

Supplementary Table 1. Clinical characteristics of patients.

SAMPLE	COLLECTION DATE	SEX	AGE (years)	SITE OF PRIMARY	DIAGNOSIS	PREVIOUS CHEMOTHERAPY	NEO ADJUVANT
M001	24/7/08	F	67	Colon	Synchronous	No	n.d.
M002	13/8/08	F	55	Colon	Metachronous	Yes	n.d.
M003	22/8/08	F	78	Colon	Synchronous	No	n.d.
M004	25/8/08	F	63	Colon	Synchronous	No	n.d.
M005	1/10/08	M	70	Rectum	Synchronous	yes	yes
M006	8/10/08	F	79	Colon	Metachronous	n.d.	n.d.
M007	9/10/08	F	58	Colon	Synchronous	n.d.	n.d.
M008	10/10/08	M	71	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M009	15/10/08	F	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	yes	no
M010	24/10/08	F	n.d.	Rectum	Synchronous	no	yes
M011	27/10/08	M	70	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M012	30/10/08	M	62	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M013	30/10/08	M	77	Colon	Metachronous	yes	no
M014	18/11/08	F	48	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M015	20/11/08	M	53	n.d.	n.d.	no	yes
M016	21/11/08	F	81	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M017	24/11/08	M	74	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M018	27/11/08	M	68	n.d.	n.d.	no	no
M019	3/12/08	M	71	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M020	10/12/08	M	63	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M021	17/12/08	M	73	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M022	19/12/08	M	57	Rectum	Synchronous	yes	no
M023	9/1/09	F	53	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M024	12/1/09	M	48	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M025	12/1/09	F	71	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M026	20/1/09	M	46	Rectum	Synchronous	n.d.	n.d.
M027	23/1/09	M	70	n.d.	n.d.	yes	yes
M028	23/1/09	M	67	Colon	Metachronous	yes	no
M029	26/1/09	M	66	Rectum	Synchronous	yes	no
M030	27/1/09	F	61	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M031	29/1/09	M	69	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M032	30/1/09	F	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M033	2/2/09	F	68	Rectum	Synchronous	no	no
M034	3/2/09	M	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M035	4/2/09	M	67	n.d.	n.d.	no	no
M036	4/2/09	M	64	Rectum	Synchronous	yes	no
M037	5/2/09	F	48	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M038	6/2/09	F	61	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M039	9/2/09	M	60	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M040	17/2/09	M	68	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M041	3/3/09	M	75	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M042	3/3/09	F	46	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M043	13/3/09	F	53	Colon	Synchronous	n.d.	n.d.
M044	13/3/09	M	68	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M045	16/3/09	F	50	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M046	16/3/09	M	69	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M047	20/3/09	F	74	n.d.	n.d.	no	no
M048	23/3/09	M	82	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M049	25/3/09	M	56	n.d.	n.d.	no	yes
M050	9/4/09	M	46	Colon	Metachronous	n.d.	n.d.
M051	15/4/09	M	53	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes

M052	17/4/09	M	62	Colon	Synchronous	n.d.	n.d.
M053	17/4/09	M	62	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M054	21/4/09	M	80	Colon	Synchronous	n.d.	n.d.
M055	22/4/09	M	74	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M056	24/4/09	M	57	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M057	6/5/09	F	56	Rectum	Metachronous	no	no
M058	29/5/09	F	62	Rectum	Metachronous	n.d.	n.d.
M059	4/6/09	M	87	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M060	5/6/09	M	61	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M061	11/6/09	F	74	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M062	22/6/09	F	72	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M063	25/6/09	F	50	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M064	30/6/09	M	64	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M065	1/7/09	M	59	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M066	6/7/09	F	58	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M067	10/7/09	M	46	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M068	14/7/09	M	47	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M069	14/7/09	M	51	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M070	15/7/09	F	75	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M071	21/7/09	F	62	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M072	24/7/09	M	68	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M073	29/7/09	M	73	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M074	29/7/09	M	45	Rectum	Synchronous	no	yes
M075	30/7/09	M	55	Rectum	Synchronous	no	yes
M076	10/8/09	M	69	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M077	12/8/09	M	53	Colon	Metachronous	yes	no
M078	13/8/09	F	53	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M079	13/8/09	M	63	Rectum	Synchronous	yes	yes
M080	20/8/09	M	48	Rectum	Synchronous	no	yes
M081	26/8/09	M	48	Colon	Metachronous	yes	no
M082	2/9/09	M	71	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M083	3/9/09	M	63	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M084	9/9/09	M	77	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M085	11/9/09	M	69	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M086	15/9/09	M	74	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M087	17/9/09	M	61	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M088	21/9/09	M	71	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M089	21/9/09	M	73	Colon	Metachronous	no	yes
M090	23/9/09	M	76	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M091	30/9/09	F	62	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M092	30/9/09	F	50	Colon	n.d.	yes	yes
M093	30/9/09	F	51	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M094	7/10/09	M	76	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M095	15/10/09	M	64	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M096	15/10/09	F	51	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M097	16/10/09	M	61	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M098	26/10/09	F	72	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M099	2/10/09	M	46	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M100	4/11/09	M	57	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M101	9/11/09	M	72	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M102	11/11/09	F	66	Colon	Metachronous	no	no
M103	11/11/09	M	73	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M104	25/11/09	M	67	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M105	17/12/09	F	62	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M106	18/12/09	M	71	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M107	15/1/10	M	68	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes

M108	15/1/10	F	66	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M109	22/1/10	M	71	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M110	22/1/10	M	65	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M111	28/1/10	M	67	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M112	8/2/10	F	77	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M113	15/2/10	M	63	Rectum	Synchronous	no	no
M114	24/2/10	M	59	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M115	24/2/10	M	59	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M116	1/3/10	M	56	Colon	Metachronous	yes	no
M117	11/3/10	M	75	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M118	16/3/10	F	46	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M119	7/4/10	M	76	Colon	Metachronous	yes	no
M120	13/4/10	M	45	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M121	15/4/10	M	70	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M122	20/4/10	F	60	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
M123	27/4/10	M	60	Rectum	Synchronous	no	yes
M124	29/4/10	M	64	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M125	25/5/10	M	58	Colon	Synchronous	yes	yes
M126	1/6/10	M	70	Rectum	Synchronous	no	yes
M127	7/6/10	M	55	Rectum	Metachronous	yes	no
M128	14/6/10	M	75	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M129	15/6/10	M	79	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M130	9/7/10	M	48	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M131	15/7/10	M	78	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M132	19/7/10	F	52	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M133	23/7/10	F	51	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M134	28/7/10	M	73	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M135	30/7/10	F	73	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M136	5/8/10	F	75	Colon	Metachronous	yes	no
M137	13/8/10	M	63	Rectum	Metachronous	no	yes
M138	16/8/10	M	74	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M139	25/8/10	F	59	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M140	27/8/10	F	66	Rectum	Metachronous	no	no
M141	1/9/10	M	68	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M142	2/9/10	M	59	Colon	Metachronous	yes	yes
M143	2/9/10	F	59	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M144	6/9/10	F	n.d.	Colon	Synchronous	no	no
M145	15/9/10	M	70	Rectum	Synchronous	no	yes
M146	16/9/10	M	84	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M147	22/9/10	F	81	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M148	27/9/10	M	60	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes
M149	1/10/10	M	69	Colon	Synchronous	yes	no
M150	21/10/10	M	72	Colon	Synchronous	no	yes