
eFigure. CONSORT diagram

This supplementary material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.
**eFigure. CONSORT diagram**

- 55 patients (analysed as a cohort)
  - Allocated to study treatment: Chemoradiation
    - Lost to follow up (N=1): Dementia
    - Discontinued allocated intervention (N=3): 2 patients died; 1 stopped due to toxicity
    - Allocated to subsequent study treatment (N=47): TEM surgery
    - Not allocated to subsequent study treatment due to insufficient response (N=4): TME surgery
      - 30 patients treated sufficiently (stage ypT0-1N0)
      - 17 patients treated insufficiently (stage ypT2-3 or ypN1): completion TME
        - 8 patients underwent completion TME
        - 9 patients refused and started a wait and see approach