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Clinical impact of tumor DNA repair expression and T cell infiltration in breast cancers

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ABSTRACT

Impaired DNA repair drives mutagenicity, which increases neoantigen load and immunogenicity. We investigated the expression of proteins involved in the DNA damage response (ATM, Chk2), double-strand break repair (BRCA1, BLM, WRN, RECQL4, RECQL5, TOPO2A, DNA-PKcs, Ku70/Ku80), nucleotide excision repair (ERCC1), base excision repair (XRCC1, pol β , FEN1, PARP1), and immune responses (CD8, PD-1, PD-L1, FOXP3) in 1269 breast cancers and validated our findings in an independent estrogen receptor (ER)⁻ cohort (n = 279). Patients with tumors that expressed low XRCC1, low ATM, and low BRCA1 were not only associated with high numbers of CD8⁺ tumor-infiltrating lymphocyte (TILs), but were also linked to higher grades, high proliferation indexes, presence of dedifferentiated cells, ER⁻ cells and poor survival (all $P \le 0.01$). PD-1⁺ or PD-L1⁺ breast cancers with low XRCC1 were also linked to an aggressive phenotype that was high grade, had high proliferation indexes, contained dedifferentiated cells and ER⁻ (all with P values ≤ 0.01) and poor survival (P = 0.00021 and P = 0.00022, for PD-1⁺ and PD-L1⁺ cancers, respectively) including in an independent ER⁻ validation cohort (P = 0.007 and P = 0.047, respectively). We conclude that the interplay between DNA repair, CD8, PD-L1, and PD-1 can promote aggressive tumor phenotypes. XRCC1-directed personalization of immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy may be feasible and warrants further investigation in breast cancer.

INTRODUCTION

The breast cancer tumor microenvironment includes infiltrating inflammatory cells such as lymphocytes and macrophages. CD8⁺ T-lymphocytes are critical for tumor-specific adaptive immunity (1). We have previously investigated the clinicopathological and prognostic significance of tumor-infiltrating CD8⁺ T lymphocytes (TILs) in a large cohort of breast cancers (2). CD8⁺ TILs were correlated to high tumor grade, hormone receptor negative, and basal-like phenotype. High total CD8⁺ counts were independently associated with favorable clinical outcome (2). A recent large study in 12,439 breast cancers has provided confirmatory evidence that CD8⁺ TILs are associated with significant reduction in the relative risk of death in estrogen receptor (ER)⁻ as well as in ER⁺/HER-2⁺ breast cancers (3).

Breast cancers with enhanced immunogenicity will be prone to attack by CD8⁺ T lymphocytes. Impaired DNA repair and the associated genomic instability not only leads to increased mutagenicity/carcinogenicity but can also increase neoantigen load on tumor cell surface resulting in increased immunogenicity. This concept of DNA repair deficiency and enhanced immunogenicity was shown in mismatch repair (MMR)-deficient colorectal cancers that had a good response to PD-1 blockade (pembrolizumab) therapy compared to tumors that are MMR proficient (4, 5). Whether a similar mechanism can also operate in breast cancers is currently unknown. In the current study we profiled proteins involved in the DNA damage response (ATM, Chk2), double strand break repair (BRCA1, BLM, WRN, RECQL4, RECQL5, TOPO2A, DNA-PKcs, Ku70/Ku80), nucleotide excision repair (ERCC1), base excision repair (XRCC1, pol β, FEN1, PARP1) and immune response (CD8, PD-1, PD-L1, FOXP3]) in 1269 breast cancers and validated in an independent ERcohort (*n* = 279).

PATIENTS AND METHODS

The study was performed in a consecutive series of 1650 patients with primary invasive breast carcinomas who were diagnosed between 1986 and 1998 and enrolled into the Nottingham Tenovus Primary Breast Carcinoma series. Patient demographics are summarized in **Supplementary Table S1**. This is a wellcharacterized series of patients with long-term follow-up that have been investigated in a wide range of biomarker studies (6-14). All patients were treated in a uniform way in a single institution with standard surgery (mastectomy or wide local excision), followed by radiotherapy. Prior to 1989, patients did not receive systemic adjuvant treatment (AT). After 1989, AT was scheduled based on prognostic and predictive factor status, including Nottingham prognostic index (NPI), estrogen receptor-α (ER-α) status, and menopausal status. Patients with NPI scores of < 3.4 (low risk) did not receive AT. In premenopausal patients with NPI scores of ≥ 3.4 (high risk), classical cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, and 5-flurouracil (CMF) chemotherapy was given; patients with ER- α positive tumors were also offered endocrine therapy. Postmenopausal patients with NPI scores of ≥ 3.4 and ER positivity were offered endocrine therapy, whereas ER negative patients received classical CMF chemotherapy. Median follow up time was 111 months (range 1 to 233 months). Breast cancer-specific survival (BCSS) data was maintained on a prospective basis and was defined as the number of months from diagnosis to the occurrence of BC-related death. Survival was censored if the patient was still alive at the time of analysis, lost to follow-up, or died from other causes.

We also evaluated an independent series of 279 ER-α negative invasive BCs diagnosed and managed at the Nottingham University Hospitals between 1999 and 2007. All patients were primarily treated with surgery, followed by radiotherapy and anthracycline/CMF chemotherapy. The characteristics of this cohort are summarized in **Supplementary Table S2**.

Tissue Microarrays (TMAs) and immunohistochemistry (IHC): Tumors were arrayed in tissue microarrays (TMAs) constructed with 0.6mm cores. The TMAs were immunohistochemically profiled for ATM, Chk2, BRCA1, BLM, WRN, RECQL4, RECQL5, TOPO2A, DNA-PKcs, Ku70/Ku80, ERCC XRCC1, pol β, FEN1, PARP1, CD8, and FOXP3 expression as previously described (2, 6-15).

Supplementary Table S3 summarizes antigens, primary antibodies, clone, source, optimal dilution, scoring system and cut-offs used for each DNA repair marker, ER, PR and HER-2 expression. The specificity of the antibodies used is described in our recent publications (2, 6-15).

Table S3. Immunohistochemical staining was performed using the Thermo Scientific Shandon Sequenza chamber system (REF: 72110017), in combination with the Novolink Max Polymer Detection System (RE7280-K: 1250 tests), and the Leica Bond Primary Antibody Diluent (AR9352), each used according to the manufacturer's instructions (Leica Microsystems). Leica Autostainer XL machine was used to dewax and rehydrate the slides. Pre-treatment antigen retrieval was performed on the TMA sections using sodium citrate buffer (pH 6.0) and heated for 20 minutes at 95°C in a microwave (Whirlpool JT359 Jet Chef 1000W). Negative and positive (by omission of the primary antibody and IgG-matched serum) controls were included for each marker in each run. The negative control ensured that all the staining was produced from the specific interaction between antibody and antigen. HER2 expression was assessed according to the new ASCO/CAP guidelines using IHC and fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH) (16).

Evaluation of immune staining: Whole field inspection of the core was scored and intensities of nuclear staining for DNA repair markers were grouped as follows: 0 = no staining, 1 = weak staining, 2 = moderate staining, 3 = strong staining. The percentage of each category was estimated (0-100%). H-score (range 0-300) was calculated by multiplying intensity of staining and percentage staining. The number of CD8⁺ T lymphocytes was counted in each tumor core by using a Nikon Eclipse 80i microscope (Nikon, Tokyo, Japan) and an eyepiece graticule. CD8⁺ and FOXP3⁺ T cells were counted in three locations in each tumor: intratumoral compartment (within the tumor cell nests), within the distant stroma (defined as more than one tumor cell diameter away from the tumor), and within the adjacent stroma (defined as CD8⁺ cells within one tumor cell diameter of the tumor). The total number of CD8⁺ T cells was determined by combining the counts for these three compartments.

Not all cores within the TMA were suitable for IHC assessments as some cores were missing or containing inadequate invasive tumor (< 15% of whole core surface area). Tumor marker prognostic studies (REMARK) criteria, recommended by McShane et al., (17), were followed throughout this study. Ethical approval was obtained from the Nottingham Research Ethics Committee (C202313).

Statistical analysis: Data analysis was performed using SPSS (SPSS, version 21 Chicago, IL). Where appropriate, Pearson's χ^2 , Fisher's exact, the student t and one-way ANOVA tests were used. Cumulative survival probabilities were estimated using the Kaplan–Meier method, and differences between survival rates were tested for significance using the log-rank test. Multivariate analysis for survival was performed using the Cox proportional hazard model. The proportional hazards assumption was tested using standard log-log plots. Hazard ratios (HR) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) were estimated for each variable. All tests were two-sided with a 95% CI and P < 0.05 considered significant. For multiple comparisons, P values were adjusted according to the Benjamini-Hochberg method (18).

RESULTS

Significance of ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 in CD8⁺ TIL-positive breast cancers

CD8⁺ T-lymphocytes are critical for tumor-specific adaptive immunity (1). A total of 1269 invasive breast carcinomas [ER⁺ (n = 928), ER⁻ (n = 341), triple negative (n = 219), HER2⁺/ER⁻ (n = 92), and HER2⁺/ER⁺ (n = 89)] were suitable for CD8⁺ TIL assessments; 1032 were positive for CD8⁺ TILs and 237 cases were negative for CD8⁺ TILs (**Fig. 1A1–1A4**).

Low ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 expression was associated with poor BCSS in tumors with CD8⁺ TILs (P = 0.006, 0.001, and 0.000011, respectively; Fig. 1A9-A12, B, C, and D), but not in tumors negative for CD8⁺ TILs (P = 0.217, 0.723, and 0.249, respectively; Supplementary Fig. S1A, B, and C). Expression of pol β , ERCC1, RECQL4, RECQL5, BLM, PARP1, FEN1, TOPO2A, Ku70/Ku80, and Chk2 was not significantly associated with survival in CD8⁺ TIL-positive or -negative breast cancers (Supplementary Fig. S2A-2T). In tumors positive for CD8⁺ TILs, WRN did not influence survival (P = 0.332, Supplementary Fig. S2U) but in tumors negative for CD8⁺ TILs, low WRN influenced survival (P = 0.026, Supplementary Fig. S2V). Similarly, in tumors positive for CD8⁺ TILs, DNA-PKcs did not influence survival (P = 0.996, Supplementary Fig. S2W) but in tumors negative for CD8⁺ TILs, low DNA-PKcs influenced poor survival (P = 0.044, Supplementary Fig. S2X).

To investigate whether low tumor ATM, BRCA1 or XRCC1 expression increased CD8⁺ TILs counts and resulted in an aggressive phenotype, we proceeded to investigate clinicopathological associations. The mean CD8⁺ TIL counts were significantly higher in tumors with low ATM (P = 0.004), low BRCA1 ($P = 2.4 \times 10^{-9}$) and low XRCC1 (P = 0.007; **Supplementary Fig. S3**). Tumors with low ATM, low BRCA1, or low XRCC1 and that contained CD8⁺ TILs were significantly more likely to manifest aggressive features, including high grade, high mitotic index, de-differentiation, ER negativity, and PR negativity (all adjusted P values ≤ 0.05 ; **Supplementary Tables S4, S5 and S6**).

Significance of ATM, BRCA1 and XRCC1 in FOXP3⁺ breast cancers

T regulatory cells (Tregs) can inhibit antitumor responses. FOXP3, a member of the forkhead family of transcription factors, is restricted to specific population of Tregs (19). In FOXP3⁺ breast cancers (**Fig. 1A5**), low BRCA1 (P = 0.016) and low XRCC1 (P = 0.000002) expression influenced survival but ATM did not (P = 0.536) (**Supplementary Fig. S4A-C**). On the other hand, in FOXP3 negative breast cancers, low ATM influenced poor BCSS (P = 0.001) (**Supplementary Fig. S4D**) but BRCA1 and XRCC1 amounts did not (P = 0.556 and 0.084, respectively) (**Supplementary Fig. S4E and F**). Low ATM, low BRCA1 or low XRCC1 and FOXP3+ breast cancers were highly significantly associated with high grade, high risk NPI, high mitotic index, pleomorphism, HER-2⁺, ER⁻ and PR⁻ phenotypes (all adjusted p values <0.0001) (**Supplementary Tables S7, S8, and S9**). The data provides compelling evidence that Tregs infiltration along with tumor DNA repair expression can influence breast cancer pathology and outcomes.

