
| Mean – (mm)                                      | 4.7                      | 5.6                     | 0.29           |
| Vascular invasion                                |                          |                         |                |
| No                                               | 8                        | 5                       | 0.33           |
| Yes                                              | 12                       | 16                      |                |
| Serosal invasion                                 |                          |                         |                |
| No                                               | 13                       | 12                      | 0.75           |
| Yes                                              | 7                        | 9                       |                |
| Lymph node metastasis *                          |                          |                         |                |
| No                                               | 6                        | 11                      | 0.14           |
| Yes                                              | 9                        | 4                       |                |
| Distant metastasis                               |                          |                         |                |
| No                                               | 19                       | 19                      | 1.00           |
| Yes                                              | 1                        | 2                       |                |
| Mean preoperative serum CEA<br>ng/ml, (95% CI)   | 13.1<br>(0-29.5)         | 16.1<br>(4.75-27.5)     | 0.75           |
| Mean preoperative serum CA19-9<br>U/ml, (95% CI) | 1860.8<br>(0-4429.7)     | 1053.7<br>(0-2159)      | 0.55           |

CA19-9: carbohydrate antigen 19-9, CEA: carcinoembryonic antigen MF: mass forming type, PI: periductal infiltrating type.

\* Eleven patient records were excluded because lymph node dissection was not performed

Differences between continuous variables were determined using the Mann–Whitney U test. Categorical variables were compared by Fisher's exact test.