**Supplementary Table S1. Data from Maas, M. et al’s individual participant data-based pooled analysis**

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| **Study** | **Population** | **Type of neoadjuvant therapy** | **pCR** |
| Valentini 2002 | LARC,T3-4 or N+ | External RT +/– IORT, FU+MITOC or CIS | 17.6%(152/862) |
| Das 2006 | LARC, M0 | External RT, FU or TEG with uracil | 16.8%(90/535) |
|  Rodel 1997 | Stage II–III | External RT, FU | 9.9%(36/364) |
| Kuo 2007 | T3–4, N+, M0 | External RT, FU, MITOC | 14.5%(36/248) |
| Garcia-Aguilar 2003 | Stage II–III | External RT, FU | 12.5%(21/168) |
| Hughes 2006 | T3–4 | External RT, FU | 17.5%(28/160) |
| Diaz-Gonzalez 2006 | T3–4, N+ | External RT+IORT, FU or TEG | 8.5%(10/118) |
| Suarez 2008 | LARC | External RT, FU | 14.3%(17/119) |
| Pucciarelli 2004 | T3–4, N+, M0 | External RT, FU+LV or CARBO or OX | 17.9%(19/106) |
| Biondo 2005 | T3–4, LARC | External RT, FU | 15.5%(16/103) |

Abbreviations: LARC= locally advanced rectal cancer. N+= positive clinical nodal status. RT= radiotherapy. IORT= intraoperative radiotherapy. FU= fluorouracil. MITOC= mitomycin C.

CIS= cisplatin. M0= no signs of distant metastases. TEG= tegafur. LV= leucovorin. CARBO= carboplatin. OX= oxaliplatin.