A Key Genomic Subtype Associated with Lymphovascular Invasion in Invasive

Breast Cancer

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ABSTRACT

Background: Lymphovascular invasion (LVI) is associated with the development of metastasis in invasive breast cancer (BC). However, the complex molecular mechanisms of LVI, which overlap with other oncogenic pathways, remain unclear. This study, using available large transcriptomic datasets, aims to identify genes associated with LVI in early-stage BC patients.

Methods: Gene expression data from the Molecular Taxonomy of Breast Cancer International Consortium (METABRIC) cohort (n = 1565) was used as a discovery dataset, and The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA; n = 854) cohort was used as a validation dataset. Key genes were identified on the basis of differential mRNA expression with respect to LVI status as characterized by histological review. The relationships among LVI-associated genomic subtype, clinicopathological features and patient outcomes were explored.

Results: A 99-gene set was identified that demonstrated significantly different expression between LVI-positive and LVI-negative cases. Clustering analysis with this gene set further divided cases into two molecular subtypes (subtypes 1 and 2), which were significantly associated with pathology-determined LVI status in both cohorts. The 10-year overall survival of subtype 2 was significantly worse than that of subtype 1.

Conclusion: This study demonstrates that LVI in BC is associated with a specific transcriptomic profile with potential prognostic value.

KEY WORDS: invasive breast cancer, lymphovascular invasion, gene signature

INTRODUCTION

Outcomes for early-stage breast cancer (BC) patients have improved over recent decades as a result of better diagnostic accuracy, targeted drug therapies, in addition to improvements in early diagnosis¹. However, the ten-year mortality rates of BC patients remain ~20% which is attributable to the development of metastasis². Several histopathological features have been studied as prognostic factors in BC, including tumour size, lymph node status and histological grade³⁻⁵, which are strongly associated with outcome. Lymphovascular invasion (LVI) is an early event in the development of metastasis and is a potent prognostic factor⁶. Although the molecular profiles associated with tumour differentiation in terms of histological type and grade and development of lymph node metastasis have been well characterised⁷⁻⁹, the molecular mechanisms of LVI and associated genes that may represent therapeutic targets or biomarkers remain to be identified. The main challenge in determining the molecular profiles associated with LVI status in BC stems from the lack of LVI status in the available large-scale molecular studies in addition to the inherent subjectivity of morphological assessment of LVI status.

The Molecular Taxonomy of Breast Cancer International Consortium (METABRIC)¹⁰ and The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA)¹¹ cohorts are currently the largest genomic and transcriptomic datasets of early-stage BC patients with clinical follow-up. In this study, using these large transcriptomic datasets combined with thorough histological assessment of LVI, we applied bioinformatic analysis to evaluate the genes associated with LVI and assessed the prognostic value of genomic subtype based on LVI status.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The METABRIC cohort

In the METABRIC study¹⁰, mRNA was extracted from primary tumours of female patients, and mRNA expression was evaluated using the Illumina TotalPrep RNA Amplification Kit and Illumina Human HT-12 v3 Expression BeadChips (Ambion, Warrington, UK). LVI status of 1,565 patients within the METABRIC cohort, which were histologically assessed using haematoxylin and eosin (H&E) stained slides. For the Nottingham subset included in METABRIC (n = 285/1,565), LVI status was additionally assessed by immunohistochemistry (IHC) utilising CD31, CD34 and D2-40¹², and the final LVI status was confirmed using a combination of multiple H&E tumour sections and IHC. Considering the different methods of LVI assessment, cases were divided into two groups: (1) the Nottingham cases and (2) the remaining METABRIC cases (n = 1,280). Gene transcript expression levels between LVI-positive and LVI-negative cases were compared for each group, as described in the 'Bioinformatics analysis' section.

The TCGA cohort

The data from the TCGA¹¹ cohort of female BC patients (n = 854) was extracted from the Genomic Data Commons Data Portal and cBioPortal website^{13, 14}. Briefly, the datasets of mRNA expression from RNASeqV2 were accessed along with deidentified clinical information for several clinicopathological factors and outcomes. Digital H&E stained slides from the TCGA_BRCA cohort were accessed via the cBioPortal website, and LVI status was quantified by an expert breast pathologist (LD).

Bioinformatics analysis

Analysis of mRNA expression data from METABRIC has been previously described¹⁰. Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) between LVI-positive and LVInegative cases were identified using the weighted average difference (WAD) method, and the DEGs were selected according to the WAD ranking^{15,16}. Lists of the top 350 genes associated with LVI for the WAD assay in both (1) the Nottingham cases in the METABRIC cohort (n = 285) and (2) other METABRIC cases (n = 1280) are shown in Supplementary Tables 1 and 2. Overlapping DEGs between the two groups were included in the gene set associated with LVI.

The Cluster 3.0 package was used for clustering and heat map construction¹⁷. Clustering analysis was performed using METABRIC data as the discovery set and validated using TCGA data as the validation set. TCGA mRNA data were log2-transformed prior to clustering analysis.

For pathway analysis, the WEB-based GEne SeT AnaLysis Toolkit (WebGestalt) was used to calculate significantly enriched gene ontologies and pathways associated with these genes^{18,19}. The false discovery rate was controlled using the Benjamini– Hochberg procedure in WebGestalt, with an adjusted-p < 0.01 considered statistically significant.

Statistical analysis

Statistical analyses were conducted using IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, version 24.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY, USA). The chi-squared test was used to assess differences among several clinicopathological factors, including LVI status, tumour size, lymph node status, histological grade, oestrogen receptor (ER), progesterone receptor (PR), human epidermal growth factor 2 (HER2) and molecular subtypes, as stratified by the LVI-associated genomic subtype.

Kaplan–Meier survival curves of 10-year overall survival (OS) were plotted for the METABRIC and TCGA cohorts. The 10-year OS in this study was defined as the day of death within 10 years or the day of completing follow-up from the day of surgery. In univariate and multivariate analyses, 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were assessed using the Cox proportional hazards regression model to determine the associations between clinicopathological factors (LVI status, tumour size, lymph node status, histological grade, ER, PR and HER2), including the LVI-associated genomic subtype and prognosis.

RESULTS

Clinicopathological and prognostic significance of LVI status

In the METABRIC cohort, 635/1,565 (41%) were LVI-positive and 930 (59%) were LVI-negative. The LVI-positivity rate was 41.1% (117/285) in the Nottingham cases and 40.5% (518/1,280) in the remaining METABRIC cases. In the TCGA cohort, 295/854 (35%) patients were LVI-positive and 559 (65%) were LVI-negative. In both cohorts, LVI positivity was significantly associated with large tumour size (METABRIC: p < 0.0001; TCGA: p = 0.00055), positive nodal status (METABRIC and TCGA: both p < 0.0001) and high histological grade (METABRIC and TCGA: both p < 0.0001; Supplementary Table 3).

The survival of LVI-positive BC patients was significantly worse compared with LVInegative patients in the METABRIC (hazard ratio [HR] 1.70, 95% CI 1.45–2.01, p < 0.0001; Figure 1-a) and TCGA cohorts (HR 2.2, 95% CI 1.46–3.38, p = 0.00019; Figure 1-b). Univariate and multivariate analyses of both METABRIC and TCGA datasets are summarised in Supplementary Table 4. Univariate analysis using the

Cox proportional hazards regression model identified LVI-positive status, large tumour size (METABRIC: HR 1.82, 95% CI 1.49–2.21, p < 0.0001; TCGA: HR 1.81, 95% CI 1.08–3.04, p = 0.025), positive nodal status (METABRIC: HR 2.06, 95% CI 1.74–2.44, p < 0.0001; TCGA: HR 1.85, 95% CI 1.20–2.85, p = 0.0056), negative ER status (METABRIC: HR 1.66, 95% CI 1.38–1.99, p < 0.0001; TCGA: HR 1.89, 95% CI 1.19–2.98, p = 0.0065) and negative PR status (METABRIC: HR 1.67, 95% CI 1.42–1.98, p < 0.0001; TCGA: HR 1.68, 95% CI 1.08–2.61, p = 0.020) as poor prognostic factors in both cohorts. In addition, significant prognostic factors included high histological grade (HR 1.63, 95% CI 1.37–1.93, p < 0.0001) and positive HER2 status (HR 1.92, 95% CI 1.54–2.38, p < 0.0001) in the METABRIC cohort. LVI positivity was an independent poor prognostic factor in multivariate analysis (METABRIC: HR 1.29, 95% CI 1.07–1.56, p = 0.0073; TCGA: HR 2.19, 95% CI 1.32–3.62, p = 0.0023; Supplementary Table 4).

Genes associated with LVI

The overlapping DEGs between (1) the Nottingham cases in the METABRIC cohort (n = 285) and (2) remaining METABRIC cases (n = 1,280) included 42 significantly overexpressed and 57 downregulated genes (Table 1, Supplementary Tables 5 and 6).

The 99 genes in the LVI-related set were significantly associated with gene ontologies, including 'GO: 0005615 Extracellular space', 'GO: 0072562 Blood microparticle' and 'GO: 0031012 Extracellular matrix' (Table 2). All significant pathways existed in the category 'Cellular component' of gene ontology (Supplementary Figure 1).

