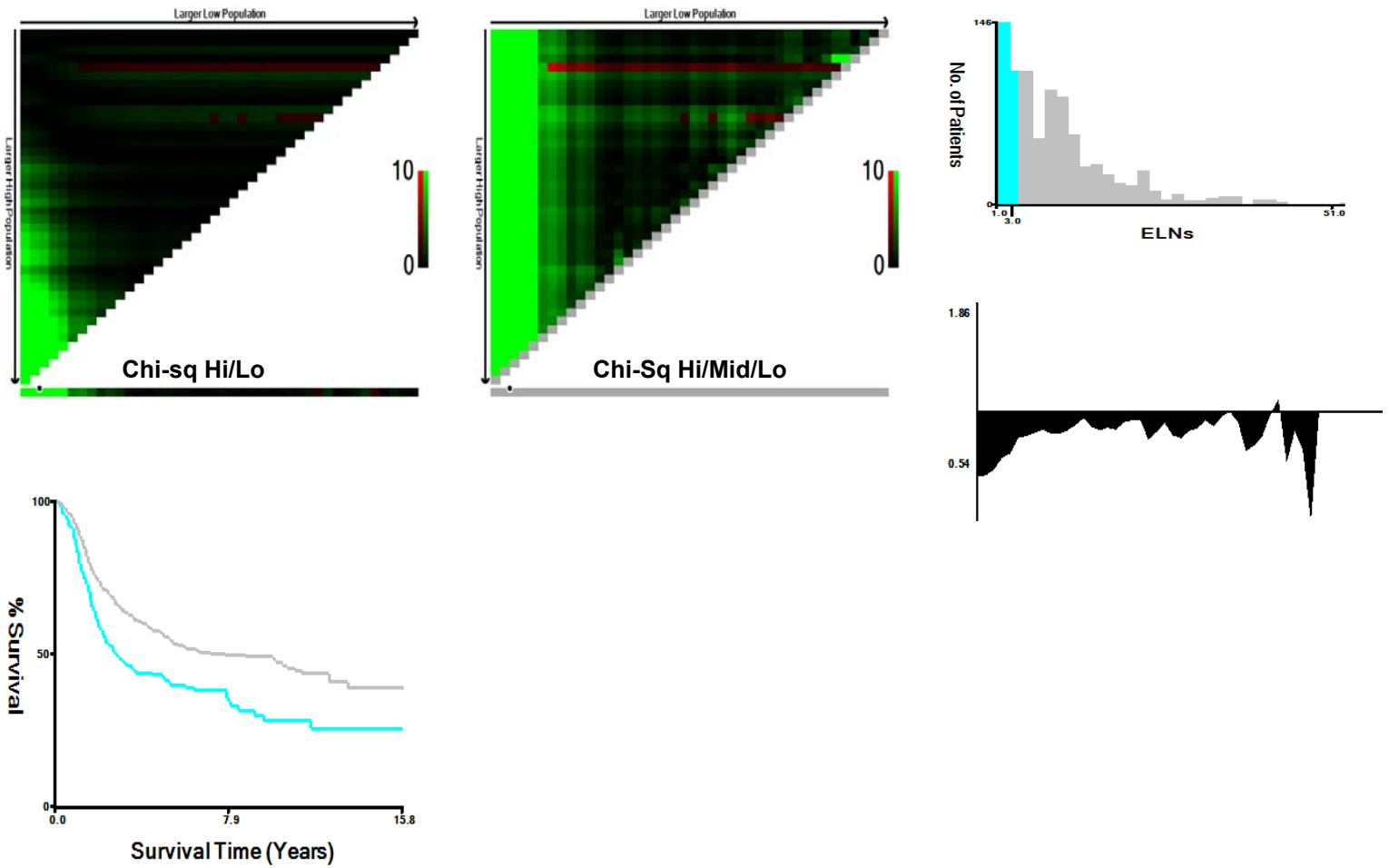


**Supplementary figure 1: The X-tile software determined the optimal cutoff point of ELNs. ELNs: examined lymph nodes**



**Subpopulation Cutpoints:**

<u>Pt No</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Range</u>
195	22.97	114	58.46	0 to 2	1.00 thru 3.00
654	77.03	278	42.51	3 to 42	4.00 thru 51.00
849	100.00	392	46.17	0 to 42	1.00 thru 51.00

**Statistics:**

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Value</u>	
Miller-Seigmund P	0.0008	Max: 0.0008
Chi-sq Hi/Lo	18.0806	Max: 18.0806
Relative Risk 1 vs 2	1.38 / 1.00	