Significance of ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 in PD-L1⁺/PD-1⁺ breast cancers

Programmed death ligand-1 (PD-L1) and programmed death-1 (PD-1) are key members of the PD pathway involved in immune regulation. The interaction of PD-L1 with PD-1 induces T cell suppression.

Accordingly the PD-L1/PD-1 pathway has emerged as a key target for immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy (20). We investigated ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 expression in PD-L1⁺/PD-1⁺ or PD-L1⁻/PD-1⁻ breast cancers (**Figures 1A6-A8**).

Low XRCC1 expression was associated with poor BCSS in PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells), PD-L1⁺ (TILs), and PD-1⁺ (TILs) breast cancers (P = 0.00021, 0.007, and 0.00022, respectively; Fig. 1E, F, and G). ATM and BRCA1 amounts did not influence survival in PD-L1⁺/ or PD-1⁺ breast cancers (Supplementary Fig. S5A-F). In PD-L1⁻ breast cancers, ATM, BRCA1 and XRCC1 did not influence survival (Supplementary Fig. S6A-F). In PD-1⁻ breast cancers, low ATM, low BRCA1, and low XRCC1 were associated with poor BCSS (Supplementary Fig. S6G-I).

In PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells) (**Table 1**), PD-L1⁺ (TILs) (**Table 2**), or PD-1⁺ (TILs) (**Table 3**) breast cancers, low XRCC1 amounts were significantly associated with aggressive features including high grade, high risk NPI, high mitotic index, pleomorphism, ER negativity and PR negativity (all adjusted *P* values < 0.001). Taken

together, the data provides evidence that low XRCC1 expression was associated with aggressive phenotype and poor outcomes in PD-L1⁺ and PD-1⁺ breast cancers. We then proceeded to investigate in breast cancers subgroups.

Prognostic significance of ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 in ER⁺ or HER-2⁺ breast cancers

In ER⁺ tumors, although CD8⁺ TILs alone did not influence survival (**Supplementary Fig. S7A–C**), low BRCA1 (P = 0.002) and low XRCC1 (P < 0.0001) were linked to poor BCSS (**Supplementary Fig. S8A** and **B**). Low ATM expression was not significant (P = 0.080; **Supplementary Fig. S8C**).

In PD-1⁺/PD-L1⁺ (TILs) or PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells) ER⁺ breast cancers that received endocrine therapy, ATM, BRCA1, or XRCC1 did not influence survival (unpublished observations). However, XRCC1 expression influenced survival in CD8⁺, PD-1⁺, or FOXP3⁺ ER⁺ breast cancers that received no endocrine therapy (P = 0.02, 0.038, and 0.026 respectively; **Supplementary Fig. S9A–C**) but was not significant to PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells) breast cancers (**Supplementary Fig. S9D**, P = 0.078).

XRCC1 amounts influenced survival in PD-1⁺ HER-2⁺ breast cancers (P = 0.011; **Supplementary Fig. S10A**). ATM and BRCA1 did not associate with survival in CD8⁺, FOXP3⁺, or PD-1⁺ HER-2⁺ breast cancers (unpublished observations). BRCA1 expression was borderline associated with survival in FOXP3⁺ HER-2⁺ breast cancers (P = 0.05; **Supplementary Fig. S10B**). ATM and XRCC1 did not associate with survival in FOXP3⁺ HER-2⁺ breast cancers (unpublished observations). ATM, BRCA1, or XRCC1 did not influence survival in PD-L1⁺ (TILs) or PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells) HER2⁺ breast cancers (unpublished observations).

Prognostic significance of ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 in ER⁻ breast cancers

As expected, CD8⁺ TILs alone was associated with longer survival in ER⁻ tumors (P = 0.013) (Supplementary Fig. S11A) including in patients who received no chemotherapy (P = 0.029) (Supplementary Fig. S11B), but was not significant to patients who received CMF based chemotherapy (P = 0.081) (Supplementary Fig. S11C). In ER⁻ tumors with CD8⁺ TILs that received CMF chemotherapy, low ATM, low BRCA1, or low XRCC1 did not influence survival (unpublished observations).

In PD-L1⁺ (TILs) ER⁻ breast cancers that received no chemotherapy, BRCA1 amounts influenced survival (**Supplementary Fig. S12**), but ATM and XRCC1 did not (unpublished observations). ATM, BRCA1, or XRCC1 did not influence survival in FOXP3⁺, PD-1⁺, or PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells) ER⁻ breast cancers that received no chemotherapy (unpublished observations). Similarly, ATM, BRCA1, or XRCC1 did not influence survival in FOXP3⁺, PD-1⁺, PD-L1⁺ (TILs) or PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells) ER⁻ breast cancers that received CMF chemotherapy (unpublished observations).

We then proceeded to investigate an independent ER⁻ cohort that received modern anthracycline based chemotherapy. Low XRCC1 expression was associated with poor survival in PD-L1⁺ (TILs) and PD-1⁺ (TILs) ER⁻ breast cancers (P = 0.047 and P = 0.007 respectively; **Fig. 1I, 1J**). Low XRCC1 expression was not significant (P = 0.089) to PD-L1⁺ (tumor cells) ER⁻ breast cancers (**Fig. 1H**). ATM or BRCA1 did not influence survival in this cohort (unpublished observations).

DISCUSSION

The presence of TILs is a marker for a good prognosis (1-3, 21, 22) and predicts a favorable response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy in breast cancer (23). Although the biological mechanisms are poorly understood, immune effector cells, their cytokine secretions, or cancer cell immunogenicity may influence biology and antitumor response in breast cancer. In addition, chemotherapy-induced Treg depletion, could also allow pre-existing immune-effector cells to operate effectively and induce antitumor responses (1). CD8⁺ TILs can be a good marker of response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy, providing evidence that specific immune-effector cells could be essential (23). Another possibility is that the immunogenicity of tumor cells themselves could influence immune-effector cell anticancer activity. Tumor cells with abundant surface neoantigens will be prone to immune-attack compared to tumor cells with low neoantigen load. Emerging data provide evidence that tumors with many somatic mutations accumulate neoantigens and are highly immunogenic (5). A key determinant of mutation load is the DNA repair capacity in cancer cells. DNA repair—deficient cancers have increased genomic instability, leading to a 'mutator phenotype' characterized by the accumulation of mutations. For example, MMR-deficient colorectal cancers not only have 10 to 100 times more somatic mutations compared MMR-proficient colorectal tumors, but also have prominent lymphocytic infiltration (5). A pivotal phase II study of PD-1 blockade by pembrolizumab provided the first compelling evidence that MMR-deficient colorectal cancer are more responsive to immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy compared to MMR-proficient tumors (5). In breast cancers, however, MMR deficiency is rare (24), suggesting that impairment of other DNA repair factors may influence prognosis in tumors with immune cell infiltration.

In the current study, a key initial observation was that low amounts of ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 increased CD8⁺ TIL infiltration, and was associated with aggressive pathology, leading to poor patient survival. Germline mutations in ATM or BRCA1 predispose to hereditary breast cancers. In sporadic breast cancers, epigenetic silencing of the BRCA1 promoter has been reported in up to 11%–14% of tumors. About 25% of breast cancers may have a dysfunctional BRCA pathway in which they do not harbor germ-line BRCA mutations, but display similar phenotypes, including HR deficiency. XRCC1 deficiency delays SSB

rejoining, induces mutations, and results in elevated numbers of sister chromatid exchanges, a hallmark of genomic instability. Polymorphism in XRCC1 gene may increase the risk of cancer. We have previously shown that having little ATM or XRCC1 protein in somatic tumors is associated with aggressive breast cancers and poor survival (6, 14). We therefore speculate that reduced protein expression of ATM, BRCA1, or XRCC1 could lead to a 'mutator phenotype', increase immunogenicity, promote CD8⁺ TILs, and influence tumor biology and outcome. However, a limitation to the current study is that we have not directly shown an increased mutational load in ATM/BRCA1/XRCC1-deficient tumors compared to ATM/BRCA1/XRCC1-proficient tumors. This will be an important area for future investigation. Given the essential role of Tregs in attenuating immune response in the tumor microenvironment (19), we also investigated the expression of ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 in FOXP3⁺ breast cancers. We observed highly significant associations with aggressive phenotypes and outcome implying that ATM-, BRCA1-, and XRCC1-deficient breast cancers elicit complex immune responses including cytotoxic T cell, as well as Treg, infiltration.

The PD-1 pathway is critical for immune regulation. PD-L1/PD-1 interaction induces T-cell repression. PD-L1/PD-1—targeted immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy is an exciting approach in cancers (20). Although durable responses have been seen in PD-L1⁺ non-small cell lung cancer (25), not all patients respond to pembrolizumab (a humanized monoclonal antibody to PD-1). Therefore, evaluation of potential biomarkers that could allow personalization of PD-L1⁺ solid tumors is a high priority. We provide clinical evidence that XRCC1 expression can stratify patients into distinct prognostic groups in PD-L1⁺ and PD-1⁺ breast cancers, including in ER negative breast cancers. In addition, low XRCC1 expression also promoted aggressive PD-L1⁺ and PD-1⁺ breast cancer phenotypes, implying potential roles in breast cancer biology. Although none of the patients investigated in the current study received anti PD-1 therapy, our data taken together, would suggest that XRCC1 could aid in the personalization of anti PD-1 therapy that are currently under investigation in PD-L1⁺ breast cancers. Prospective evaluation of this possibility is warranted in the context of clinical trials.

In conclusion, we provide clinical evidence that the interplay between DNA repair, CD8, PD-L1, and PD-1 can promote aggressive tumor phenotypes. XRCC1-directed personalization of immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy may be feasible in breast cancer.

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FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1: A. Immunohistochemical expression of CD8, FOXP3, PD-1, PD-L1, ATM, BRCA1, and XRCC1 in breast cancers (all images are at 20x magnification). A1) Invasive carcinoma, infiltrate with minimal lymphocytic infiltrate. A2) Invasive carcinoma with extensive CD8 negative lymphocytic infiltrate. A3) Invasive carcinoma showing CD8 positive intra-tumoral lymphocytic infiltrate. A4) Invasive carcinoma with extensive CD8 positive peri-tumoral lymphocytic infiltrate. A5) FOXP3 positive (TILs staining) invasive carcinoma. A6) PD-1 positive (TILs staining) invasive carcinoma. A7) PD-L1 positive (Tumor cell staining) invasive carcinoma. A8) PD-L1 positive (TILs staining) invasive carcinoma. A9) ATM negative invasive carcinoma. A10) ATM positive invasive carcinoma. A11) BRCA1 positive invasive carcinoma. A12) XRCC1 positive invasive carcinoma. B. Prognostic significance of ATM expression in CD8+ TILs positive breast cancers (Kaplan-Meier survival curves is shown here). C. Prognostic significance of BRCA1 expression in CD8+ TILs positive breast cancers. D. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 expression in CD8+ TILs positive breast cancers. E. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-L1 positive (tumor cells) breast cancers. F. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-L1 positive (TILs) breast cancers. G. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-1 positive (TILs) breast cancers. H. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-L1 positive (tumor cells) ER negative breast cancers. I. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-L1 positive (TILs) ER negative breast cancers. J. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-1 positive (TILs) ER negative breast cancers.

Table 1: Clinicopathological significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-L1 positive (tumor cells) and PDLI negative breast cancers.