Hierarchical clustering was used to further analyse these 99 genes based on similarity in expression (Figure 2-a). Clustering in the discovery (METABRIC) cohort classified cases into two subtypes, namely, subtypes 1 (n = 738 cases; 45%) and 2 (n = 827; 55%) (Figure 2-b). The dendrogram of METABRIC cases, in which the pattern of the branches indicates the relationship for each case, is shown in Supplementary Figure 2.

To validate these results, hierarchical clustering was conducted on the TCGA cohort using the same 99 genes. The dendrogram classifying these 854 cases is shown in Supplementary Figure 3, again showing the cases split into two groups: subtypes 1 and 2, with 263 (31%) and 591 (69%) cases, respectively (Figure 2-c).

In both cohorts, LVI positivity was significantly more prevalent in subtype 2 tumours than those of subtype 1 (METABRIC and TCGA: p < 0.0001; Table 3).

Clinicopathological and prognostic significance of the LVI-related gene sets

In the METABRIC and TCGA cohorts, subtype 2 was significantly associated with large tumour size (both p < 0.0001), high histological grade (both p < 0.0001), ER negativity (both p < 0.0001), PR negativity (both p < 0.0001) and HER2 positivity (both p < 0.0001; Table 3). Interestingly, 69% of luminal B, 95% HER2-enriched and 90% basal-like BC were classified as subtype 2 in the METABRIC cohort.

Patients with LVI-related subtype 2 had a significantly worse prognosis compared with those presenting with subtype 1 tumours in both cohorts (METABRIC: HR 1.78, 95% CI 1.50–2.12, p < 0.0001; TCGA: HR 2.32, 95% CI 1.35–3.99, p = 0.0023; Figure 1-c, d). In multivariate survival analysis, the LVI-related genomic subtype was an independent poor prognostic factor in both cohorts (METABRIC: HR 1.32, 95% CI

1.07–1.63, *p* = 0.0098; TCGA: HR 2.76, 95% CI 1.19–6.38, *p* = 0.018; Figure 3 and Supplementary Table 7).

DISCUSSION

In this study, we identified a 99-gene set significantly associated with LVI status in the METABRIC dataset. We validated this finding using the TCGA dataset. LVI is a biomarker for aggressive BC and is considered predictive for metastasis²⁰. In other cancer types, gene sets associated with vascular invasion have been previously described, for example in hepatocellular carcinoma²¹ and endometrial cancer²². Mannelqvist *et al.*²³ suggested that an 18-gene set associated with vascular invasion in endometrial cancer²² was consistently associated with hormone receptor negativity, HER2 positivity, basal-like phenotype, reduced patient survival in BC patients. In line with these findings, the present study found that 69% of luminal B, 95% HER2-enriched and 90% basal-like BCs were subtype 2 in the METABRIC cohort. Subtype 2 was significantly associated with LVI positivity. However, of the 18 genes identified in Mannelqvist *et al.*, only different isoforms of matrix metallopeptidase (MMP) and serpin family E member (SERPINE) were present in our 99-gene set.

The underlying molecular mechanisms driving LVI in BC, which are potential therapeutic targets, have yet to be identified. The 99 genes in the LVI-related gene signature from this study are significantly associated with extracellular pathways. In previous work, Klahan *et al.*²⁴ suggested their gene set associated with LVI was related to extracellular matrix components using microarray data from 108 BC patients. Epithelial–mesenchymal transition (EMT)-implicated genes in prostate cancer have also been associated with pathways relating to the extracellular

space²⁵. The extracellular matrix comprises a network of structural proteins, and reorganisation of this matrix is required for cancer to progress²⁶. The EMT is thought to play an important role in the process of metastasis to distant sites, and certain EMT markers are related to LVI status in BC¹². In the 99 gene LVI signature set, there are several genes associated with extracellular pathways that are implicated in BC prognosis. For example, heat shock protein 27 (HSPB1), is associated with BC aggressiveness and metastasis²⁷. HSPB1 expression is upregulated in the early phase of cell differentiation, which implies that HSPB1 may play an important role in controlling the growth and migration of cancer stem-like cells²⁸. Another example is apolipoprotein C1 (APOC1), which is considered as a prognostic biomarker for triplenegative BC²⁹. APOC1 is thought to regulate the inflammatory response in cancer tissues³⁰, which may be closely related to the elimination of proliferating cancer cells³¹. Upregulation of MMPs is also related to cancer cell proliferation, invasion and epithelial-to-mesenchymal transformation and is indicative of a poor prognosis for BC patients³². As an example, MMP-11, which belongs to the MMP family, promotes BC development by inhibiting apoptosis as well as enhancing the migration and invasion of BC cells³³. Additional functional studies of these genes are necessary to explore the association of aberrant gene function and proteins related to LVI in BC.

Comparison of the METABRIC and TCGA cohorts was a limiting factor in this study, in terms of the different methods used to quantify and statistically analyse gene expression and in the approaches to LVI evaluation. We previously developed a method for the accurate detection of LVI using immunostaining for CD34 or D2-40¹². In the Nottingham cases, we evaluated LVI status using strict criteria based on both morphology and immunohistochemistry. However, for the TCGA BRCA cohort, we evaluated LVI status using H&E-stained slides alone from the cBioPortal database.

Although LVI evaluation using only one H&E slide is feasible, it may be difficult to clearly identify LVI negativity³⁴. In present study, the LVI-positivity rates were closely similar between the Nottingham cases, the remaining METABRIC cases and TCGA_BRCA cases using the different LVI-evaluations. Although our results might suggest the adequacy of LVI evaluation with only one H&E-stained slide, further analysis with the larger cohorts to assess the LVI status using both H&E and IHC slides is necessary to report accurately on LVI status.

Microarrays were used to evaluate mRNA expression in the METABRIC analysis. In contrast, RNA-seq using NGS was used in the TCGA analysis. Microarray platforms have been used and validated for nearly two decades, and this approach has been widely used for evaluating multi-gene expression. Conversely, the unbiased genome-wide RNA-seq method allows for the analysis of all annotated transcripts in addition to the identification of novel transcripts, splice junctions and noncoding RNAs. These technological and methodological differences may underpin the known challenges of relating microarray and RNA sequencing data between studies^{35, 36}. For example, the different approaches can have different lower limits of detection or may encompass different genomic regions. Thus, we cannot assume that the methods are interchangeable, and doing so would require rigorous cross-assay comparisons³⁷. Although there is statistical agreement across the different cohorts in the present study, further analysis using identical technologies (microarray and/or NGS assays) may provide clearer validation of the LVI gene signature.

In conclusion, we have confirmed the suitability and prognostic significance of our LVI-evaluation approach using the METABRIC and TCGA cohorts. We have determined genomic subtype associated with LVI status and patient outcome in BC, therefore, providing an experimental tool which may serve to unravel the complex

gene networks associated with LVI with potential clinical relevance. Consistency between clinical cohorts stratified by LVI-gene signature may be further improved by using the same definitions and evaluation methods for LVI status.

Additional Information

Ethics approval and consent to participate

This study was approved by the Nottingham Research Ethics Committee 2 (Reference title: Development of a molecular genetic classification of breast cancer). All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and/or national research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.

Availability of data and material

The datasets generated and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

Conflict of interest

Ibraheem Alshankyty is a consultant/advisory board in Molecular Diagnostics Lab, College of Applied Med. Sci., KAU. There were no competing interests for the other authors.

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Authors' contributions

SK participated in its design, experimentation, analysis, interpretation, and manuscript drafting. CJ, SS, SA, YK, AA, MA, MAA and NPM collected the genomic and clinical data and assisted in making the study design and evaluating the results obtained. LD mainly performed histopathological examinations. SR, AO, SJ, TF, KS, CC, IA, IOE, CD and ARG contributed to theoretical organization of the manuscript. EAR conceived and supervised the study, participated in its design, interpretation, and analysis, including drafting. All authors contributed to drafting and reviewing the manuscript and approved the submitted and final version.

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Supplementary Information

Supplementary information is available at the British Journal of Cancer's website

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Figure legends

Figure 1.

Cumulative survival of BC patients stratified by LVI status. (a) Ten-year overall survival in the METABRIC cases was significantly worse in the LVI-positive group than in the LVI-negative group. (b) In TCGA cases, significant differences were noted in patient overall survival in the LVI-positive and LVI-negative groups. Cumulative survival of breast cancer patients stratified by LVI-related genomic subtypes. (c) Ten-year overall survival in breast cancer patients with LVI-related gene signatures. Subtype 2 was significantly worse compared with subtype 1 in the METABRIC cohort. (d) Classification of LVI-related gene signature was a significant prognostic factor in the TCGA cohort.

Figure 2. Cluster analysis of the gene set associated with LVI.

(a) The dendrogram of 99 LVI-related genes using METABRIC cohort, in which the pattern of the branches indicates the relationship for each gene. Heat maps in accordance with the LVI-related gene set for the (b) METEBRIC and (c) TCGA cohorts showed that all cases were clearly divided between subtypes 1 and 2 using cluster analysis.

Figure 3. Survival analysis based on clinicopathological characteristics including LVI-related genomic subtype.

