

## Supplementary tables

**Supplementary table 1. Cox analysis for overall survival in all studied (n=396) cases**

Category	Variables	Univariate		Multivariate	
		HR (95% CI)	P-value	HR (95% CI)	P-value
Sex	Female	1		N/A	
	Male	1.074 (0.629-1.832)	0.794	N/A	
Age (years)	< 58	1		1	
	≥ 58	1.86 (1.149-3.01)	0.012	1.796 (1.091-2.957)	0.021
Location	Oropharynx	1		1	
	Oral cavity	2.288 (1.209-4.333)	0.011	3.976 (1.798-8.789)	0.001
	Hypopharynx	4.335 (1.871-10.042)	0.001	2.117(0.823-5.44)	0.12
	Larynx	1.804(0.676-4.815)	0.239	2.234(0.751-6.641)	0.148
Smoking	Never smoker	1		N/A	
	Ex-smoker	0.975 (0.492-1.934)	0.942	N/A	
	Current smoker	1.367 (0.82-2.28)	0.23	N/A	
p16 IHC status		1		1	
		1.936 (1.156-3.244)	0.012	1.655 (0.91-3.01)	0.099
Lymphovascular invasion	Absent	1		1	
	Present	1.988 (1.194-3.308)	0.008	1.568 (0.877-2.804)	0.013
Perineural invasion	Absent	1		1	
	Present	2.151 (1.232-3.754)	0.007	1.163 (0.635-2.132)	0.624
Resection margin status	R0*	1		1	
	Non-R0	1.928 (1.18-3.149)	0.009	2.177 (1.217-3.896)	0.009
Pathologic T stage	pT1-2	1		1	
	pT3-4	3.88 (2.421-6.218)	0.000	2.41 (1.425-4.077)	0.001
Pathologic N stage	pN0-1	1		1	
	pN2-3	2.69 (1.683-4.3)	0.000	2.69 (1.574-4.598)	0
c-MET expression	Low	1		N/A	
	High	1.528 (0.961-2.428)	0.073	N/A	
MET CN gain	No gain	1		N/A	
	Gain	0.689 (0.351-1.352)	0.279	N/A	

HNSCC: head and neck squamous cell carcinoma; CN: copy number; IHC: immunohistochemistry

\* R0 resection status was defined as complete tumor resection

**Supplementary table 2. Cox analysis for progression-free survival in all studied (n=396) cases**

Category	Variables	Univariate		Multivariate	
		HR (95% CI)	P-value	HR (95% CI)	P-value
Sex	Female	1		N/A	
	Male	1.217 (0.765 - 1.936)	0.408	N/A	
Age (years)	< 58	1		1	
	≥ 58	1.726 (1.158 - 2.574)	0.007	1.747 (1.14-2.677)	0.01
Location	Oropharynx	1		1	
	Oral cavity	2.167 (1.281-3.666)	0.004	2.575 (1.358-4.883)	0.004
	Hypopharynx	3.487 (1.678-7.248)	0.001	1.68 (0.752-3.755)	0.206
	Larynx	2.352 (1.131-4.892)	0.022	2.025 (0.875-4.686)	0.099
Smoking	Never smoker	1		N/A	
	Ex-smoker	1.061 (0.59-1.907)	0.843	N/A	
	Current smoker	1.668 (1.079-2.579)	0.021	1.482 (0.927-2.372)	0.101
p16 IHC status		1		1	
		2.275 (1.458-3.551)	0.000	1.947 (1.161-3.264)	0.011
Lymphovascular invasion	Absent	1		1	
	Present	1.826 (1.181-2.823)	0.007	1.589 (0.967-2.612)	0.068
Perineural invasion	Absent	1		1	
	Present	2.122 (1.333-3.377)	0.002	1.276 (0.761-2.142)	0.356
Resection margin status	R0*	1		N/A	
	Non-R0	1.469 (0.955-2.257)	0.08	N/A	
Pathologic T stage	pT1-2	1		1	
	pT3-4	2.952 (1.962-4.442)	0	2.025 (1.294-3.169)	0.002
Pathologic N stage	pN0-1	1		1	
	pN2-3	2.199 (1.492-3.24)	0.000	2.17 (1.378-3.417)	0.001
c-MET expression	Low	1		N/A	
	High	1.069 (0.722-1.581)	0.74	N/A	
MET CN gain	No gain	1		N/A	
	Gain	0.631 (0.35-1.137)	0.125	N/A	

HNSCC: head and neck squamous cell carcinoma; CN: copy number; IHC: immunohistochemistry

\* R0 resection status was defined as complete tumor resection