

36031-Biostatistics statement

The statistical analysis was performed with the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software, version 21.0. Disease-free survival (DFS) was defined as the time from surgery until the recurrence of GC or death from any cause. Overall survival (OS) was defined as the time from surgery until death from any cause. Continuous variables were transformed to dichotomous variables in the survival analysis. χ^2 tests were used to compare clinicopathological characteristics between groups. Variables known to have prognostic value were selected in the final multivariable Cox proportional hazards model. Kaplan-Meier curves for disease-free survival and OS were compared using a log-rank test. A P-value of < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.