Forest plots showing the hazard ratios and 95% CI of the multivariate survival analyses in (a) the METABRIC cohort and (b) the TCGA cohort. The LVI-related genomic subtype was an independent prognostic factor in both cohorts.

Supplementary file legends

Supplementary Table 1. List of top 350 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion in the Nottingham cohort

Supplementary Table 2. List of top 350 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion in the remaining METABRIC cases

Supplementary Table 3. Correlation between lymphovascular invasion and clinicopathological characteristics

Supplementary Table 4. Survival analysis based on clinicopathological characteristics including lymphovascular invasion

Supplementary Table 5. Full gene name list of the 99 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion

Supplementary Table 6. Mean value, standard error of the mean (SEM), subtraction and weighted average difference (WAD) ranking in the 99 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion

Supplementary Table 7. Survival analysis based on clinicopathological characteristics including LVI-related genomic subtype

Supplementary Figure 1. Significant pathways associated with LVI-related gene set

Supplementary Figure 2. The dendrogram of METABRIC cases for hierarchical clustering analysis

Supplementary Figure 3. The dendrogram of TCGA cases for hierarchical

clustering analysis

Table 1. List of 99 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion

	Upregulated genes			Downregulated genes	d genes		
APOC1	KRT7	UCP2	ACTG2	FCGBP	S100A4		
APOE	KRT8	YWHAZ	ANG	FGD3	SELENOM		
CALML5	LAPTM4B		ANXA1	FOS	SERPINA3		
CCNB2	LRRC26	_	C1S	FST	SERPINE2		
CDCA5	LY6E	_	CDC42EP4	GAS1	SGCE		
COX6C	MMP11	_	CEBPD	GSTP1	SLC40A1		
DNAJA4	MX1	_	CFB	HBA2	SLC44A1		
EEF1A2	NME1		CFD	НВВ	SRPX		
ELF3	NOP56		CLIC6	HLA-DQA1	STC2		
ERBB2	PGAP3		CXCL12	IL17RB	SUSD3		
GNAS	PITX1		CXCL14	MAOA	TNS3		
HMGA1	PTTG1		CYBRD1	MFAP4	TPM2		
HMGB3	S100P		CYP4X1	MGP	TXNIP		
HSPB1	SCD		DCN	MT1E	UBD		
IDH2	SLC52A2		DKK3	NDP	VIM		
IFI27	SLC9A3R1	_	DPYSL2	NINJ1	VTCN1		
ISG15	SPDEF	_	DUSP1	PDGFRL	ZBTB20		
KRT18	TM7SF2		EEF1B2	PLGRKT			
KRT18P55	UBE2C		FBLN1	PYCARD			
KRT19	UBE2S	-	FCER1A	RPL3	_		

Table 2. Gene ontology pathways significantly associated with 99 genes related to lymphovascular invasion

Ontology	Name	Genes in Ontology	Observed	Expected	Enrichment	p-value	Genes
GO:0005615	Extracellular space	1385	23	6.52	3.53	< 0.0001	SERPINA3, DCN, CFD, FBLN1, DKK3, ANG, GSTP1, ANXA1, HBB, HSPB1, APOC1, APOE, MFAP4, NDP, SERPINE2, S100A4, CFB, CXCL12, C1S, ACTG2, YWHAZ, STC2, CXCL14
GO:0072562	Blood microparticle	110	7	0.52	13.51	0.00043	SERPINA3, HBB, APOE, CFB, C1S, ACTG2, YWHAZ
GO:0031012	Extracellular matrix	503	11	2.37	4.64	0.0079	DCN, FBLN1, ANG, HSPB1, APOE, MFAP4, MGP, MMP11, NDP, SERPINE2, VIM

Table 3. Clinicopathological significance of genomic subtypes related to lymphovascular invasion	

	МЕТ	ABRIC coho	ort				Т	CGA cohort			
For	10 KO	LVI-asso s	ociated gene subtypes	omic	n voluo	For		LVI asso	ociated geno subtypes	omic	n voluo
Fac	lors	Subtype 1	Subtype 2	Total	<i>p</i> -value	Fac	lors	Subtype 1	Subtype 2	Total	<i>p</i> -value
1.7/1	Positive	262 (35.5%)	373 (45.1%)	635	<0.0001	13/4	Positive	61 (23.2%)	234 (39.6%)	295	<0.0001
LVI	Negative	476 (64.5%)	454 (54.9%)	930	<0.0001	LVI	Negative	202 (76.8%)	357 (60.4%)	559	<0.0001
Tumour sins	≥ 2cm	454 (61.9%)	613 (75.2%)	1067	<0.0001	Turneureine	T 2-4	164 (62.4%)	451 (76.3%)	615	<0.0001
Tumour size	< 2cm	279 (38.1%)	202 (24.8%)	481	<0.0001	Tumour Size	T 1	99 (37.6%)	140 (23.7%)	239	<0.0001
Nedel status	Positive	307 (41.7%)	428 (51.9%)	735	<0.0001	1 Nodal status	Positive	128 (48.9%)	295 (50.3%)	423	0.71
Noual status	Negative	429 (58.3%)	396 (48.1%)	825	<0.0001		Negative	134 (51.1%)	292 (49.7%)	426	0.71
Histological	Grade 3	187 (26.5%)	586 (72.8%)	773	<0.0001	Histological	Grade 3	28 (11.3%)	324 (56.9%)	352	<0.0001
grade	Grade 1, 2	519 (73.5%)	219 (27.2%)	738	~0.0001	grade	Grade 1, 2	219 (88.7%)	245 (43.1%)	464	~0.0001
ED	Positive	707 (95.8%)	497 (60.1%)	1204	<0.0001	ED	Positive	246 (97.6%)	393 (68.7%)	185	<0.0001
ER	Negative	31 (4.2%)	330 (39.9%)	361	~0.000T	01 ER	Negative	6 (2.4%)	179 (31.3%)	639	~0.000T
DD	Positive	533 (72.2%)	295 (35.7%)	828	<0.0001		Positive	235 (94.0%)	311 (54.8%)	546	<0.0001
rκ	Negative	205 (27.8%)	532 (64.3%)	737	<0.0001	FK	Negative	15 (6.0%)	257 (45.2%)	272	<0.0001

Pos HER2	Positive	20 (2.7%)	168 (20.3%)	188	<0.0001		Positive	20 (9.6%)	113 (23.0%)	133	<0.0001
ner2	Negative	718 (97.3%)	659 (79.7%)	1377	<0.0001	HER2	Negative	189 (90.4%)	378 (77.0%)	567	<0.0001
	Luminal A	467 (63.5%)	126 (15.3%)	593						-	
	Luminal B	121 (16.5%)	272 (32.9%)	393							
Molecular subtypes	HER2-enriched	10 (1.4%)	171 (20.7%)	181	<0.0001						
	Basal-like	24 (3.3%)	222 (26.9%)	246	-						
	Normal-like	113 (15.4%)	35 (4.2%)	148							
Abbreviations:	ER, Oestrogen r	eceptor; PR	, Progestero	one rece	eptor; LVI, I	_ymphovascula	ar invasion.				

Supplementary Table 7	. Survival analysis based	on clinicopathological characteris	stics including LVI-related genomic subtype
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		······································

	METAB	RIC cohort			TCGA cohort					
Factors		Multiva	riate analys	is	Fastar		Multiva	riate analys	is	
Factors		Hazard Ratio	95% CI	<i>p</i> -value		5	Hazard Ratio	95% CI	<i>p</i> -value	
LVI related genomic	Subtype 1	R	eference		LVI related	Subtype 1	Re	Reference		
subtype	Subtype 2	1.32	1.07-1.63	0.0098	genomic subtype	Subtype 2	2.76	1.19-6.38	0.018	
1.7/1	Negative	R	eference	<u>I</u>	1.7/1	Negative	Re	ference		
LVI	Positive	1.29	1.07-1.55	0.0075	LVI	Positive	1.42	0.76-2.65	0.28	
Turna a una a lina	< 2cm	R	eference	I	Turne and alma	T1	Re	ference		
Tumour size	<u>≥</u> 2cm	1.44	1.17-1.78	0.00055	iumour size	T2-4	1.27 0.67-2.43		0.47	
	Negative	R	eference			Negative	Re	ference		
Nodal status	Positive	1.64	1.36-1.98	<0.0001	Nodal status	Positive	1.38 0.72-2.63		0.33	
	Grade 1, 2	R	eference	l		Grade 1, 2	Re	ference		
HIStological grade	Grade 3	1.07	0.88-1.31	0.49	HIStological grade	Grade 3	0.74	0.40-1.39	0.35	
-D	Positive	R	eference		FD	Positive	Re	ference		
ER	Negative	1.08	0.86-1.36	0.51	EK	Negative	1.40	0.60-3.30	0.44	
DD	Positive	R	eference		DD	Positive	Re	ference		
PR	Negative	1.32	1.07-1.62	0.0095		Negative	0.92	0.41-2.08	0.84	
LED2	Negative	R	eference		LED2	Negative	Re	ference		
ΠΕΚΖ	Positive	1.38	1.09-1.74	0.0074	ΠΕΚΖ	Positive	1.20	0.63-2.27	0.58	
Abbreviations: ER, O	ptor; PR, Proges	sterone rece	ptor; LVI, I	Lymphovascular invas	sion.	:				