	PD-L1 (1	tumor cells) an	ression	P value	P value	
	XRCC1 ⁺ /PD-L1 ⁺	XRCC1 ⁺ /PD-L1 ⁻	XRCC1 ⁻ /PD-L1 ⁺	XRCC1 ⁻ /PD-L1 ⁻		(adjusted)
A) Pathological Parameters					1	
Tumor Size						
<1cm	39 (69.6%)	7 (12.5%)	9 (16.1%)	1 (1.8%)		
>1-2cm	258 (66.7%)	76 (19.6%)	37 (9.6%)	16 (4.1%)	0.018	0.022
>2-5cm	208 (67.1%)	35 (11.3%)	57 (18.4%)	10 (3.2%)		
>5cm	8 (72.7%)	1 (9.1%)	2 (18.2%)	0 (0.0%)		
Tumor Stage						
1	297 (65.4%0	87 (19.2%)	50 (11.0%)	20 (4.4%)		
2	167 (69.0%)	23 (9.5%)	47 (19.4%)	5 (2.1%)	0.000966	0.00015
3	52 (74.3%)	9 (12.9%)	8 (11.4%)	1 (1.4%)		
Tumor Grade						
G1	80 (71.4%)	21 (18.8%)	9 (8.0%)	2 (1.8%)		
G2	183 (71.5%)	50 (19.5%)	14 (5.5%)	9 (3.5%)	7.45 X 10 ⁻⁷	<0.00001
G3	251 (63.2%0	48 (12.1%)	82 (20.7%)	16 (4.0%)		
NPI						
≤ 3.4	145 (70.0%)	46 (22.2%)	10 (4.8%)	6 (2.9%)	0.000017	< 0.00001
>3.4	338 (65.3%)	70 (13.5%)	90 (17.4%)	20 (3.9%)		
Mitotic Index		, ,	` `			
M1 (low; mitoses < 10)	172 (72.6%)	45 (19.0%)	16 (6.8%)	4 (1.7%)		
M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18)	102 (67.5%)	23 (15.2%)	17 (11.3%)	9 (6.0%)	0.000029	0.0001
M3 (high; mitosis >18)	231 (64.9%)	40 (11.2%)	71 (19.9%)	14 (3.9%)		
Tubule Formation	, ,	,	, ,	,		
1 (>75% definite tubule)	31 (79.5%)	4 (10.3%)	4 (10.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0.175	1.925
2 (10%-75% definite tubule)	175 (72.9%)	31 (12.9%)	26 (10.8%)	8 (3.3%)		
3 (<10% definite tubule)	299 (64.3%)	73 (15.7%)	74 (15.9%)	19 (4.1%)		
Pleomorphism	(1 2)	, ,	, ()			
1 (small-regular uniform)	7 (63.6%)	3 (27.3%)	1 (9.1%)	0 (0.0%)		
2 (Moderate variation)	203 (70.7%)	54 (18.8%)	19 (6.6%)	11 (3.8%)	0.000108	0.0002
3 (Marked variation)	294 (66.1%)	51 (11.5%)	84 (18.9%)	16 (3.6%)		0.000
Tumor Type	(11)		- ()	- ()		
IDC-NST	313 (66.5%)	65 (13.8%)	76 (16.1%)	17 (3.6%)		
Tubular	103 (74.1%)	18 (12.9%)	14 (10.0%)	4 (2.9%)		
Medullary	9 (45.0%)	2 (10.0%)	7 (35.0%)	2 (10.0%)	0.002	0.0028
ILC	48 (67.6%)	19 (26.8%)	3 (4.2%)	1 (1.4%)	3.002	3.0020
Others	4 (44.4%)	3 (33.3%)	2 (22.2%)	0 (0.0%)		
Mixed NST & Lobular/special	26 (61.9%)	10 (23.8%)	3 (7.1%)	3 (7.1%)		
type	20 (01.570)	25.070)	3 (7.170)	3 (7.170)		
Her2 overexpression						
No	449 (68.1%)	100 (15.2%)	86 (13.1%)	24 (3.6%)		
Yes	64 (64.0%)	17 (17.0%)	16 (16.0%)	3 (3.0%)	0.022	0.0242
ER status						
Negative	117 (58.8%)	23 (11.6%)	46 (23.1%)	13 (6.5%)	6.9 X 10 ⁻⁷	<0.00001
Positive	391 (71.2%)	90 (16.4%)	55 (10.0%)	13 (2.4%)		
PR			,			
Negative	185 (60.3%)	41 (13.4%)	64 (20.8%)	17 (5.5%)		

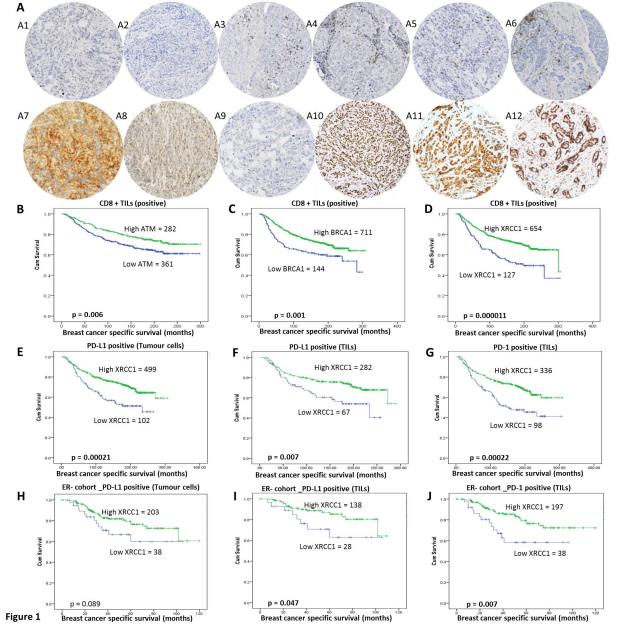
Positive	316 (73.1%)	69 (16.0%)	39 (9.0%)	8 (1.9%)	0.000001	<0.00001

Table 2: Clinicopathological significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-L1 positive (TILs) and PD-L1 negative breast cancers.

	PD	-L1 (TILs) and X	RCC1 expressi	ion	P value	P value (adjusted)
	XRCC1 ⁻ /PD-L1 ⁻	XRCC1 ⁺ /PD-L1 ⁻	XRCC1 ⁻ /PD-L1 ⁺	XRCC1 ⁺ /PD-L1 ⁺	_	,
A) Pathological Parame	ters					
Tumor Size <1cm >1-2cm >2-5cm >5cm	4(7.4%) 25(7.3%) 23(8.4%) 1 (9.1%)	21 (38.9%) 160(46.5%) 89 (32.5%) 3 (27.3%)	6 (11.1%) 23(6.7%) 37(13.5%) 1 (9.1%)	23 (42.6%) 136(39.5%) 125(45.6%) 6 (54.5%)	0.044	0.0484
Tumor Stage 1 2 3	31(7.8%) 20(9.1%) 1 (1.5%)	172(43.1%) 75(34.1%) 27(40.9%)	32(8.0%) 29 (13.2%) 6 (9.1%)	164(41.1%) 96 (43.6%) 32 (48.5%)	0.075	0.825
Tumor Grade G1 G2 G3	7 (7.0%) 12(5.3%) 34 (9.5%)	51 (51%) 125(55.6%) 98 (27.3%)	4 (4%) 6 (2.7%) 57(15.9%)	38 (38%) 82 (36.4%) 170(47.4%)	1.57x10 ⁻¹²	<0.00001
NPI ≤3.4 >3.4	10 (5.4%) 41 (8.8%)	106(57.6%) 159(34.3%)	4 (2.2%) 59 (12.7%)	64 (34.8%) 205(44.2%)	3.8x10 ⁻⁸	<0.00001
Mitotic Index M1 (low; mitoses < 10) M2 (medium; mitoses 10-1 M3 (high; mitosis >18)	8) 12 (5.5%) 13 (10.1%) 28 (8.7%)	112(51.6%) 57 (44.2%) 94 (29.1%)	8 (3.7%) 7 (5.4%) 52(16.1%)	85 (39.2%) 52 (40.3%) 149(46.1%)	4.1x10 ⁻⁸	<0.00001
Tubule Formation 1 (>75% definite tubule) 2 (10%-75% definite tubule) 3 (<10% definite tubule)	3 (8.6%) 13(6.1%) 37 (8.8%)	17 (48.6%) 102(47.9%) 144(34.2%)	1 (2.9%) 16(7.5%) 50 (11.9%)	14 (40%) 82 (38.5%) 190(45.1%)	0.021	0.0257
Pleomorphism 1 (small-regular uniform) 2 (Moderate variation) 3 (Marked variation)	1 (10.0%) 18 (7.2%) 34 (8.4%)	4 (40.0%) 136(54.2%) 123(30.2%)	0 (0%) 8 (3.2%) 59(14.5%)	5 (50.0%) 89 (35.5%) 191(46.9%)	8.5x10 ⁻⁹	<0.00001
Tumor Type IDC-NST Tubular Medullary ILC Others Mixed NST & Lobular/special type	33 (7.8%) 9 (7.4%) 3 (15.8%) 3 (4.7%) 1 (20.0%) 4 (10.0%)	132(31.4%) 69 (56.6%) 2 (10.5%) 39 (60.9%) 2 (40.0%) 24 (60.0%)	51 (12.1%) 7 (5.7%) 6 (31.6%) 1 (1.6%) 0 (0%) 2 (5.0%)	205(48.7%) 37 (30.3%) 8 (42.1%) 21 (32.8%) 2 (40.0%) 10 (25.0%)	1.9x10 ⁻⁸	<0.00001
Her2 overexpression No Yes	44 (7.5%) 10 (11.0%)	248(42.2%) 22 (24.2%)	55 (9.4%) 9 (9.9%)	241(41.0%) 50 (54.9%)	0.01	0.0138
ER status ER – ER +	19 (10.5%) 31 (6.4%)	34 (18.8%) 232(47.5%)	35(19.3%) 31 (6.4%)	93 (51.4%) 194(39.8%)	2.4x10 ⁻¹²	<0.00001
PR Negative Positive	29 (10.7%) 22 (5.7%)	78 (28.7%) 185(47.7%)	43 (15.8%) 22 (5.7%)	122(44.9%) 159(41.0%)	4.8x10 ⁻⁸	<0.00001

Table 3: Clinicopathological significance of XRCC1 expression in PD-1 positive (TILs) and PD1 negative breast cancers.

