Supplementary

Table S1 Summary of criteria of pathological evaluation in the selected studies

Japan Esophageal Society (JES criteria)	Grade 0: No recognizable cytological or histological therapeutic effect
	Grade1: Apparently viable cancer cells (including cells having eosinophilic cytoplasm with vacuolation and swollen nuclei) account for 1/3 or more of tumor tissue, but there is some evidence of degeneration of cancer tissue or cells
	1a: Viable cancer cells accounting for 2/3 or more tumor tissue
	1b: Viable cancer cells accounting for 1/3 or more, but less than 2/3, of tumor tissue
	Grade 2: Viable cancer cells account for less than 1/3 of tumor tissue, while other cancer cells are severely degenerated or necrotic
	Grade 3: No viable cancer cells are evident
Tumor regression grades (TRG criteria)	TRG 1a: No residual tumor/tumor bed
	TRG 1b: <10% residual tumor/tumor bed
	TRG 2: 10-50% residual tumor/tumor bed
	TRG 3: >50% residual tumor/tumor bed