Supplementary Table 6. Mean value, standard error of the mean (SEM), subtraction and weighted average difference (WAD) ranking in the 99 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion

					Upregu	lated genes	;					
			Notti	ngham ca	ses				Remaining	ј МЕТАВІ	RIC cases	
LVI	Pos	itive	Neg	ative	Subtraction	WAD	Pos	itive	Neg	ative	Subtraction	WAD
Genes	Mean	SEM	Mean	SEM	Subtraction	ranking	Mean	SEM	Mean	SEM	Subtraction	ranking
APOC1	10.28	0.91	10.00	0.98	0.28	25	9.98	0.99	9.84	1.04	0.14	64
APOE	11.73	0.67	11.53	0.74	0.20	31	11.64	0.82	11.54	0.82	0.10	81
CALML5	7.56	2.05	7.04	1.88	0.52	61	7.50	2.16	7.16	1.93	0.34	42
CCNB2	8.25	0.92	8.04	0.93	0.21	326	8.07	0.90	7.90	1.01	0.16	186
CDCA5	8.50	0.96	8.28	0.98	0.22	232	8.48	0.95	8.31	1.04	0.17	100
COX6C	12.98	0.63	12.89	0.65	0.09	263	12.89	0.68	12.83	0.67	0.05	277
DNAJA4	9.17	0.75	8.98	0.81	0.20	205	9.20	0.82	9.09	0.81	0.11	227
EEF1A2	9.08	2.00	8.46	1.92	0.63	3	9.05	2.09	8.90	2.04	0.15	105
ELF3	8.69	0.73	8.49	0.86	0.20	274	8.92	0.79	8.81	0.82	0.11	287
ERBB2	10.83	1.59	10.63	1.33	0.20	65	10.92	1.46	10.62	1.22	0.30	1
GNAS	12.75	0.45	12.62	0.41	0.13	101	12.93	0.53	12.87	0.48	0.05	262
HMGA1	8.48	0.64	8.28	0.77	0.20	303	8.50	0.75	8.38	0.77	0.12	298
HMGB3	7.72	0.89	7.38	0.83	0.34	166	7.64	0.88	7.48	0.91	0.16	327
HSPB1	12.26	0.73	12.07	0.74	0.19	32	12.21	0.79	12.11	0.84	0.10	53
IDH2	9.63	0.88	9.45	0.72	0.18	179	9.63	0.83	9.51	0.86	0.12	131
IFI27	11.95	1.30	11.73	1.15	0.21	24	11.63	1.40	11.57	1.35	0.06	334
ISG15	9.74	1.32	9.54	1.35	0.20	140	9.75	1.35	9.61	1.36	0.14	69
KRT18	11.70	0.96	11.51	1.07	0.20	36	11.84	1.05	11.75	1.07	0.09	79
KRT18P55	10.35	0.97	10.16	1.02	0.18	120	10.17	1.08	9.99	1.10	0.18	18

KRT19	12.51	1.14	12.37	1.33	0.14	88	12.58	1.22	12.51	1.26	0.07	149
KRT7	9.45	1.44	9.27	1.35	0.18	223	9.36	1.53	9.25	1.46	0.11	187
KRT8	10.16	0.92	9.96	0.99	0.21	90	10.46	0.99	10.32	1.01	0.14	43
LAPTM4B	10.43	1.06	10.23	0.92	0.20	85	10.18	1.21	10.09	1.13	0.09	246
LRRC26	9.92	1.63	9.72	1.51	0.20	125	9.92	1.55	9.83	1.53	0.09	257
LY6E	10.45	1.00	10.25	0.95	0.20	72	10.62	1.03	10.45	1.00	0.17	14
MMP11	10.53	1.39	10.38	1.50	0.15	184	10.47	1.36	10.27	1.52	0.19	11
MX1	11.07	1.30	10.75	1.30	0.32	9	11.17	1.32	11.05	1.29	0.13	37
NME1	11.55	0.73	11.43	0.71	0.12	217	11.31	0.72	11.20	0.67	0.11	67
NOP56	9.75	0.47	9.59	0.48	0.16	242	9.95	0.56	9.87	0.58	0.09	286
PGAP3	8.91	1.39	8.69	1.15	0.21	199	8.81	1.26	8.56	0.95	0.25	20
PITX1	9.29	1.55	8.84	1.60	0.45	11	9.34	1.59	9.23	1.61	0.10	253
PTTG1	9.29	0.87	9.12	0.94	0.17	257	9.10	0.91	8.93	1.01	0.16	73
S100P	9.70	2.32	9.26	2.31	0.45	5	9.52	2.34	9.22	2.24	0.30	3
SCD	10.88	0.97	10.75	0.92	0.14	200	10.92	1.11	10.78	1.03	0.14	30
SLC52A2	9.18	0.61	9.02	0.63	0.16	309	9.29	0.72	9.13	0.67	0.16	76
SLC9A3R1	10.77	1.04	10.59	1.01	0.18	108	10.97	0.98	10.87	1.02	0.10	109
SPDEF	9.48	1.39	9.34	1.46	0.14	346	9.74	1.34	9.55	1.45	0.19	23
TM7SF2	8.70	0.93	8.44	0.88	0.26	132	8.70	0.95	8.56	0.91	0.14	170
UBE2C	9.27	1.09	9.03	1.16	0.24	106	9.25	1.17	8.99	1.31	0.25	10
UBE2S	9.29	0.71	9.02	0.73	0.27	70	9.35	0.84	9.21	0.85	0.14	94
UCP2	8.93	0.91	8.71	0.90	0.22	189	9.10	0.94	8.94	0.92	0.16	84
YWHAZ	12.00	0.59	11.84	0.58	0.15	79	12.08	0.63	11.95	0.62	0.13	17
					Downreg	ulated gen	es					
Nottingham cases									Remaining) METABF	RIC cases	

LVI	Pos	itive	Nega	ative	Cubtraction	WAD	Pos	itive	Nega	ative	Subtraction	WAD
Genes	Mean	SEM	Mean	SEM	Subtraction	ranking	Mean	SEM	Mean	SEM	Subtraction	ranking
ACTG2	8.75	2.50	9.01	1.81	-0.26	100	8.48	1.62	8.78	1.63	-0.30	7
ANG	8.19	0.94	8.44	1.01	-0.25	186	8.14	1.07	8.29	1.14	-0.15	179
ANXA1	10.91	0.68	11.08	0.71	-0.17	95	10.45	0.91	10.58	0.99	-0.13	50
C1S	10.11	0.93	10.34	0.88	-0.24	53	9.67	1.02	9.77	1.10	-0.10	217
CDC42EP4	10.22	0.38	10.37	0.62	-0.15	197	10.40	0.66	10.48	0.65	-0.08	232
CEBPD	10.09	0.53	10.21	0.70	-0.13	316	10.12	0.84	10.20	0.81	-0.08	333
CFB	10.10	2.45	10.51	1.48	-0.41	4	10.42	1.70	10.54	1.64	-0.12	72
CFD	9.48	1.39	9.87	1.38	-0.40	10	9.24	1.29	9.42	1.36	-0.19	33
CLIC6	8.17	4.43	8.54	2.17	-0.37	50	8.15	2.21	8.43	2.24	-0.28	19
CXCL12	9.44	1.16	9.72	1.00	-0.28	45	9.05	1.10	9.23	1.20	-0.18	49
CXCL14	8.31	2.30	8.67	1.52	-0.36	49	8.18	1.57	8.39	1.61	-0.21	65
CYBRD1	9.73	1.03	9.91	1.03	-0.18	162	9.68	1.15	9.76	1.19	-0.09	318
CYP4X1	8.44	3.82	8.77	1.89	-0.32	64	8.65	1.90	8.88	1.94	-0.23	24
DCN	9.07	1.34	9.23	1.24	-0.16	325	8.46	1.33	8.64	1.43	-0.19	75
DKK3	9.45	0.94	9.72	0.88	-0.27	54	9.07	0.91	9.22	0.93	-0.15	90
DPYSL2	9.82	0.43	9.98	0.60	-0.16	214	9.73	0.68	9.85	0.76	-0.12	107
DUSP1	10.32	0.90	10.44	0.96	-0.12	348	9.89	1.40	10.04	1.45	-0.15	48
EEF1B2	11.20	0.34	11.33	0.52	-0.12	219	10.93	0.78	11.01	0.80	-0.08	159
FBLN1	10.59	1.04	10.86	0.93	-0.27	17	10.51	1.04	10.63	1.12	-0.11	86
FCER1A	7.41	1.20	7.76	1.27	-0.36	144	6.95	1.07	7.15	1.22	-0.21	293
FCGBP	8.72	2.50	9.11	1.64	-0.39	19	8.76	1.61	8.96	1.61	-0.20	38
FGD3	8.81	1.30	9.19	1.11	-0.38	21	9.19	1.20	9.30	1.20	-0.12	173
FOS	10.12	1.85	10.24	1.37	-0.12	349	9.53	1.66	9.74	1.69	-0.21	13

