

## Supplementary

**Table S1** Lymph node metastasis in pathological T categories

Pathological T	pN0	pN1	pN2	pN3	pN+	P value
pT1a	10 (90.9)	1 (9.1)	0	0	1 (9.1)	0.017* <sup>§</sup>
pT1b	30 (85.7)	5 (14.3)	0	0	5 (14.3)	
pT2	27 (77.1)	4 (11.4)	3 (8.6)	1 (2.9)	8 (22.9)	
pT3	37 (62.7)	18 (30.5)	4 (6.8)	0	22 (37.3)	

\*, Statistically significant; <sup>§</sup>, pT1a, 1b, 2, 3 and pN0, pN+.

**Table S2** The distribution of pT2–3 vs. pT1 in the stratification of the discriminating model

SUVmax category	bG category	Age category	pT1, n (%)	pT2–3, n (%)
≤7.4	Well or moderately	≤65	15 (93.8)	1 (6.3)
≤7.4	Well or moderately	>65	7 (70.0)	3 (30.0)
≤7.4	Poorly	≤65	5 (71.4)	2 (28.6)
≤7.4	Poorly	>65	0	2 (100.0)
≤7.4	Unknown	≤65	2 (100.0)	0
≤7.4	Unknown	>65	5 (100.0)	0
>7.4	Well or moderately	≤65	6 (20.7)	23 (79.3)
>7.4	Well or moderately	>65	2 (6.9)	27 (93.1)
>7.4	Poorly	≤65	1 (7.1)	13 (92.9)
>7.4	Poorly	>65	1 (5.6)	17 (94.3)
>7.4	Unknown	≤65	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)
>7.4	Unknown	>65	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)

SUVmax, maximal standard uptake value; bG category, biopsy differentiation grade category; pT, pathological T (invasion depth).