

Supplementary Table 1: The result of logistic regression analysis for further propensity score matching

	OR	95% CI	p
Age	1.00	0.99 – 1.01	0.676
Sex, M vs. F	0.87	0.69 – 1.09	0.230
ASA class \geq 3	1.12	0.85 – 1.46	0.430
Diabetes	0.82	0.62 – 1.08	0.153
Coronary arterial disease	0.97	0.70 – 1.36	0.874
Heart failure	1.36	0.91 – 2.04	0.138
Stroke	0.75	0.46 – 1.22	0.248
Chronic kidney disease	0.83	0.60 – 1.15	0.260
Pretreatment CEA[†]	1.04	0.81 – 1.34	0.751
Laparoscopic surgery	0.26	0.13 – 0.49	<.001
Left- vs. right-sided tumour	1.08	0.86 – 1.35	0.530
Blood transfusion	1.09	0.83 – 1.42	0.542
Anaesthesia time[‡]	0.64	0.49 – 0.84	0.002
Stage			0.003
II vs. I	1.18	0.86 – 1.62	0.304
III vs. I	1.97	1.30 – 3.00	0.002
Tumour differentiation			0.734
Moderate vs. good	0.85	0.55 – 1.31	0.465
Poor vs. good	0.92	0.49 – 1.71	0.784
Mucinous histology	1.26	0.74 – 2.14	0.387
Signet-ring histology	1.63	0.84 – 3.16	0.152
Lymphovascular invasion	0.60	0.42 – 0.84	0.004
Perineural invasion	0.49	0.28 – 0.86	0.013
Postoperative C/T	0.56	0.40 – 0.76	<.001
Postoperative R/T	1.81	0.36 – 8.96	0.470
Preoperative C/T \pm R/T	1.48	0.31 – 7.16	0.626

OR: odds ratio; M: male, F: female; ASA: American Society of Anesthesiologists; CEA: carcinoembryonic antigen; C/T: chemotherapy; R/T: radiotherapy. [†]On base-10 logarithmic scale; [‡]On base-2 logarithmic scale

Supplementary Table 2: The results of subgroup analyses by distinct cancer stages

	Recurrence-free survival	Overall survival
Stage I	0.73 (0.13 – 4.17)	0.46 (0.19 – 1.09)
Stage II	0.92 (0.58 – 1.46)	0.84 (0.52 – 1.36)
Stage III	0.78 (0.57 – 1.08)	0.81 (0.53 – 1.23)

Values are hazard ratio (95% confidence interval). All results have been adjusted for the significant covariates obtained after model selection.

Supplementary Figure 1: The proportion of epidural analgesia in colon cancer resection at Taipei Veterans General Hospital from January 2005 through December 2014 (by three months)