FST	8.22	1.20	8.60	1.10	-0.38	41	8.04	1.02	8.24	1.03	-0.20	89
GAS1	8.92	1.05	9.11	0.92	-0.19	227	8.45	1.06	8.63	1.11	-0.18	80
GSTP1	10.76	1.21	10.99	0.93	-0.23	33	10.61	1.20	10.80	1.10	-0.19	8
HBA2	9.40	2.26	9.55	1.48	-0.15	308	9.03	1.52	9.26	1.57	-0.23	16
HBB	9.34	2.23	9.59	1.47	-0.24	73	8.62	1.62	8.91	1.69	-0.29	9
HLA-DQA1	10.37	1.03	10.52	0.99	-0.15	188	10.04	1.30	10.12	1.31	-0.08	347
IL17RB	7.50	1.18	7.75	1.17	-0.25	340	7.56	1.06	7.73	1.04	-0.17	224
МАОА	7.42	1.62	7.83	1.25	-0.41	84	7.48	1.33	7.67	1.37	-0.19	178
MFAP4	8.48	1.52	8.73	1.26	-0.25	141	8.31	1.17	8.50	1.31	-0.19	83
MGP	12.95	1.44	13.28	1.10	-0.33	2	12.73	1.34	12.87	1.43	-0.14	6
MT1E	9.78	1.26	10.10	1.10	-0.32	15	9.75	1.23	9.84	1.19	-0.09	225
NDP	6.81	2.19	7.26	1.53	-0.45	152	6.91	1.65	7.14	1.68	-0.23	229
NINJ1	10.21	0.29	10.33	0.53	-0.12	314	10.40	0.55	10.49	0.53	-0.09	151
PDGFRL	8.95	1.04	9.23	0.95	-0.28	67	8.51	1.01	8.65	1.09	-0.15	146
PLGRKT	9.88	0.38	10.05	0.63	-0.18	160	9.62	0.78	9.72	0.78	-0.10	182
PYCARD	9.90	0.83	10.10	0.88	-0.19	122	10.05	0.94	10.13	0.94	-0.08	323
RPL3	12.76	0.29	12.89	0.46	-0.13	112	12.70	0.53	12.76	0.53	-0.06	212
S100A4	10.87	0.71	11.00	0.76	-0.13	209	10.46	0.86	10.55	0.90	-0.10	134
SELENOM	10.09	0.49	10.33	0.69	-0.23	55	10.20	0.70	10.35	0.66	-0.15	34
SERPINA3	12.09	3.18	12.25	1.79	-0.16	63	12.05	1.79	12.27	1.68	-0.21	2
SERPINE2	9.97	0.89	10.28	0.96	-0.31	16	9.82	1.03	9.93	1.08	-0.11	123
SGCE	8.87	0.97	9.09	0.89	-0.21	176	8.49	1.10	8.63	1.14	-0.14	168
SLC40A1	9.83	1.18	10.07	1.29	-0.24	59	9.71	1.32	9.83	1.40	-0.12	113
SLC44A1	11.03	0.25	11.24	0.50	-0.21	46	10.93	0.57	11.01	0.55	-0.09	138
SRPX	8.24	1.02	8.43	0.93	-0.20	328	7.84	1.00	8.04	1.14	-0.19	121

STC2	9.26	3.41	9.70	1.94	-0.44	6	9.73	1.96	9.90	1.93	-0.17	28
SUSD3	8.46	2.30	8.99	1.55	-0.53	7	8.67	1.57	8.87	1.57	-0.20	45
TNS3	9.84	0.32	10.04	0.50	-0.19	129	9.98	0.62	10.07	0.58	-0.09	216
TPM2	10.48	0.74	10.61	0.75	-0.13	275	10.32	0.78	10.40	0.82	-0.07	348
TXNIP	10.16	0.35	10.29	0.63	-0.14	259	9.92	0.72	10.00	0.76	-0.09	269
UBD	8.16	2.50	8.55	1.66	-0.39	40	7.98	1.56	8.12	1.61	-0.14	263
VIM	12.25	0.39	12.41	0.58	-0.16	57	12.05	0.77	12.13	0.83	-0.08	103
VTCN1	9.12	3.46	9.34	2.00	-0.22	134	9.08	2.01	9.26	1.96	-0.19	39
ZBTB20	8.79	0.51	8.96	0.63	-0.17	300	8.92	0.68	9.02	0.72	-0.10	342

Supplementary Table 5. Full gene name list of the 99 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion

Gene symbol	Gene name
ACTG2	actin gamma 2
ANG	angiogenin
ANXA1	annexin A1
APOC1	apolipoprotein C1
APOE	apolipoprotein E
C1S	complement C1s
CALML5	calmodulin-like 5
CCNB2	cyclin B2
CDC42EP4	CDC42 effector protein 4
CDCA5	cell division cycle associated 5
CEBPD	CCAAT/enhancer-binding protein delta
CFB	complement factor B
CFD	complement factor D
CLIC6	chloride intracellular channel 6
COX6C	cytochrome c oxidase subunit 6C
CXCL12	C-X-C motif chemokine ligand 12
CXCL14	C-X-C motif chemokine ligand 14
CYBRD1	cytochrome b reductase 1
CYP4X1	cytochrome P450 family 4 subfamily X member 1
DCN	decorin
DKK3	dickkopf WNT signaling pathway inhibitor 3
DNAJA4	DnaJ heat shock protein family (Hsp40) member A4

DPYSL2	dihydropyrimidinase-like 2
DUSP1	dual specificity phosphatase 1
EEF1A2	eukaryotic translation elongation factor 1 alpha 2
EEF1B2	eukaryotic translation elongation factor 1 beta 2
ELF3	E74 like ETS transcription factor 3
ERBB2	erb-b2 receptor tyrosine kinase 2
FBLN1	fibulin-1
FCER1A	Fc fragment of IgE receptor la
FCGBP	Fc fragment of IgG binding protein
FGD3	FYVE, RhoGEF and PH domain containing 3
FOS	Fos proto-oncogene, AP-1 transcription factor subunit
FST	follistatin
GAS1	growth arrest specific 1
GNAS	GNAS complex locus
GSTP1	glutathione S-transferase pi 1
HBA2	hemoglobin subunit alpha 2
HBB	hemoglobin subunit beta
HLA-DQA1	major histocompatibility complex, class II, DQ alpha 1
HMGA1	high mobility group AT-hook 1
HMGB3	high mobility group box 3
HSPB1	heat shock protein family B (small) member 1
IDH2	isocitrate dehydrogenase (NADP(+)) 2, mitochondrial
IFI27	interferon alpha inducible protein 27
IL17RB	interleukin 17 receptor B
ISG15	ISG15 ubiquitin-like modifier

KRT18	keratin 18
KRT18P55	keratin 18 pseudogene 55
KRT19	keratin 19
KRT7	keratin 7
KRT8	keratin 8
LAPTM4B	lysosomal protein transmembrane 4 beta
LRRC26	leucine rich repeat containing 26
LY6E	lymphocyte antigen 6 family member E
MAOA	monoamine oxidase A
MFAP4	microfibrillar-associated protein 4
MGP	matrix Gla protein
MMP11	matrix metallopeptidase 11
MT1E	metallothionein 1E
MX1	MX dynamin like GTPase 1
NDP	NDP, norrin cystine knot growth factor
NINJ1	ninjurin 1
NME1	NME/NM23 nucleoside diphosphate kinase 1
NOP56	NOP56 ribonucleoprotein
PDGFRL	platelet derived growth factor receptor like
PGAP3	post-GPI attachment to proteins 3
PITX1	paired like homeodomain 1
PLGRKT	plasminogen receptor with a C-terminal lysine
PTTG1	pituitary tumor-transforming 1
PYCARD	PYD and CARD domain containing
RPL3	ribosomal protein L3

S100A4	S100 calcium binding protein A4
S100P	S100 calcium binding protein P
SCD	stearoyI-CoA desaturase
SELENOM	selenoprotein M
SERPINA3	serpin family A member 3
SERPINE2	serpin family E member 2
SGCE	sarcoglycan epsilon
SLC40A1	solute carrier family 40 member 1
SLC44A1	solute carrier family 44 member 1
SLC52A2	solute carrier family 52 member 2
SLC9A3R1	SLC9A3 regulator 1
SPDEF	SAM pointed domain containing ETS transcription factor
SRPX	sushi repeat containing protein, X-linked
STC2	stanniocalcin 2
SUSD3	sushi domain containing 3
TM7SF2	transmembrane 7 superfamily member 2
TNS3	tensin 3
ТРМ2	tropomyosin 2 (beta)
TXNIP	thioredoxin interacting protein
UBD	ubiquitin D
UBE2C	ubiquitin conjugating enzyme E2 C
UBE2S	ubiquitin conjugating enzyme E2 S
UCP2	uncoupling protein 2
VIM	vimentin
VTCN1	V-set domain containing T-cell activation inhibitor 1