		PD-1 and XRCC1 expression			P value	P value (Adjusted)
	XRCC1 ⁻ /PD-1 ⁻	XRCC1 ⁺ /PD-1 ⁻	XRCC1 ⁻ /PD-1 ⁺	XRCC1 ⁺ /PD-1 ⁺		(Figure a)
A) Pathological Parameters	1			I.	I	
Tumor Size						
<1cm	4(6.2%)	32(49.2%)	7 (10.8%)	22(33.8%)	0.111	0.137
>1-2cm	19(4.3%)	210(47.9%)	41(9.4%)	168(38.4%)		
>2-5cm	25(7.1%)	129(36.9%)	48(13.7%)	148(42.3%)		
>5cm	1(7.7%)	4 (30.8%)	2 (15.4%)	6 (46.2%)		
Tumor Stage	= (, , , , ,)	(0 01013)	= (=====)	* (1		
1	26(5.2%)	232(46.2%)	49(9.8%)	195(38.8%)	0.239	2.64
2	19(6.6%)	118(40.8%)	40(13.8%)	112(38.8%)		
3	4 (5.2%)	27(35.1%)	8 (10.4%)	38 (49.4%)		
Tumor Grade	1 (3.270)	27(33.170)	0 (10.770)	JU (47.470)		
G1	5 (4 00/)	92(66 00/)	6(4.90/)	20(24.20/)	1X10 ⁻¹³	<0.00001
G2	5 (4.0%)	83(66.9%) 152(56.1%)	6(4.8%)	30(24.2%)	17110	~0.0001
G2 G3	11(4.1%) 33(7.0%)		13(4.8%)	95(35.1%) 219(46.4%)		
NPI	33(1.0%)	141(29.9%)	79(16.7%)	217(40.470)		
NPI ≤3.4	8(3.6%)	139(62.6%)	9 (4.1%)	66(29.7%)	2 (23/10-10	<0.00001
≥ 3.4 >3.4	39(6.4%)	224(37.0%)	85(14%)	257(42.5%)	2.63X10 ⁻¹⁰	<0.00001
~3. 4	39(0.470)	224(37.070)	03(1470)	237(42.370)		
Mitotic Index						
M1 (low; mitoses < 10)	7(2.7%)	155(59.6%)	14(5.4%)	84(32.3%)	3.7X10 ⁻¹²	<0.00001
M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18)	15(9.1%)	76 (46.1%)	13(7.9%)	61(37.0%)	3./X10	~0.00001
M3 (high; mitosis >18)	27(6.4%)	132(31.4%)	70(16.7%)	191(45.5)		
Tubule Formation	27(0.470)	132(31.470)	70(10.770)	171(43.3)		
1 (>75% definite tubule)	2(4.7%)	30(69.8%)	3 (7.0%)	8 (18.6%)	0.000001	<0.00001
2 (10%-75% definite tubule)	20(7.4%)	139(51.5%)	17 (6.3%)	94 (34.8%)	0.000001	~0.00001
3 (<10% definite tubule)	27(5.1%)	194(36.5%)	77 (14.5%)	234 (44%)		
Pleomorphism	27(3.170)	171(30.370)	77 (11.370)	231(1170)		
1 (small-regular uniform)	1(8.3%)	7 (58.3%)	0 (0%)	4 (33.3%)	1 X10 ⁻¹³	< 0.00001
2 (Moderate variation)	15(4.9%)	195 (63.5%)	15 (4.9%)	82 (26.7%)	1 7 10	.0.0001
3 (Marked variation)	33(6.3%)	160 (30.5%)	82 (15.6%)	250 (47.6)		
Tumor Type	33(0.370)	100 (30.370)	02 (13.070)	250 (17.0)		
IDC-NST	35(6.4%)	200(36.5%)	71(13.0%)	242(44.2)	3.3X10 ⁻⁸	< 0.00001
Tubular	8 (5.2%)	93 (60.8%)	9 (5.9%)	43(28.1%)	3.31110	0.00001
Medullary	1(4.3%)	2 (8.7%)	8 (34.8%)	12(52.2%)		
ILC	2(2.6%)	49 (62.8%)	3 (3.8%)	24(30.8%)		
Others	0 (0%)	6 (66.7%)	1 (11.1%)	2 (22.2%)		
Mixed NST &	3 (6.5%)	19 (41.3%)	6 (13.0%)	18(39.1%)		
Lobular/special type	- (2.2.9)	(12.575)	(======================================	- (
Her2 overexpression			1			
No	40(5.4%)	328(44.5%)	80(10.9%)	289(39.2)	0.123	0.1353
Yes	9 (7.1%)	42 (33.3%)	18 (14.3%)	57(45.2%)		
	` ′			` ′		
ER status						
Negative	18(7.6%)	60(25.4%)	49(20.8%)	109(46.2)	2.87X10 ⁻¹²	< 0.00001
Positive	28(4.6%)	308(50.1%)	46(7.5%)	233(37.9)		
PR	l ` ´	1	1 ` ′	` ′		
Negative	26(7.1%)	124(33.8%)	67(18.3%)	150(40.9)	8.1X10 ⁻⁹	< 0.00001
Positive	19(4%)	236(50.2%)	31(6.6%)	184(39.1)	1	1



Supplementary Table S1: Clinicopathological characteristics of Nottingham Tenovus series

Menopausal status 1650 Pre-menopausal 612 (37.0) postmenopausal 1038 (63.0) Tumour Grade (NGS) 1650 G1 306 (18.5) G2 531 (32.2) G3 813 (49.3) Lymph node stage 1650 Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) 486 (29.5) Positive (>3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 1650 T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 6.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 170 (10.3)	Variable	n*	Cases	(%)
postmenopausal Tumour Grade (NGS) G1 G2 G3 G3 B13 (49.3) Lymph node stage 1650 Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) Positive (>3 nodes) Tumour size (cm) T1 a + b (≤1.0) T1 c (>1.0-2.0) T2 (>2.0-5) T3 (>5) 16 10 T2 (>2.0-5) T3 (>5) 16 10 T1 abular Tubular T1 (>5) Tubular Tu	Menopausal status	1650		
Tumour Grade (NGS) G1 306 (18.5) G2 531 (32.2) G3 813 (49.3) Lymph node stage Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) 486 (29.5) Positive (>3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 187 (11.0) T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) 868 (53.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) <td>Pre-menopausal</td> <td></td> <td>612</td> <td>(37.0)</td>	Pre-menopausal		612	(37.0)
G1 306 (18.5) G2 531 (32.2) G3 813 (49.3) Lymph node stage 1650 Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) 486 (29.5) Positive (≥3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 1650 T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) 868 (53.0) T2 (≥2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 1349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4)	postmenopausal		1038	(63.0)
G2 G3 S11 G32.2) G3 R13 G49.3) Lymph node stage 1650 Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) Positive (>3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 1650 T1 a + b (≤1.0) T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) R68 R68 R63.0) T2 (>2.0-5) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 TUmour type 1650 IDC-NST 1650 IDC-NST 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) Medullary (typical/atypical) Low risk 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 C12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4)	Tumour Grade (NGS)	1650		
G3 813 (49.3) Lymph node stage 1650 Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) 486 (29.5) Positive (>3 nodes) 1650 Tumour size (cm) 187 (11.0) T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) 868 (53.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 1600 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) High risk 488 (29.6)	G1		306	(18.5)
Lymph node stage 1650 Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) 486 (29.5) Positive (>3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 1650 T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) T1 c (>1.0 - 2.0) 868 (53.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) High risk 488 (29.6)	G2		531	(32.2)
Negative 1056 (64.0) Positive (1-3 nodes) 486 (29.5) Positive (>3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 187 (11.0) T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) 868 (53.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	G3		813	(49.3)
Positive (1-3 nodes) Positive (>3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 11 a + b (≤1.0) T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) 868 (53.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST Tubular 1650 ILC 1100 Medullary (typical/atypical) Others 1650 NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Good PG(2.42-3.40) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) P868 (29.5) 187 (11.0) 187 (11.0) 187 (11.0) 187 (11.0) 187 (11.0) 187 (11.0) 187 (11.0) 187 (15.0) 187 (11.0) 187 (1.0	Lymph node stage	1650		
Positive (>3 nodes) 108 (6.5) Tumour size (cm) 187 (11.0) T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) 1187 (11.0) T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) 868 (53.0) 579 (35.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) 16 (1.0) Tumour type IDC-NST 941 (57) 160 Tubular 349 (21) 11 ILC 160 (10) 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	Negative		1056	(64.0)
Tumour size (cm) 1650 T1 a + b (≤1.0) 187 (11.0) T1 c (>1.0 - 2.0) 868 (53.0) T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	Positive (1-3 nodes)		486	(29.5)
T1 a + b (≤1.0) T1 c (>1.0 - 2.0) R68 (53.0) T2 (>2.0 - 5) T3 (>5) T4 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST Tubular 1650 ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) Others 1650 NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4)	Positive (>3 nodes)		108	(6.5)
T1 c (>1.0 -2.0) T2 (>2.0-5) T3 (>5) T6 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST Tubular 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) Others 1650 NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Good PG(2.42-3.40) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) S79 (35.0) 16 (1.0) 160 (10) 41 (2.5) 600 173 (2.5) 185 (23.9)	Tumour size (cm)	1650		
T2 (>2.0-5) 579 (35.0) T3 (>5) 16 (1.0) Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	T1 a + b (≤1.0)		187	(11.0)
Tumour type 16 (1.0) IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	T1 c (>1.0 -2.0)		868	(53.0)
Tumour type 1650 IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	T2 (>2.0-5)		579	(35.0)
IDC-NST 941 (57) Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	T3 (>5)		16	(1.0)
Tubular 349 (21) ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	Tumour type	1650		
ILC 160 (10) Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	IDC-NST		941	(57)
Medullary (typical/atypical) 41 (2.5) Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	Tubular		349	(21)
Others 159 (9.5) NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	ILC		160	(10)
NPI subgroups 1650 Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Low risk 207 (12.5) Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	Medullary (typical/atypical)		41	(2.5)
Excellent PG(2.08-2.40) Good PG(2.42-3.40) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) High risk 488 (29.6) 395 (23.9)	Others		159	(9.5)
Good PG(2.42-3.40) 331 (20.1) Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	NPI subgroups	1650		
Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4) High risk 488 (29.6) Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	Excellent PG(2.08-2.40)	Low risk	207	(12.5)
Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4) 395 (23.9)	Good PG(2.42-3.40)		331	(20.1)
	Moderate I PG(3.42 to 4.4)	High risk	488	(29.6)
Poor PG(5.42 to 6.4) 170 (10.3)	Moderate II PG(4.42 to 5.4)		395	(23.9)
	Poor PG(5.42 to 6.4)		170	(10.3)

Very poor PG(6.5–6.8)		59	(3.6)
Survival at 20 years	1650		
Alive and well		1055	(64.0)
Dead from disease		468	(28.4)
Dead from other causes		127	(7.6)
Adjuvant systemic therapy (AT)			
No AT		665	(42.0)
Hormone therapy (HT)		642	(41.0)
Chemotherapy (CMF)		307	(20.0)
Hormone + chemotherapy		46	(3.0)

^{*} Number of cases for which data were available.

NPI; Nottingham prognostic index, PG; prognostic group

Supplemental Table S2: Clinicopathological characteristics of ER- cohort

Variable		Cases (%)
Menopausal status	279	
Pre-menopausal		119 (43.6)
postmenopausal		154 (56.4)
Tumour Grade (NGS)	279	
G1		1 (0.4)
G2		26 (9.5)
G3		248 (90.2)
Tumour size (cm)	279	
≤2.0		140 (52.6)
>2.0		126 (47.4)
Mitotic index	279	
M1		21 (7.5)
M2		47(16.8)
M3		274 (98.9)
Tubule formation	279	
1		1 (0.4)
2		36 (15.0)
3		240 (86.6)
Pleomorphism	279	
1		0 (0)
2		3 (1.1)
3		274(98.9)
Her-2 status	279	
Positive		28 (10)
Negative		251 (90)
<u>NPI</u>	279	
Good (≤ 3.4)		15 (5.5)

Moderate (3.41-5.4)	194 (71.1)
Poor (>5.4)	64 (23.4)

NPI; Nottingham prognostic index, PG; prognostic group

Supplementary Table S3: Antigens, primary antibodies, clone, source, optimal dilution and scoring system used for each immunohistochemical marker

Antigen	Antibody	Clone	Source	Antigen Retrieval	Dilution / Incubatio n Time	Distribution	Scoring system	Cut-offs
BRCA1	BRCA1	MS110	Calbiochem	Citrate pH6	1:100 60 min	Nuclear	% of positive cells	<25% (negative)
ATM	Rabbit MAb anti- ATM	Y170	Abcam	Citrate pH6	1:100 18 hours	Nuclear	% of positive cells	<25% (negative)
XRCC1	Mouse MAb Anti- XRCC1	33-2-5	Thermo- scientific	Citrate pH6	1:200 20 min	Nuclear	% of positive cells	≥10% (positive)
Pol β	Rabbit anti- polβ	Ab26343	Abcam	Citrate pH6	1:200 60 min	Nuclear	H- Score	≥100 (Median H-score, positive)
BLM	Rabbit anti BLM	Polyclonal	Novus- Biologicals	Citrate pH6	1:100 18 Hours	Nuclear	H- Score	≥50 (Median H-score, positive)
WRN	Rabbit Anti-WRN	Polyclonal	Novus Biologicals	Citrate pH6	1:100 Overnight (18h)	Nuclear	H-score	Nuclear ≥116(Median H- score High)
RECQL4	Rabbit Anti RECQL4	Polyclonal	Novus Biologicals	Citrate pH6	1:1000 60 min	Nuclear	H-score	Nuclear ≥215 (Median H-score High)
Ku70/ Ku80	Mouse Anti- Ku70/Ku80	Monoclona 1	Abcam	Citrate pH6	1:2500 60 min	Nuclear	H- Score	>90 (X-tile cut-off, positive)
СНК2	Rabbit Anti CHK2	Polyclonal	Abcam	Citrate pH6	1:100 60 min	Nuclear	H- Score	≥100 (Median H-score, positive)
PARP1	Mouse MAb Anti-PARP1	7D3-6	BD pharmingen	Citrate pH6	1:1000	Nuclear	% of positive cells	≥10% (positive)
TOP2A	Mouse MAb	KiS1	Dako- Cytomation	Citrate pH6	1:150 60 min	Nuclear	% of positive cells	>25% (positive)
FEN1	Rabbit anti- FEN1	polyclonal	Novus Biologicals	Citrate pH6	1:200 60 min	Nuclear	H-score	>100 (positive)
DNA-PKcs	Mouse MAb Anti-	3Н6	Abcam	Citrate pH6	1:1000 20 min	Nuclear	H-score	>260 ((Mean H-score, positive)
ER	Mouse MAb anti- ER-α	SP1	Dako- Cytomation	Citrate pH6	1:150 30 min	Nuclear	Allred score	≥3 (positive)

ER	Mouse MAb anti- ER-α	EP1	Dako- Cytomation	Citrate pH6	1:80 30 min	Nuclear	% positive cells	≥1% positive
PR	Mouse MAb anti- PR	PgR636	Dako- Cytomation	Citrate pH6	1:125 30 min	Nuclear	% positive cells	≥1% positive
HER2	Rabbit antihuman c-erbB2	polyclonal	Dako- Cytomation	None	1:400 60 min	Membrane	See text	See text
CD8	Mouse MAb Anti- CD8	1A5	Vector Laboratories	Citrate pH6	1:50 20 min	Membrane	See text	See text
FOXP3	Mouse MAb Anti- FOXP3	236A/E7	Abcam	Citrate pH6	1:100 60 min	Stroma	positive cell counts	≥3 positive
PD-1	Mouse MAb Anti- PD-1	ЕН33	Cell Signalling Technology	Citrate pH6	1:75 24 hours	Stroma	% positive cells	≥5% positive
PD-L1	Rabbit MAb Anti- PD-L1	E1L3N	Cell Signalling Technology	Epitope retrieval solution 2, pH9, 95°C, 45 min	1:25 24 hours	Membrane Cytoplasm Stroma	% positive in tumour % positive cells in stroma	≥1% positive

All sections were pre-treated with microwave antigen retrieval using 0.1% citrate buffer (pH 6) except for HER2 (no pre-treatment).

