

**S2 Table.** Univariable and multivariable Cox regression model in metastatic breast cancer (entire cohort)

Characteristic	Univariable			Multivariable		
	hazard ratios	95% CI	p-value	hazard ratios <sup>a)</sup>	95% CI	p-value
<b>Age (yr)</b>			0.003			0.103
<35	1			1		
35-50	0.714	0.551-0.925	0.011	0.759	0.571-1.008	0.057
>50	1.009	0.775-1.313	0.948	0.966	0.616-1.514	0.879
<b>Menopause status</b>						
Menopause vs. menses	1.182	0.963-1.450	0.11	1.036	0.702-1.528	0.86
<b>Tumour size (cm)</b>			0.031			0.141
≤ 2	1			1		
> 2 and ≤ 5	1.442	1.096-1.898	0.009	1.329	0.998-1.770	0.051
> 5	1.251	0.916-1.709	0.159	1.291	0.927-1.799	0.13
<b>Lymph node involvement</b>						
Yes vs. no	1.213	0.952-1.546	0.118	1.2	0.909-1.583	0.198
<b>MFI</b>			<0.001			<0.001
Primary stage IV	1			1		
< 6 mo	0.98	0.654-1.468	0.921	1.125	0.717-1.765	0.607
6 mo-2 yr	1.698	1.327-2.173	<0.001	1.851	1.391-2.463	<0.001
2-5 yr	1.29	0.987-1.687	0.063	1.331	0.985-1.798	0.063
> 5 yr	0.858	0.516-1.427	0.556	0.836	0.450-1.553	0.571
<b>No. of metastases</b>						
> 1 vs. 1	1.458	1.196-1.777	<0.001	1.137	0.718-1.801	0.584
<b>Metastasis site</b>			<0.001			0.068
Visceral/CNS	1			1		
Bone/Soft tissue	0.651	0.507-0.837	0.001	0.76	0.569-1.016	0.064

Multiple	1.197	0.941-1.521	0.142	1.157	0.696-1.923	0.575
<b>HR status</b>						
HR+ vs. HR-	0.716	0.581-0.881	0.002	0.675	0.530-0.861	0.002
<b>HER2 receptor status</b>			0.882			0.382
Non-amplification	1			1		
Amplification	0.997	0.806-1.234	0.978	0.847	0.663-1.083	0.185
Not known or equivocal (2+)	1.097	0.754-1.597	0.627	1.031	0.673-1.580	0.889

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CI, confidence interval; MFI, metastasis-free interval; CNS, central nervous system; HR, hormone receptor; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2. <sup>a)</sup>Co-variables for multivariable adjustment: age, menopause status, tumour size, lymph node involvement, MFI, number of metastasis, location of metastasis site, HR status and HER2 receptor status.