YWHAZ	tyrosine 3-monooxygenase/tryptophan 5-monooxygenase activation protein zeta
ZBTB20	zinc finger and BTB domain containing 20
Supplementary Table 4. Survival analysis based on clinicopathological characteristics including lymphovascular invasion

METABRIC cohort							TC	GA cohort							
Factors		Univariate analysis			Multivariate analysis		- /		Univariate analysis		Multivariate analysis				
		Hazard Ratio	95% CI	<i>p</i> -value	Hazard Ratio	95% CI	<i>p</i> -value	Factors		Hazard Ratio	95% CI	<i>p</i> -value	Hazard Ratio	95% CI	<i>p</i> -value
LVI	Negative	Reference		Reference		Negative		Reference		Reference					
	Positive	1.70	1.45-2.01	<0.0001	1.29	1.07-1.56	0.0073		Positive	2.22	1.46-3.38	0.00019	2.19	1.32-3.62	0.0023
Tumour size	< 2cm	Reference		•	Reference		T		Reference		Reference				
	<u>≥</u> 2cm	1.82	1.49-2.21	<0.0001	1.48	1.21-1.83	0.00018	i umour size	T2-4	1.81	1.08-3.04	0.025	1.33	0.77-2.31	0.30
Nodal status	Negative	Reference		Reference			Negative	Reference			Reference				
	Positive	2.06	1.74-2.44	<0.0001	1.63	1.35-1.97	<0.0001	Nodal status	Positive	1.85	1.20-2.85	0.0056	1.13	0.67-1.92	0.65
Histological grade	Grade 1, 2	Grade 1, 2 Reference		Reference		Histological grade	Grade 1, 2 Reference		Re	Reference					
HIStological grade	Grade 3	1.63	1.37-1.93	<0.0001	1.16	0.96-1.40	0.13	nistological grade	Grade 3	1.46	0.94-2.25	0.092		-	
ED	Positive	ve Reference		Reference		ED	Positive	Reference		Reference					
EK	Negative	1.66	1.38-1.99	<0.0001	1.14	0.91-1.43	0.25		Negative	1.89	1.19-2.98	0.0065	1.70	0.82-3.50	0.15
	Positive	ositive Reference		1	Reference		22	Positive	Reference		1	Reference			
PK	Negative	1.67	1.42-1.98	<0.0001	1.38	1.13-1.69	0.0020	PK	Negative	1.68	1.08-2.61	0.020	1.21	0.60-2.42	0.60
HER2	Negative	Re	eference	1	Reference			Negative	Reference		1	Reference			
	Positive	1.92	1.54-2.38	<0.0001	1.45	1.15-1.83	0.0019	HEK2	Positive	1.51	0.83-2.77	0.18		-	
Abbreviations: ER, O	estrogen rec	eptor; PR, Prog	jesterone r	eceptor; L	VI, Lymphovaso	ular invasi	on.	1		1	1				

METABRIC cohort					TCGA cohort							
Factors		LVI status					F		LVI status			
		Positive	Negative Total		<i>p</i> -value	Factors		Positive	Negative	Total	<i>p</i> -value	
Tumour size	<u>≥</u> 2cm	2cm 485 (76.5%)		1067	.0.0004		T 2-4	234 (79.3%)	381 (68.2%)	615	0.00055	
	< 2cm	149 (23.5%)	332 (36.3%)	481	<0.0001	Tumour size	T 1	61 (20.7%)	178 (31.8%)	239	0.00055	
Nodal status -	Positive	430 (67.8%)	305 (32.9%)	735	<0.0001	Nodal status	Positive	226 (77.1%)	197 (35.4%)	423	<0.0001	
	Negative	204 (32.2%)	621 (67.1%)	825	<0.0001		Negative	67 (22.9%)	359 (64.6%)	426		
Histological grade	Grade 3	374 (60.7%)	399 (44.6%)	773	<0.0001	Histological grade	Grade 3	155 (55.0%)	197 (36.9%)	352	- <0.0001	
	Grade 1, 2	242 (39.3%)	496 (55.4%)	738			Grade 1, 2	127 (45.0%)	337 (63.1%)	464		
	Positive	473 (74.5%)	731 (78.6%)	1204	0.058	0.058 ER	ED	Positive	219 (76.6%)	420 (78.1%)	639	0.63
ER	Negative	162 (25.5%)	199 (21.4%)	361			ER	Negative	67(23.4 %)	118 (21.9%)	185	0.03
DP	Positive	319 (50.2%)	509 (54.7%)	828	0.080	DD	Positive	194 (68.6%)	352 (65.8%)	546	0.43	
PR -	Negative	316 (49.8%)	421 (45.3%)	737	0.000 FR	FN	Negative	89 (31.4%)	183 (34.2%)	272	0.43	
HER2	Positive	105 (16.5%)	83 (8.9%)	188	<0.0001	LED2	Positive	50 (21.2%)	83 (17.9%)	133	0.20	
	Negative	530 (83.5%)	847 (91.1%)	1377	<0.0001	1 HER2	Negative	186 (78.8%)	381 (82.1%)	567	0.29	

Supplementary Table 3. Correlation between lymphovascular invasion and clinicopathological characteristics

Molecular subtypes	Luminal A	225 (35.5%)	368 (39.7%)	593		
	Luminal B	178 (28.1%)	215 (23.2%)	393		
	HER2-enriched	87 (13.7%)	94 (10.1%)	181	0.0021	
	Basal-like	99 (15.6%)	147 (15.8%)	246		
	Normal-like	44 (7.0%)	104 (11.2%)	148		
Abbreviations: ER, Oestrogen receptor; PR, Progesterone receptor; LVI, Lymphovascular invasion.						

Supplementary Table 2. List of top 350 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion in the remaining METABRIC cases

Genes	WAD value	WAD ranking
ERBB2	0.191	1
SERPINA3	-0.170	2
S100P	0.145	3
TFF3	0.141	4
PIP	-0.123	5
MGP	-0.120	6
ACTG2	-0.120	7
GSTP1	-0.120	8
HBB	-0.119	9
UBE2C	0.116	10
MMP11	0.115	11
ACTG1	-0.112	12
FOS	-0.107	13
LY6E	0.107	14
CNTNAP2	0.106	15
HBA2	-0.105	16
YWHAZ	0.104	17
FLJ40504	0.104	18
CLIC6	-0.102	19
PGAP3	0.101	20

SFRP1	-0.099	21
HLA-A	-0.097	22
SPDEF	0.096	23
CYP4X1	-0.094	24
STARD10	0.093	25
SORD	0.093	26
LTF	-0.092	27
STC2	-0.092	28
C19orf33	0.092	29
SCD	0.091	30
ATP5E	0.089	31
abParts	-0.089	32
CFD	-0.089	33
SELM	-0.087	34
X64709	0.087	35
TOP2A	0.087	36
MX1	0.086	37
FCGBP	-0.086	38
VTCN1	-0.086	39
KRT17	-0.086	40
GSTM2	-0.086	41
CALML5	0.085	42
KRT8	0.084	43

NQO1	0.084	44
SUSD3	-0.084	45
TMBIM6	0.083	46
EEF1G	-0.083	47
DUSP1	-0.082	48
CXCL12	-0.082	49
ANXA1	-0.082	50
NFIX	-0.081	51
BOLA2B	0.080	52
HSPB1	0.080	53
FOXC1	-0.080	54
FAM83H	0.079	55
C10orf116	0.078	56
STAT1	0.078	57
NUSAP1	0.078	58
MYH11	-0.078	59
S100A16	0.077	60
PSMB3	0.077	61
GINS2	0.076	62
COL4A5	-0.076	63
APOC1	0.076	64
CXCL14	-0.076	65
KIAA0101	0.076	66

NME1	0.075	67
GRB7	0.075	68
ISG15	0.075	69
AGR2	0.074	70
HIST1H2AC	-0.073	71
CFB	-0.073	72
PTTG1	0.073	73
FAM129A	-0.073	74
DCN	-0.072	75
GPR172A	0.072	76
ATP9A	0.072	77
CLEC3A	0.072	78
KRT18	0.071	79
GAS1	-0.071	80
APOE	0.071	81
TPM1	-0.071	82
MFAP4	-0.070	83
UCP2	0.070	84
SPP1	-0.070	85
FBLN1	-0.070	86
CDC20	0.069	87
C8orf55	0.069	88
FST	-0.068	89

DKK3	-0.068	90
PAM	-0.068	91
NME4	0.068	92
ZAK	-0.068	93
UBE2S	0.067	94
MFGE8	-0.066	95
PUF60	0.066	96
MT1X	-0.066	97
EGR1	-0.066	98
TUBA1B	0.065	99
CDCA5	0.065	100
NAT1	-0.064	101
SRP9	-0.064	102
VIM	-0.064	103
PDLIM1	-0.064	104
EEF1A2	0.064	105
SQLE	0.064	106
DPYSL2	-0.064	107
COL16A1	-0.064	108
SLC9A3R1	0.063	109
NAPRT1	0.063	110
RRM1	0.063	111
HIST1H4C	0.063	112

