

Additional file 2 Tumor characteristics post chemotherapy according to pathological complete response

		pCR ^a	Non-pCR
Number of patients		57	245
Tumor size (mm)	median (IQR)	0 (0 - 0)	17 (10 - 30)
Number of positive axillary lymph nodes	0	54 (94.7)	72 (29.4)
	1-3		86 (35.1)
	>4		80 (32.7)
	missing	3 (5.3) ^b	7 (2.9)
Estrogen receptor status	positive		155 (63.3)
	negative		64 (26.1)
	missing	57 (100)	26 (10.6)
Progesterone receptor status	positive		99 (40.4)
	negative		120 (49.0)
	missing	57 (100)	26 (10.6)
HER2 status	positive		47 (19.2)
	negative		169 (69.0)
	missing	57 (100)	29 (11.8)
Ki67	>20% (high)		69 (28.2)
	<=20% (low)		135 (55.1)
	missing	57 (100)	41 (16.7)

a. pathological complete response

b. Three patients with pCR in the breast specimen did not undergo axillary surgery.