		CD8 and AT	M expression		P- value	*P -Value
	ATM+ /CD8+	ATM+ /CD8-	ATM- /CD8+	ATM- /CD8-		(Adjusted)
A) Pathological Parameters						
Tumour Size <1cm >1-2cm >2-5cm >5cm	30 (34.9%) 165(38.3%) 91(32.6%) 3 (21.4%)	5 (5.8%) 51(11.8%) 27(9.7%) 2(14.3%)	41 (47.7%) 176(40.8) 141(50.5) 8 (57.1%)	10 (11.6) 39(9.0%) 20 (1.2%) 1 (7.1%)	0.268	0.2924
Tumour Stage 1 2 3	191(37.3%) 77 (32.8%) 21(33.3%)	59(11.5%) 25(10.6%) 2 (3.2%)	214(41.8%) 114(48.5%) 38 (60.3%)	48 (9.4%) 19(8.1%) 2 (3.2%)	0.054	0.0810
Tumour Grade G1 G2 G3	57 (46.0%) 100(38.3%) 132(31.0%)	20(16.1%) 26(10.0%) 40(9.4%)	40 (32.3) 110(42.1) 216(50.7)	7 (5.6%) 25(9.6%) 38(8.9%)	0.002	0.0080
NPI ≤ 3.4 >3.4	100(41.7%) 178(33.1%)	30(12.5%) 53(9.9%)	90(37.5%) 258(48.0%)	20(8.3%) 49(9.1%)	0.034	0.0680
Mitotic Index M1 (low; mitoses < 10) M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18) M3 (high; mitosis > 18)	116(43.8%) 54 (36.5%) 116(30.2%)	28(10.6%) 16(10.8%) 37(9.6%)	104(39.2%) 62 (41.9%) 195(50.8%)	17(6.4%) 16(10.8%) 36(9.4%)	0.014	0.0336
Tubule Formation 1 (>75% definite tubule) 2 (10%-75% definite tubule) 3 (<10% definite tubule)	12(27.3%) 111(43.5%) 163(32.7%)	8(18.2%) 31(12.2%) 42(8.4%)	19(43.2%) 88(34.5%) 254(51.0%)	5(11.4%) 25(9.8%) 39(7.8%)	0.001	0.0120
Pleomorphism 1 (small-regular uniform) 2 (Moderate variation) 3 (Marked variation)	6 (35.3%) 112(38.2%) 167(34.5%)	3 (17.6%) 39(13.3%) 38(7.9%)	6 (35.3%) 116(39.6%) 238(49.2%)	2(11.8%) 26(8.9%) 41(8.5%)	0.077	0.1027
Tumour Type IDC-NST Tubular Medullary ILC Others Mixed NST &lobular/ special type	165 (33.8%) 70 (42.9%) 10 (34.5%) 23 (33.8%) 2 (22.2%) 16 (37.2%)	48 (9.8%) 24 (14.7%) 1 (3.4%) 4 (5.9%) 1 (11.1%) 6 (14.0%)	236 (48.4%) 56 (34.4%) 17 (58.6%) 35 (51.5%) 5 (55.6%) 13 (30.2%)	39 (8.0%) 13 (8.0) 1 (3.4%) 6 (8.8%) 1 (11.1%) 8 (18.6%)	0.045	0.0836
HER-2 overexpression No Yes	243(35.8%) 41 (34.2%)	76 (11.2%) 9 (7.5%)	300(44.2%) 61 (50.8%)	60(8.8%) 9 (7.5%)	0.459	0.9670
ER Negative Positive	6.6 (29.6%) 220 (38.0%)	15 (6.7%) 71 (12.3%)	121(54.3%) 242(41.8%)	21(9.4%) 46(7.9%)	0.003	0.0098
PR Negative Positive	104(31.4%) 175(38.5%)	23(6.9%) 62(13.6%)	172(52.0%) 180(39.6%)	32(9.7%) 38(8.4%)	0.001	0.0130

cancer

	BRCA1+ /CD8+	BRCA1+ /CD8-	BRCA1- /CD8+	BRCA1- /CD8-	P- value	*P -Value (Adjusted)
A) Pathological Parameters						
Tumour Size						
<1cm	79 (77.5%)	15 (14.7%)	6 (5.9%)	2 (2.0%)	0.26	0.624
>1-2cm	363(68.6%)	86(16.3%)	64 (12.1%)	16(3.0%)		
>2-5cm	278(68.3%)	51 (12.5%)	70(17.2%)	8 (2.0%)		
>5cm	10 (50%)	3 (15%)	6 (30%)	1 (5.0%)		
Tumour Stage						
1	418(65.3%)	107(16.7%)	95(14.8%)	20(3.1%)	0.40	0.8
2	245(74.7%)	41 (12.5%)	36(11.0%)	6 (1.85%)		
3	67 (73.6%)	8 (8.8%)	15(16.5%)	1 (1.1%)		
Tumour Grade						
G1	112(68.7%)	33 (20.2%)	10 (6.1%)	8 (4.9%)	3.5×10^{-12}	p<0.0001
G2	263(78.0%)	53 (15.7%)	18 (5.3%)	3 (0.9%)		
G3	355(63.5%)	70 (12.5%)	118(21.1%)	16(2.9%)		
NPI						
≤ 3.4	218(72.7%)	58 (18.7%)	18 (6.0%)	8 (2.7%)	0.000026	0.0003
>3.4	474(66.9%)	94 (13.3%)	121 (17.1%)	19 (2.7%)		
Mitotic Index						
M1 (low; mitoses < 10)	260 (76.9%)	56 (16.6%)	17 (5.0%)	5 (1.5%)	2.4x10 ⁻⁹	p<0.0001
M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18)	142 (73.2%)	29 (14.9%)	19 (9.8%)	4 (2.1%)		_
M3 (high; mitosis >18)	317 (63.4%)	62 (12.4%)	106(21.2%)	15(3.0%)		
Tubule Formation						
1 (>75% definite tubule)	36 (64.3%)	14(25.0%)	2 (3.6%)	56 (100%)	0.000207	0.0012
2 (10%-75% definite tubule)	231(70.6%)	56(17.1%)	33 (10.1%)	327(100%)		
3 (<10% definite tubule)	452(69.2%)	77(11.9%)	107(16.5%)	649(100%)		
Pleomorphism						
1 (small-regular uniform)	13 (86.7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (13.3%)	3.5×10^{-10}	p<0.0001
2 (Moderate variation)	282(73.2%)	74(19.2%)	22 (5.7%)	7 (1.8%)		_
3 (Marked variation)	421(67.0%)	72(11.5%)	120(19.1%)	15 (2.4%)		
Tumour Type						
IDC-NST	418 (66.5%)	82 (13%)	113 (18%)	16 (2.5%)	6.4×10^{-10}	p <0.0001
Tubular	144(70.6%)	40 (19.6%)	11 (5.4%)	9 (4.4%)		
Medullary	18 (56.3%)	1 (3.1%)	12 (37.5%)	1 (3.1%)		
ILC	96 (85.7%)	13 (11.6%)	3 (2.7%)	0 (0 %)		
Others	9 (75%)	3 (25%)	0 (0%)	1 (1.7%)		
Mixed NST& Lobular special	38 (65.5%)	16 (27.6%)	3 (5.2%)	27 (2.6%)		
type						
HER-2						
Negative	626(69.0)	140 (15.4)	116 (12.8)	25 (2.8)	0.037	0.1418
Positive	95 (66.4)	16 (11.2)	30 (21.0)	2 (1.4)		
ER						
Negative	150 (55.8%)	28 (10.4%)	76 (28.3%)	15 (5.6%)	2.6×10^{-18}	p<0.0001
Positive	574 (74.1%)	124 (16.0%)	66 (8.5%)	11 (1.4%)		
PR						
Negative	260 (61.2%)	47 (11.1%)	101 (23.8%)	17 (4.0%)	4.6×10^{-15}	p<0.0001
Positive	464 (74.1%)	108(17.3%)	44 (7.0%)	10 (1.6%)		_

	CD8 and XRCC1 expression				P- value	*P -Value	
	XRCC1+ /CD8+	XRCC1+ /CD8-	XRCC1- /CD8+	XRCC1- /CD8-	1 - value	(Adjusted)	
A) Pathological Parameters							
Tumour Size							
<1cm	61 (71.8%)	11(12.9%)	11(12.9%)	2 (2.4%)			
>1-2cm	346 (76.8%)	90(17.6%)	52(10.2%)	22(4.3%)	0.161	0.1756	
>2-5cm	254(67.6%)	52(13.8%)	62(16.5%)	8 (2.1%)			
>5cm	12 (63.2%)	3 (15.8%)	3 (15.8%)	1 (5.3%)			
Tumour Stage							
1	393(66.3%)	106(17.9%)	67(11.3%)	27(4.6%)	0.013	0.0173	
2	209(67.9%)	45 (14.6%)	49(15.9%)	5 (1.6%)			
3	71 (78.0%)	7 (7.7%)	11(12.1%)	2 (2.2%)			
Tumour Grade							
G1	97 (66%)	33(22.4%)	12(8.2%)	5 (3.4%)	3.5×10^{-7}	p<0.0001	
G2	238(75.8%)	51 (16.2%)	17(5.4%)	8 (2.5%)			
G3	71 (78%)	73 (13.8%)	99(18.7%)	20(3.8%)			
NPI							
≤ 3.4	196(71.3%)	54(19.6%)	16(5.8%)	9 (3.3%)	0.000214	0.0004	
>3.4	442(65.7%)	99(14.7%)	108(16%)	24(3.6%)			
Mitotic Index							
M1 (low; mitoses < 10)	231(74.3%)	53 (17%)	20 (6.4%)	7(2.3%)	0.000036	0.0001	
M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18)	128(70.3%)	28(15.4%)	18 (9.9%)	8(4.4%)			
M3 (high; mitosis >18)	301 (64%)	64(13.6%)	89 (18.9%)	16(3.4%)			
Tubule Formation		,					
1 (>75% definite tubule)	26(56.5%)	16 (34.8%)	3 (6.5%)	1(2.2%)			
2 (10%-75% definite tubule)	211(68.7%)	53(17.3%)	31(10.1%)	12(3.9%)	0.001	0.0015	
3 (<10% definite tubule)	423(69.3%)	76 (12.5%)	93 (15.2%)	18(3.0%)			
Pleomorphism							
1 (small-regular uniform)	14 (87.5%)	2 (12.5%)	0 (0)	0 (0)			
2 (Moderate variation)	254(71.1%)	70 (19.6%)	23(6.4%)	10(2.8%)	0.000005	p < 0.0001	
3 (Marked variation)	389(66.5%)	143(14.9%)	104(17.8)	21(3.6%)		•	
Tumour Type	1	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	ì				
IDC-NST	408(67.4%)	86(14.2%)	93(15.4%)	18(3.0%)			
Tubular	120(64.5%)	42(22.6%)	17(9.1%)	7 (3.8%)	0.000485	0.0008	
Medullary	18(64.3%)	0 (0)	8 (28.6%)	2 (7.1%)			
ILC	81(82.7%)	10(10.2%)	5 (5.1%)	2 (2.0%)			
Others	6 (54.5%)	3 (27.3%)	1 (9.1%)	1 (9.1%)			
Mixed NST & Lobular/special	31(62%)	12(24%)	4 (8%)	3 (6%)			
type							
Her2 overexpression		100/15 :5::	10-(11-)		0.665		
No	571(67.6%)	139(16.4%)	107(12.7)	28(3.3%)	0.663	7.9560	
Yes	92 (67.2%)	19 (13.9%)	22 (16.1%)	4 (2.9%)			
ER	1.10/55 55.	20/11/200	60/06 550		0.0 1.0-7		
Negative	148(59.0%)	29(11.6%)	60(23.9%)	14(5.6%)	9.3×10^{-7}	p <0.0001	
Positive	512(71.2%)	124(17.2%)	66(9.2%)	17(2.4%)			
PR	240((0.00())	56(14.20/)	90(20.20/)	10/4 00/2	5 410-8	<0.0004	
Negative	240(60.8%)	56(14.2%)	80(20.3%)	19(4.8%)	5.4×10^{-8}	p < 0.0001	