SLC40A1	-0.063	113
PPAP2B	-0.063	114
EZR	0.062	115
CYC1	0.062	116
BST2	0.062	117
WWP1	0.062	118
STC1	-0.062	119
JUN	-0.062	120
SRPX	-0.062	121
RPS26	0.062	122
SERPINE2	-0.061	123
TMEM97	0.061	124
PRC1	0.061	125
TNC	-0.061	126
СМТМ7	-0.061	127
CITED4	-0.061	128
SEZ6L2	-0.061	129
TSC22D1	-0.061	130
IDH2	0.061	131
HNRNPA1L2	-0.060	132
38777	0.060	133
S100A4	-0.060	134
VPS28	0.060	135

ZFP36	-0.060	136
CCDC130	-0.059	137
SLC44A1	-0.059	138
CD24	-0.058	139
EIF3E	0.058	140
PRNP	-0.058	141
PLAT	-0.058	142
MAL2	0.058	143
DDIT4	0.058	144
CGNL1	-0.058	145
PDGFRL	-0.058	146
ITM2A	-0.058	147
ARL6IP1	0.058	148
KRT19	0.057	149
CRIP1	0.057	150
NINJ1	-0.057	151
TSPAN13	0.057	152
CPNE3	0.057	153
ECHDC2	-0.057	154
CSE1L	0.057	155
GLA	-0.057	156
SLC7A2	-0.057	157
CUEDC1	0.056	158

EEF1B2	-0.056	159
PRDX1	0.056	160
BCAS4	0.056	161
TUBB2B	-0.056	162
CSTB	-0.056	163
ATP5EP2	0.055	164
PGM1	-0.055	165
GSDMB	0.055	166
FSCN1	-0.055	167
SGCE	-0.055	168
STK3	0.055	169
TM7SF2	0.055	170
EIF2C2	0.055	171
PABPC1	0.055	172
FGD3	-0.054	173
RBBP8	-0.054	174
NCOA3	0.054	175
PBX3	-0.054	176
ORMDL3	0.054	177
МАОА	-0.054	178
ANG	-0.053	179
SERHL2	0.053	180
FBLN2	-0.053	181

C9orf46	-0.053	182
MMP7	-0.053	183
TMEM106C	0.053	184
ALCAM	0.053	185
CCNB2	0.053	186
KRT7	0.053	187
SGK223	-0.053	188
MFSD3	0.053	189
ALOX5	-0.053	190
ALOX5AP	-0.053	191
CA2	-0.053	192
ATP6V0B	0.052	193
FGFR3	0.052	194
APOD	-0.052	195
TGOLN2	-0.052	196
ZDHHC8	-0.052	197
ZFP36L2	-0.052	198
МҮС	-0.052	199
NCRNA00152	0.052	200
PCOLCE	-0.052	201
RPL19	0.052	202
MCM4	0.052	203
NTN4	-0.052	204

FOSB	-0.052	205
LASS6	0.052	206
EIF3G	-0.052	207
CKMT1B	0.052	208
COL6A1	-0.051	209
TMEM14C	-0.051	210
CST3	-0.051	211
RPL3	-0.051	212
SLC38A1	0.051	213
FRMD6	-0.051	214
SLC5A6	0.051	215
TNS3	-0.051	216
C1S	-0.051	217
PLSCR3	-0.051	218
CANT1	0.050	219
PTPN1	0.050	220
SC5DL	-0.050	221
ITM2B	-0.050	222
MYL6	0.050	223
IL17RB	-0.050	224
MT1E	-0.050	225
CSDA	-0.050	226
DNAJA4	0.050	227

TNFSF10	-0.050	228
NDP	-0.049	229
C12orf44	0.049	230
SERF2	0.049	231
CDC42EP4	-0.049	232
CYP4Z1	-0.049	233
LOC389493	-0.049	234
ADM	-0.049	235
TMEM101	-0.049	236
HERPUD1	-0.049	237
DENND1B	0.049	238
IFI44L	0.049	239
MRPL27	0.049	240
ALPL	-0.049	241
WLS	-0.049	242
CXCL10	0.049	243
ARMCX1	-0.049	244
KRT15	-0.049	245
LAPTM4B	0.049	246
CLDN3	0.049	247
ZBTB20	-0.049	248
COPS5	0.048	249
DNAJC12	-0.048	250

ID3	-0.048	251
UBE2E3	-0.048	252
PITX1	0.048	253
GAPDH	0.048	254
HLA-B	-0.048	255
SDCBP	-0.048	256
LRRC26	0.048	257
TNFRSF14	-0.048	258
CRTAP	-0.048	259
C8orf4	-0.048	260
NOSTRIN	-0.048	261
GNAS	0.047	262
UBD	-0.047	263
FAM127A	-0.047	264
CHI3L2	-0.047	265
GATA3	-0.047	266
AURKA	0.047	267
SCPEP1	-0.047	268
TXNIP	-0.047	269
ZNF148	0.047	270
QPCT	-0.047	271
CD248	-0.047	272
PRDX2	-0.047	273

BOLA2	0.047	274
GRINA	0.047	275
hNp95	0.047	276
COX6C	0.047	277
RPL30	0.047	278
IGJ	-0.047	279
TGFBR2	-0.047	280
STIP1	0.047	281
TDG	0.047	282
KRT6B	-0.047	283
CLN3	0.047	284
PTGDS	-0.046	285
NOP56	0.046	286
ELF3	0.046	287
ASAP1	0.046	288
C8orf84	-0.046	289
SLC1A5	0.046	290
MLPH	0.046	291
KIAA0182	0.046	292
FCER1A	-0.046	293
BZW2	0.046	294
МАРТ	-0.046	295
GSN	-0.046	296

TMED3	0.046	297
HMGA1	0.046	298
ATP5H	0.046	299
CSNK1E	-0.046	300
CAMK2N1	0.046	301
ERGIC1	0.046	302
CR613620	0.045	303
ENPP5	-0.045	304
GGCT	0.045	305
C17orf97	-0.045	306
CAPS	0.045	307
KIAA1598	0.045	308
SERPINA1	-0.045	309
RPS19	0.045	310
SLC39A11	0.045	311
SAT1	-0.045	312
ACTB	-0.045	313
NUCB1	-0.045	314
SEMA6A	-0.045	315
CRISPLD2	-0.045	316
TMEM62	0.045	317
CYBRD1	-0.045	318
MT1G	-0.045	319

PTTG3	0.045	320
GADD45A	-0.045	321
RNASE1	-0.045	322
PYCARD	-0.045	323
LPIN1	-0.045	324
PPIC	-0.045	325
DQ893812	-0.045	326
HMGB3	0.045	327
ZHX1	0.044	328
NUDT1	0.044	329
POLR3GL	-0.044	330
TP53INP1	0.044	331
TUFM	0.044	332
CEBPD	-0.044	333
IF127	0.044	334
SOX18	-0.044	335
RACGAP1	0.044	336
ST3GAL1	0.044	337
H2AFX	0.044	338
PTK2	0.044	339
SNX3	-0.044	340
CCDC92	-0.044	341
AK001020	-0.044	342

FAM110A	0.044	343
SCGB1D2	-0.044	344
IFIT1	0.044	345
FKBP9L	-0.044	346
HLA-DQA1	-0.044	347
ТРМ2	-0.043	348
CDS1	0.043	349
CLIP3	-0.043	350

Supplementary Table 1. List of top 350 genes significantly associated with lymphovascular invasion in the Nottingham cohort

Gene symbols	WAD value	WAD ranking
C10orf116	-0.339	1
MGP	-0.291	2
EEF1A2	0.256	3
CFB	-0.236	4
S100P	0.217	5
STC2	-0.217	6
SUSD3	-0.215	7
CDH1	0.212	8
MX1	0.209	9
CFD	-0.201	10
PITX1	0.199	11
СОМР	-0.194	12
FABP4	-0.190	13
C1orf64	-0.187	14
MT1E	-0.174	15
SERPINE2	-0.173	16
FBLN1	-0.170	17
PLIN4	-0.169	18
FCGBP	-0.167	19
CIDEC	-0.165	20

FGD3	-0.164	21
FASN	0.164	22
ESR1	-0.162	23
IF127	0.161	24
APOC1	0.157	25
SCUBE2	-0.153	26
SLC7A5	0.151	27
TFF1	-0.150	28
LGALS1	-0.150	29
ALDOA	0.149	30
APOE	0.147	31
HSPB1	0.146	32
GSTP1	-0.145	33
ADH1A	-0.145	34
LGALS3BP	0.144	35
KRT18	0.143	36
ТОММ7	-0.143	37
IFI6	0.142	38
GPX3	-0.142	39
UBD	-0.142	40
FST	-0.142	41
SFRP4	-0.141	42
SHISA2	-0.141	43

RPS13	-0.141	44
CXCL12	-0.140	45
SLC44A1	-0.139	46
AGR3	-0.138	47
abParts	0.137	48
CXCL14	-0.136	49
CLIC6	-0.135	50
PIP	0.135	51
TGFBR3	-0.135	52
C1S	-0.134	53
DKK3	-0.134	54
SELM	-0.133	55
DPYSL3	-0.132	56
VIM	-0.131	57
DBNDD1	0.131	58
SLC40A1	-0.131	59
MT1A	-0.130	60
CALML5	0.129	61
ACTG1	0.128	62
SERPINA3	-0.127	63
CYP4X1	-0.127	64
ERBB2	0.125	65
MDK	0.124	66

PDGFRL	-0.123	67
RPL26	-0.123	68
TACSTD2	0.122	69
UBE2S	0.122	70
KIAA0531	-0.119	71
LY6E	0.118	72
HBB	-0.118	73
RPS9	-0.118	74
RPS3	-0.118	75
S100A6	-0.118	76
RPS6	-0.117	77
EIF3E	-0.116	78
YWHAZ	0.116	79
CA12	-0.116	80
HLA-DPA1	-0.116	81
PHGDH	0.115	82
HSP90AA1	0.115	83
МАОА	-0.115	84
LAPTM4B	0.115	85
АСТВ	0.115	86
SEZ6L2	0.115	87
KRT19	0.115	88
TFAP2A	0.114	89

KRT8	0.114	90
PRRX1	-0.114	91
PPP1R1B	-0.113	92
RPS20	-0.113	93
BEX1	-0.113	94
ANXA1	-0.112	95
RUSC1	0.112	96
IFITM1	-0.111	97
CAP2	-0.111	98
PLAC9	-0.111	99
ACTG2	-0.111	100
GNAS	0.111	101
RARRES2	-0.111	102
HLA-DRA	-0.110	103
RPL10A	-0.110	104
RPS18	-0.110	105
UBE2C	0.110	106
GLTSCR2	-0.109	107
SLC9A3R1	0.109	108
GFRA1	-0.109	109
CTSD	0.109	110
AKR1C2	-0.108	111
RPL3	-0.108	112

HSP90AB1	0.107	113
HSPA1A	0.107	114
ARHGEF6	-0.107	115
AKR1C3	-0.107	116
RPL13AP6	-0.106	117
LPAR1	-0.106	118
SOCS2	-0.106	119
FLJ40504	0.105	120
SAA1	-0.105	121
PYCARD	-0.105	122
HLA-DMA	-0.105	123
COL8A1	-0.105	124
LRRC26	0.105	125
МҮВ	-0.105	126
IRX3	0.105	127
RPS17	-0.104	128
TNS3	-0.104	129
MFAP5	-0.104	130
RPL24	-0.103	131
TM7SF2	0.103	132
TMSB10	0.102	133
VTCN1	-0.102	134
HIST1H2BK	0.102	135

AX746718	-0.102	136
MGST1	0.102	137
ADAM15	0.101	138
RPS14	-0.100	139
ISG15	0.100	140
MFAP4	-0.099	141
APOD	0.099	142
AZGP1	0.099	143
FCER1A	-0.099	144
MT2A	-0.099	145
CPB1	0.099	146
ATP6V1B1	0.098	147
S100A8	0.098	148
RPL21	-0.098	149
RPS26P11	-0.098	150
DPT	-0.097	151
NDP	-0.097	152
IL6ST	-0.097	153
SMARCA1	-0.097	154
PDK3	-0.096	155
TPST2	-0.096	156
GAS6	-0.096	157
SLC38A1	-0.096	158

RPL35A	-0.095	159
C9orf46	-0.095	160
PPP1R3C	-0.095	161
CYBRD1	-0.095	162
CNN3	-0.095	163
ITPRIPL2	-0.095	164
TUBA1C	0.094	165
HMGB3	0.094	166
ATP6AP1	0.094	167
HIST1H4C	-0.093	168
CSTB	0.093	169
RAI14	-0.093	170
TCEAL4	-0.093	171
CLDN7	0.093	172
PLS3	-0.092	173
CR610863	0.092	174
BTG2	-0.092	175
SGCE	-0.092	176
WBP5	-0.092	177
ALDH2	-0.091	178
IDH2	0.091	179
ACOX2	-0.091	180
SERPINF1	-0.091	181

CIDEA	-0.091	182
RPL27A	-0.091	183
MMP11	0.090	184
EFEMP1	-0.090	185
ANG	-0.090	186
CCL15	-0.090	187
HLA-DQA1	-0.090	188
UCP2	0.090	189
RPL36	-0.089	190
ECM2	-0.089	191
S100A9	0.089	192
BTG1	-0.088	193
C13orf15	-0.088	194
CITED2	-0.088	195
НОХВ2	0.088	196
CDC42EP4	-0.088	197
CAV1	-0.088	198
PGAP3	0.088	199
SCD	0.087	200
FAU	-0.087	201
LRRC17	-0.087	202
PROM2	0.087	203
CCL5	-0.087	204

DNAJA4	0.087	205
IFITM2	-0.087	206
ARHGEF3	-0.087	207
HCST	-0.087	208
S100A4	-0.087	209
HIST1H4H	0.086	210
ALDH3A2	-0.086	211
RFTN1	-0.086	212
YWHAQ	0.086	213
DPYSL2	-0.086	214
RPL22	-0.086	215
PFKP	0.085	216
NME1	0.085	217
COMMD6	-0.085	218
EEF1B2	-0.085	219
NFKBIZ	0.085	220
VCAM1	-0.084	221
CALM1	0.084	222
KRT7	0.084	223
SLC25A5	0.083	224
MGC87042	-0.083	225
BCAP31	0.083	226
GAS1	-0.083	227

ММР9	0.083	228
FTL	0.083	229
MDH2	0.082	230
C8orf40	-0.082	231
CDCA5	0.082	232
GLYATL2	0.082	233
TPSAB1	-0.082	234
RNASE1	0.082	235
HLA-DRB6	-0.081	236
HLA-DQB1	-0.081	237
CRYAB	-0.081	238
CPA3	-0.081	239
C10orf10	-0.081	240
TUBB	0.081	241
NOP56	0.081	242
FERMT2	-0.081	243
PRKCDBP	-0.080	244
CD24	0.080	245
GRN	0.080	246
MXRA5	-0.080	247
LASP1	0.080	248
WISP2	-0.080	249
POLD2	0.080	250

POTEKP	0.080	251
ARL6IP5	-0.080	252
GBP2	-0.080	253
TSPYL5	0.080	254
FLNB	-0.079	255
H2AFY2	0.079	256
PTTG1	0.079	257
COX5A	0.079	258
TXNIP	-0.078	259
EIF3L	-0.078	260
ATHL1	-0.078	261
CHCHD2	0.078	262
COX6C	0.078	263
BCL2	-0.078	264
XBP1	-0.078	265
EPN1	0.078	266
FOXA1	0.078	267
CCND2	-0.078	268
LSM1	-0.078	269
SNAR-A3	0.078	270
ZNF217	0.077	271
RPSA	-0.077	272
CD36	-0.077	273

ELE3	0.077	274
	0.077	217
TPM2	-0.077	275
SAPS2	-0.077	276
NFIB	-0.077	277
MBOAT7	0.077	278
ATP5B	0.076	279
C7orf41	-0.076	280
ABCB9	0.076	281
CDR2L	0.076	282
RPS28	-0.076	283
LMTK3	0.076	284
Р4НВ	0.075	285
ATP5C1	0.075	286
F13A1	-0.075	287
ULK1	0.075	288
KLHDC9	-0.075	289
ZG16B	0.074	290
TMED9	0.074	291
ZMIZ1	0.074	292
ATP2A2	0.074	293
RPL27	-0.074	294
GPI	0.074	295
WNK4	-0.074	296

RPL35	-0.074	297
RSL24D1	-0.074	298
CYB561	0.074	299
AK001020	-0.073	300
LUM	-0.073	301
ACP5	0.073	302
HMGA1	0.073	303
FBP1	-0.073	304
FTH1	0.073	305
MELK	0.073	306
FMOD	-0.072	307
HBA2	-0.072	308
GPR172A	0.072	309
TIGA1	-0.072	310
GSTM2	0.072	311
TSPAN9	-0.072	312
POLB	-0.072	313
NINJ1	-0.072	314
RPL5	-0.071	315
CEBPD	-0.071	316
ASNS	0.071	317
RBP1	-0.071	318
UBA1	0.071	319

AKT1	0.071	320
DARC	-0.071	321
RERG	-0.071	322
PALLD	-0.071	323
OMD	-0.071	324
DCN	-0.071	325
CCNB2	0.071	326
COL9A2	-0.071	327
SRPX	-0.071	328
CTDSPL	-0.071	329
ARHGEF2	-0.070	330
RPS27	-0.070	331
THBS2	-0.070	332
HSPD1	0.070	333
ARHGDIA	0.070	334
ANKRD30A	-0.070	335
PTRF	-0.070	336
FOXO3	-0.070	337
GIPC1	0.070	338
CHPT1	-0.070	339
IL17RB	-0.070	340
SYBU	-0.070	341
TUFT1	0.070	342

-0.070	343
-0.070	344
-0.070	345
0.070	346
0.070	347
-0.070	348
-0.069	349
0.069	350
	-0.070 -0.070 0.070 0.070 0.070 -0.070 -0.069 0.069



Fig. 1


a)

b)



C)



Subtype 1

Subtype 2





Fig. 2

Fig. 3 a)





Supplementary Figure 1



Supplementary Figure 2

Total 1565 METABRIC cases



Supplementary Figure 3