	FOXP3 and ATM expression				D. soolsoo	*D V I
	ATM+ / FOXP3+	ATM+ / FOXP3-	ATM- / FOXP3+	ATM- / FOXP3-	P- value	*P -Value (Adjusted)
A) Pathological Parameters						
Tumour Size						
<1cm >1-2cm >2-5cm >5cm	19 (20%) 145 (30.7%) 81 (27.7%) 2 (15.4%)	25 (26.3%) 103 (21.8%) 41 (14%) 2 (15.4%)	31 (32.6 154(32.6 113 (38.7 6 (46.2	20 (21.1 71 (15 57(19.5 3 (23.1	0.036	0.3960
Tumour Stage						
1 2 3	157 (28.4%) 71 (28.2%) 19 (27.9%)	122 (22.1%) 42 (16.7%) 8 (11.8%)	185 (33.5%) 87 (34.5%) 32 (47.1%)	89 (16.1%) 52 (20.6%) 9 (13.2%)	0.092	0.5060
Tumour Grade						
G1 G2 G3	40 (28%) 66 (23.1%) 141(31.7%)	56 (39.2%) 73 (25.5%) 43 (9.7%)	26 (18.2%) 74 (25.9%) 204 (45.8%)	21 (14.7%) 73 (25.5%) 57 (12.8%)	1.7X 10 ⁻²¹	<0.0001
NPI	(0.(25.00/)	04 (21 (0/)	(4 (24 10/)	40 (10 40()	6.5.3710-9	0.0004
≤ 3.4 >3.4	69 (25.9%) 170(29.6%)	84 (31.6%) 82 (14.3%)	64 (24.1%) 226 (39.3%)	49 (18.4%) 97 (16.9%)	6.5 X10 ⁻⁹	<0.0001
Mitotic Index						
M1 (low; mitoses < 10) M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18) M3 (high; mitosis >18)	72 (24.2%) 44 (27.2%) 126 (31.4%)	99 (33.3%) 32 (19.8%) 39 (9.7%)	66 (22.2%) 53 (32.7%) 183(45.6%)	60 (20.2%) 33 (20.4%) 53 (13.2%)	4.1x10 ⁻¹⁶	<0.0001
Tubule Formation 1 (>75% definite tubule) 2 (10%-75% definite tubule) 3 (<10% definite tubule)	10 (20.4%) 82 (29.3%) 150 (28.2%)	16 (32.7%) 80 (28.6%) 74 (13.9%)	14 (28.6%) 70 (25%) 218(41.1%)	9 (18.4%) 48(17.1%) 89(16.8%)	5.5x10 ⁻⁷	<0.0001
Pleomorphism						
1 (small-regular uniform) 2 (Moderate variation) 3 (Marked variation)	6 (30%) 83 (25.2%) 151(29.7%)	7 (35%) 97(29.5%) 66 (13%)	6 (30%) 74 (22.5%) 222 (43.7%)	1 (5%) 75 (22.8%) 69 (13.6%)	7.8x10 ⁻³	<0.0001
Tumour Type	1.50 (2.5 55.11				1.1.2	
IDC-NST Tubular Medullary ILC Others Mixed NST &lobular/ special type	158 (30.6%) 51 (28%) 11 (36.7%) 10 (13%) 1 (12.5%) 12 (24.5%)	72 (13.9%) 59 (32.4%) 1 (3.3%) 24 (31.4%) 2 (25%) 14 (28.6%)	212 (41%) 41 (22.5%) 18 (60%) 17 (22.1%) 2 (25%) 11 (22.4%)	75(14.5%) 31(17%) 0 (0%) 26(33.8%) 3 (37.5%) 12 (24.5%)	4.4x10 ⁻¹³	<0.0001
HER-2 overexpression						
No Yes	198 (26.8%) 48 (39.8%)	165(22.2%) 4 (3.3%)	244 (32.9%) 57 (46.7%)	135(18.2%) 13 (10.7%)	1.6x10 ⁻⁷	<0.0001
ER Negative Positive	76 (32.2%) 168(26.8%)	18 (7.6%) 153(24.4%)	117 (49.6%) 181 (28.9%)	25 (10.6%) 124(19.8%)	4.7x10 ⁻¹²	<0.0001
PR Negative Positive	99 (28.7%) 140(27.9%)	41 (11.9%) 123(24.6%)	156 (45.2%) 141 (28.1%)	49 (14.2%) 97 (19.4%)	4.4x10 ⁻⁸	<0.0001

	FOXP3 and ATM expression				P- value	*P -Value
	BRCA1+ / FOXP3+	BRCA1+ / FOXP3-	BRCA1- / FOXP3+	BRCA1- / FOXP3-	_ 1 - value	(Adjusted)
A) Pathological Parameters	1			1	1	
Tumour Size <1cm >1-2cm >2-5cm >5cm	60 (51.3%) 308(54.4%) 230(54.1%) 8 (38.1%)	48 (41%) 177(31.3%) 118 (27.8%) 6 (28.6%)	5 (4.3%) 58(10.2%) 60(14.1%) 6 (28.6%)	4 (3.4%) 23(4.1%) 17(4%) 1 (4.8%)	0.015	0.0165
Tumour Stage 1 2 3	354 (51.5%) 196 (56.5%) 56 (58.3%)	217 (31.6%) 109 (109%) 24 (25%)	86 (12.5%) 31 (8.9%) 12 (12.5%)	30 (4.4%) 11 (3.2%) 4 (4.2%)	0.397	4.3670
Tumour Grade G1 G2 G3	81 (44.3%) 176 (47.4%) 349 (60.6%)	83 (45.4%) 170(45.8%) 97 (16.8%)	5 (2.7%) 15 (4%) 109 (18.9%)	14 (7.7%) 10 (2.7%) 21 (3.6%)	2.0X10 ⁻³⁰	<0.0001
NPI ≤ 3.4 > 3.4	161 (48.3%) 416 (55.7%)	143 (42.9%) 192 (25.7%)	13 (3.9%) 112 (15%)	16 (4.8%) 27 (3.6%)	9.3 X10 ⁻¹¹	<0.0001
Mitotic Index M1 (low; mitoses < 10) M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18) M3 (high; mitosis >18)	171 (45.1%) 108 (51.9%) 312 (60.7%)	183(48.3%) 76 (36.5%) 84 (16.3%)	11 (2.9%) 17 (8.2%) 97 (18.9%)	14 (3.7%) 7 (3.4%) 21 (4.1%)	9.5X10 ⁻²⁷	<0.0001
Tubule Formation 1 (>75% definite tubule) 2 (10%-75% definite tubule) 3 (<10% definite tubule)	26 (44.1%) 178(49.7%) 387(56.6%)	26 (44.1%) 139(38.8%) 178(26%)	0 (0%) 25 (7%) 100(14.6%)	7 (11.9%) 16(4.5%) 19(2.8%)	4.0x10 ⁻⁹	<0.0001
Pleomorphism 1 (small-regular uniform) 2 (Moderate variation) 3 (Marked variation)	8 (42.1%) 204(47.8%) 376(57.8%)	9 (47.4%) 191(44.7%) 142(21.8%)	1 (5.3%) 12 (2.8%) 112(17.2%)	1 (5.3%) 20(4.7%) 21(3.2%)	3.3x10 ⁻¹⁹	<0.0001
Tumour Type IDC-NST Tubular Medullary ILC Others Mixed NST &lobular/ special type	383(58.4%) 107(47.6%) 19 (59.4%) 56 (44.4%) 6 (54.5%) 29 (43.3%)	145 (22.1%0 96 (42.7%) 0 (0%) 68 (54%) 5 (45.5%) 33 (49.3%)	102 (15.5%) 9 (4%) 13 (40.6%) 1 (0.8%) 0 (0%) 1 (1.5%)	26 (4%) 13 (5.8%) 0 (0%) 1 (0.8%) 0 (0%) 4 (6%)	1.5x10 ⁻²³	<0.0001
HER-2 overexpression No Yes	511(52.3%) 93 (64.1%)	323(33.1%) 21 (14.5%)	101(10.3%) 28 (19.3%)	42 (4.3%) 3 (2.1%)	0.000004	<0.0001
ER Negative Positive	163 (58%) 431 (52%)	29 (10.3%) 318(38.4%)	72 (25.6%) 53 (6.4%)	17 (6%) 27 (3.3%)	2.1x10 ⁻²⁷	<0.0001
PR Negative Positive	239 (54.7%) 363 (53.5%)	85 (19.5%) 256(37.8%)	90 (20.6%) 37 (5.5%)	23 (5.3%) 22 (3.2%)	2.2x10 ⁻¹⁸	<0.0001

		FOXP3 and A	P- value	*P -Value		
	XRCC1+ / FOXP3+	XRCC1+ / FOXP3-	XRCC1- / FOXP3+	XRCC1- / FOXP3-		(Adjusted)
A) Pathological Parameters			1		1	
Tumour Size	45 (45 50/)	20 (20 40/)	0 (0.10/)	(((10/)	0.210	2 4000
<1cm >1-2cm	45 (45.5%) 293(53.5%)	39 (39.4%) 176(32.1%)	9 (9.1%) 52 (9.5%)	6 (6.1%) 28(5.1%)	0.219	2.4090
>2-5cm	293(33.3%)	111(28.2%)	55 (14%)	28(3.176) 22 (5.6%)		
>5cm	10 (52.6%)	5 (26.3%)	4 (21.1%)	0 (0%)		
Tumour Stage	10 (32.070)	3 (20.370)	+ (21.170)	0 (070)		
1	340 (52.5%)	204 (31.5%)	63 (9.7%)	41 (6.3%)	0.044	0.0484
2	158 (49.1%)	107 (33.2%)	43 (13.4%)	14 (4.3%)		
3	57 (60.6%)	22 (23.4%)	14 (14.9%)	1 (1.1%)		
Tumour Grade	<u> </u>	<u> </u>				
G1	74 (41.8%)	81 (45.8%)	8 (4.5%)	14 (7.9%)	1.1 X10 ⁻²⁸	<0.0001
G2	157(45.8%)	158(46.1%)	9 (2.6%)	19 (5.5%)		
G3	323 (59.6%)	93 (17.2%)	103 (19%)	23 (4.2%)		
NPI					10	
≤ 3.4	150 (47.8%)	134 (42.7%)	10 (3.2%)	20 (6.4%)	5.3X10 ⁻¹⁰	<0.0001
>3.4	379 (53.7%)	187 (26.5%)	104(14.7%)	36 (5.1%)		
Mitotic Index						
M1 (low; mitoses < 10)	154 (43.1%)	170(47.6%)	14 (3.9%)	19 (5.3%)	1.2x10 ⁻²²	0.0001
M2 (medium; mitoses 10-18)	101(52.3%)	63 (32.6%)	14 (7.3%)	15 (7.8%)		
M3 (high; mitosis >18)	282(58.8%)	87 (18.1%)	92 (19.2%)	19 (4%)		
Tubule Formation						
1 (>75% definite tubule)	22 (43.1%)	22 (43.1%)	2 (3.9%)	5 (9.8%)	7.8x10 ⁻⁹	
2 (10%-75% definite tubule)	168(48.3%)	136(39.1%)	19(5.5%)	25(7.2%)		< 0.0001
3 (<10% definite tubule)	347(55%)	162(25.7%)	99(15.7%)	23(3.6%)		
Pleomorphism	10 (41 50()	11 (45 00()	1 (4 00()	2 (0 20()	5.0 10-19	
1 (small-regular uniform)	10 (41.7%)	11 (45.8%)	1 (4.2%)	2 (8.3%)	5.2×10^{-19}	0.0004
2 (Moderate variation)	177(44.5%)	183(46%)	15(3.8%)	23(5.8%)		<0.0001
3 (Marked variation)	346(57.4%)	125(20.7%)	104(17.2%)	28(4.6%)		
Tumour Type					2.	
IDC-NST	370 (59.2%)	137 (21.9%)	92 (14.7%)	26 (4.2%)	5.1x10 ⁻²¹	
Tubular	92 (43.2%)	92 (43.2%)	11 (5.2%)	17 (8%)		<0.0001
Medullary	17 (60.7%)	1 (3.6%)	10 (35.7%)	0 (0%)		
ILC	38 (34.2%)	64 (57.7%)	4 (3.6%)	5 (4.5%)		
Others	3 (23.1%)	8 (61.5%)	0 (0%)	2 (15.4%)		
Mixed NST &lobular/ special	26 (42.6%)	26 (42.6%)	3 (4.9%)	6 (9.8%)		
type						
HER-2 overexpression	450 (50 500)	200 (22 =2.0	100 (110)	45 (5 100)	0.00001.5	
No	458 (50.2%)	308 (33.7%)	100 (11%)	47 (5.1%)	0.000015	-0.0004
Yes	93 (66.9%)	18 (12.9%)	21 (15.1%)	7 (5%)		<0.0001
ER Na active	151 (50 00/)	27 (10 59/)	(1 (22 70/)	10 (70/)	1.19x10 ⁻²¹	
Negative	151 (58.8%) 390 (50.1%)	27 (10.5%)	61 (23.7%) 55 (7.1%)	18 (7%) 35 (4.5%)	1.19X10	~0 0001
Positive	390 (30.1%)	298 (38.3%)	33 (7.1%)	33 (4.3%)		<0.0001
PR Nagativa	216 (52 50/)	82 (20 59/)	20 (10 99/)	25 (6.2%)	2.4x10 ⁻¹⁴	
Negative Positive	216 (53.5%) 316 (52%)	83 (20.5%) 229(37.7%)	80 (19.8%) 35 (5.8%)	28 (4.6%)	2.4X1U	<0.0001

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE LEGENDS

Supplementary Figure S1: Prognostic significance of ATM, BRCA1 and XRCC1 in breast cancers negative for CD8+ TILs. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

Supplementary Figure S2: Prognostic significance of polβ (A &B), ERCC1 (C&D), RECQL4 (E&F), RECQL5 (G &H), BLM (I & J), PARP1 (K & L), FEN1 (M & N), TOPO2A (O & P), Ku70/Ku80 (Q & R), Chk2 (S & T), WRN (U & V) and DNA-PKcs (W & X) in CD8+ TILs positive and CD8+ TILs negative breast cancers respectively. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

Supplementary Figure S3: Correlation between CD8 counts and ATM (A), BRCA1 (B) and XRCC1 (C).

Supplementary Figure S4: Prognostic significance of ATM, BRCA1 and XRCC1 in FOXP3+ or FOXP3 negative breast cancers. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

Supplementary Figure S5: Prognostic significance of ATM, BRCA1 in PD-L1+ (tumour cells), PD-L1+ (TILs) or PD-1+ (TILs) is shown here. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

Supplementary Figure S6: Prognostic significance of ATM, BRCA1 and XRCC1 in PD-L1 negative (tumour cells), PD-L1 negative (TILs) and PD-1 negative (TILs) breast cancers. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

Supplementary Figure S7: Prognostic significance of CD8+ TILs in ER+ breast cancer [whole cohort (A), received no endocrine therapy (B) and received endocrine therapy (C)] is shown here.

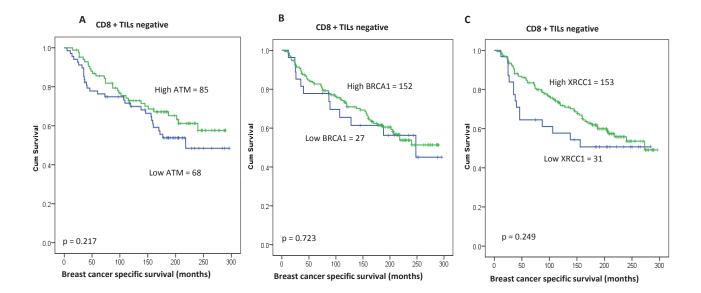
Supplementary Figure S8: Prognostic significance of BRCA1 (A), XRCC1 (B) or ATM (C) in CD8+ TILs positive ER+ breast cancer. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

Supplementary Figure S9: Prognostic significance of XRCC1 in CD8+/CD8- (A), PD-1+/PD-1- (B), FOXP3+/FOXP3- (C) and PD-L1+/PD-L1- (D) ER+ breast cancer that received no endocrine therapy.

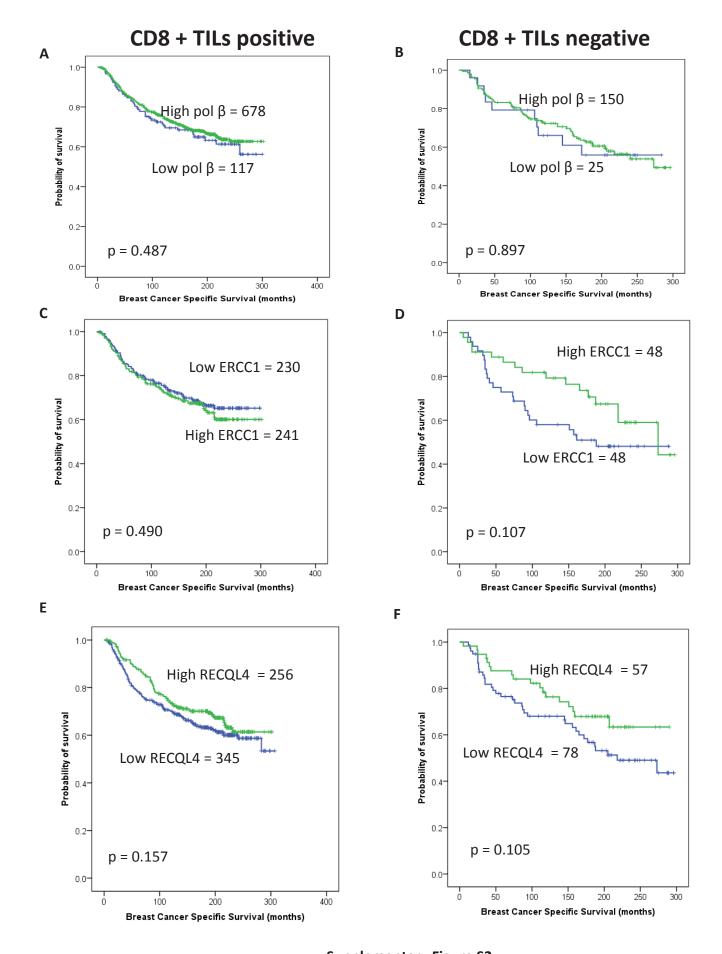
Supplementary Figure S10: A. Prognostic significance of XRCC1 in PD-1+/PD-1- HER2 + breast cancers. **B.** Prognostic significance of BRCA1 in FOXP3+/FOXP3- HER2 + breast cancers. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

Supplementary Figure S11: Prognostic significance of CD8+ TILs in ER- breast cancer [whole cohort (A), received no chemotherapy (B) and received chemotherapy (C)] is shown here. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.

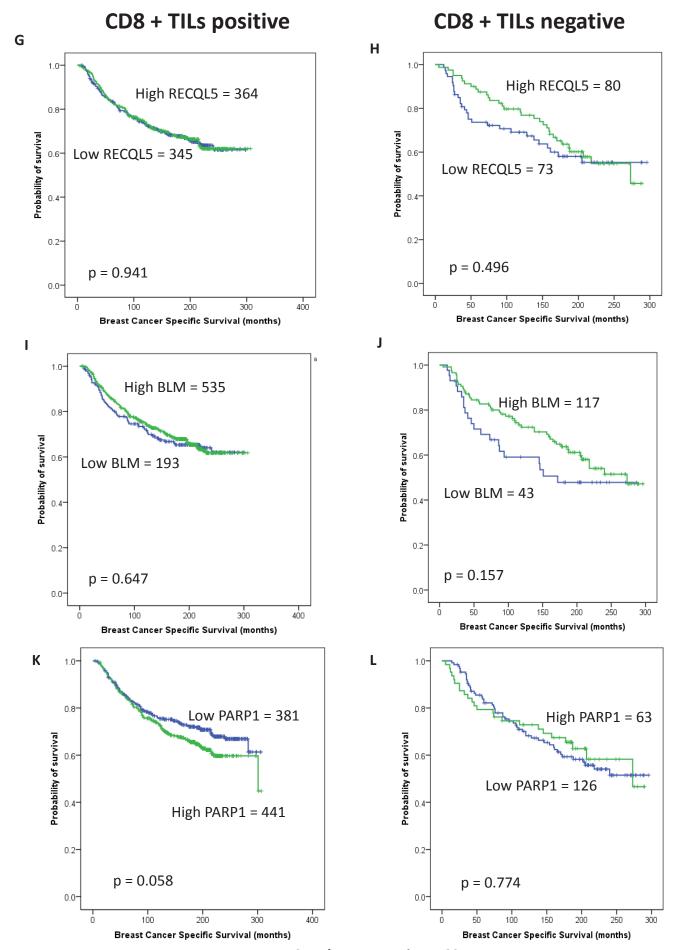
Supplementary Figure S12:.Prognostic significance of BRCA1 in PD-L1+/PD-L1- ER- breast cancers that received no chemotherapy. Kaplan-Meier survival curves are shown here.



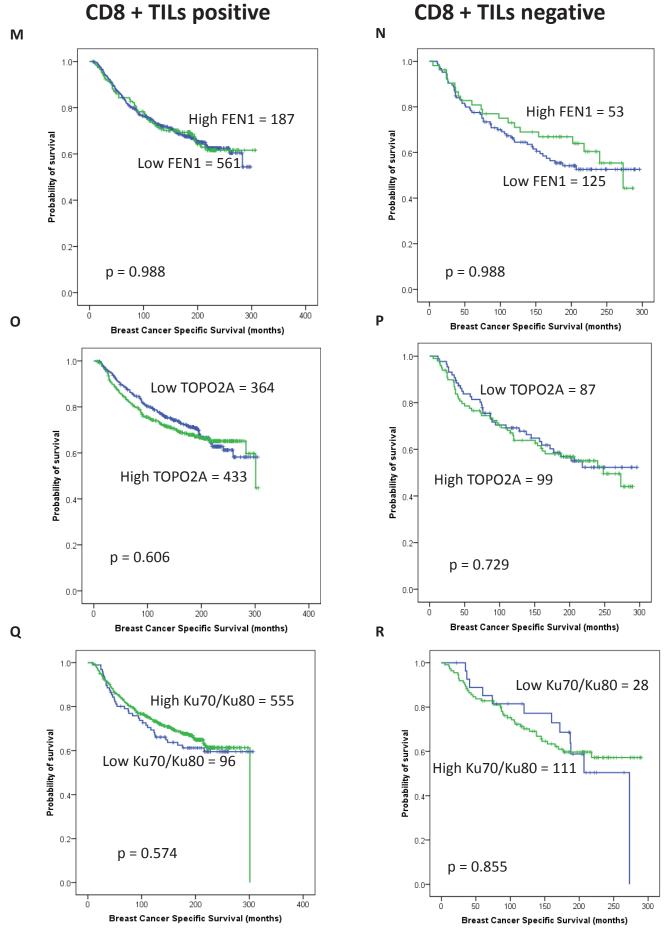
Supplementary Figure S1



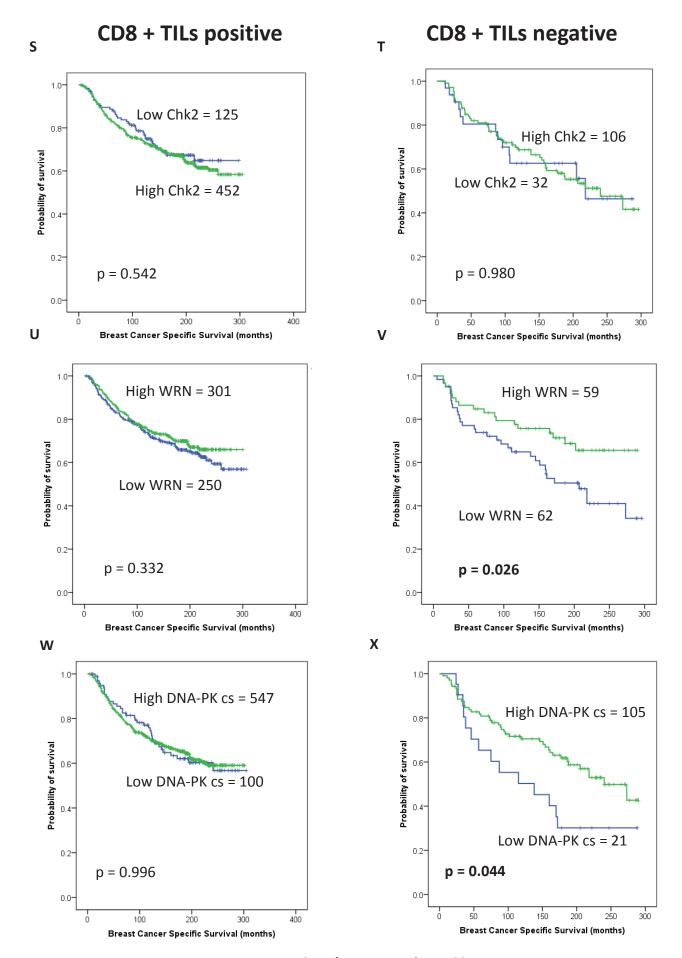
Supplementary Figure S2



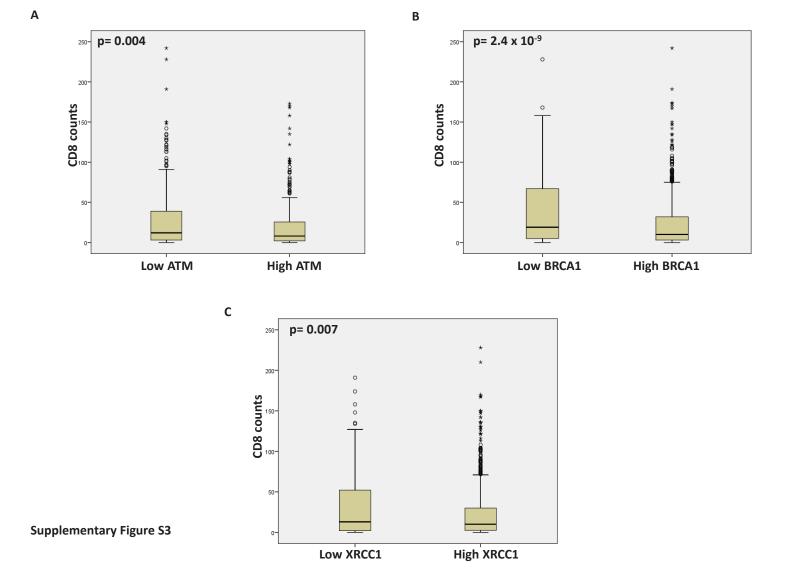
Supplementary Figure S2

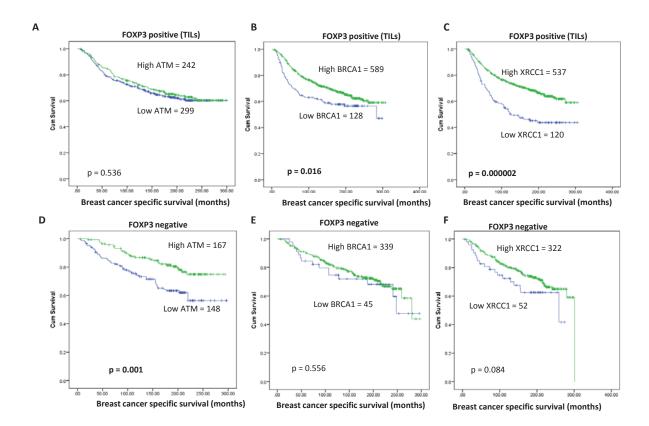


Supplementary Figure S2

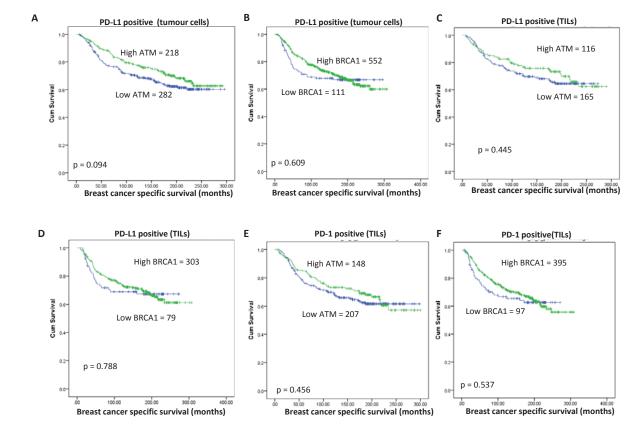


Supplementary Figure S2

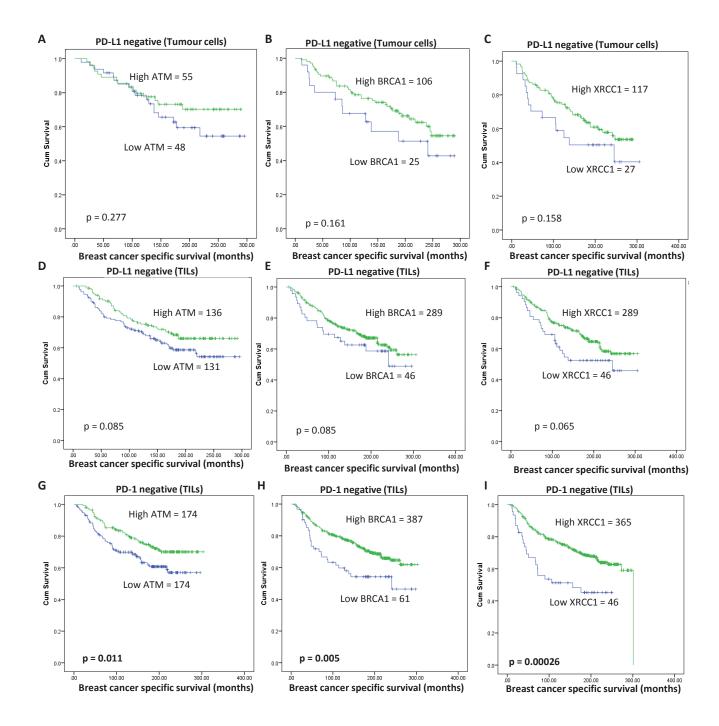




Supplementary Figure S4



Supplementary Figure S5



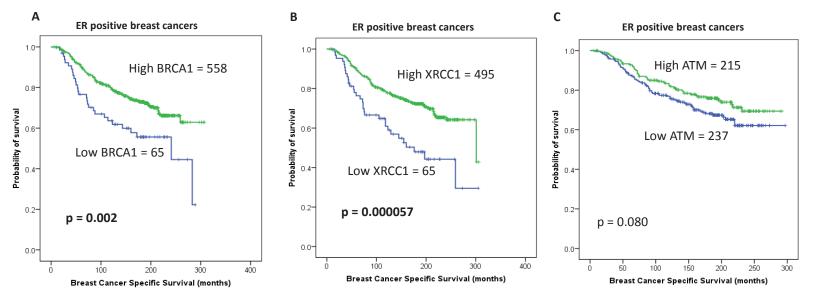
Supplementary Figure S6

C

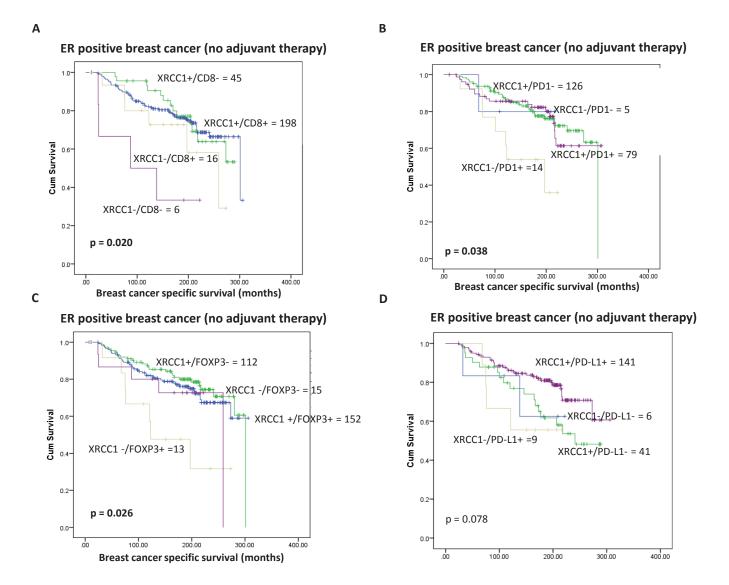
В

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Supplementary Figure S7

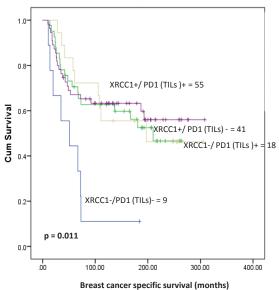


Supplementary Figure S8

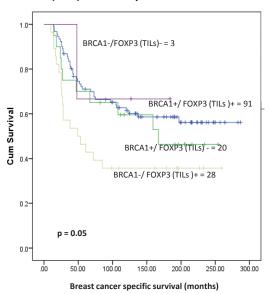


Supplementary Figure S9

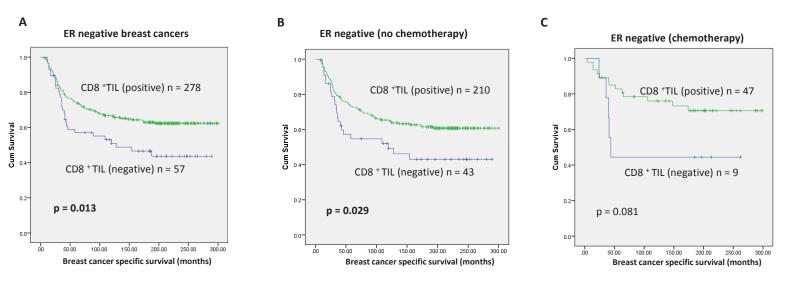




FOXP3 (TILs) in HER-2 positive breast cancers

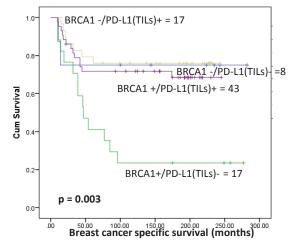


Supplementary Figure S10



Supplementary Figure S11

ER negative breast cancer (no adjuvant therapy)



Supplementary Figure S12