

Table S1. Genetic polymorphisms selected for the study and the genotype distribution.

SNP	Location GRCh38	Genotype	<i>n</i> (%) ^a	Region	Function class ^b	RegDB rank ^c	EUR MAF ^d	MAF	HWE <i>p</i> val
OPN rs1126772 A>G	chr4:87983034	AA AG GG	202 (66) 95 (31) 10 (3)	3'UTR	miRNA	1f	0.21	0.19	0.741
OPN rs11730582 T>C	chr4:87975269	TT TC CC	94 (31) 137 (45) 76 (24)	promoter	TFBS	1f	0.46	0.47	0.067
OPN rs4754 T>C Asp80Asp	chr4:87981540	TT TC CC	171 (56) 119 (39) 17 (5)	exon 6	S; splicing ESE/ESS	1f	0.28	0.25	0.529
CD44 rs187116 G>A	chr11:35144253	GG GA AA	105 (34) 144 (47) 58 (19)	intron 1	-	1f	0.46	0.42	0.475
CD44 rs13347 C>T	chr11:35231725	CC CT TT	195 (63) 104 (34) 8 (3)	3'UTR	miRNA	1b	0.22	0.20	0.175

SNP, single nucleotide polymorphism; MAF, minor allele frequency in the studied group; UTR, untranslated region; TFBS, transcription factor binding site; S, synonymous; ESE/ESS, exonic splicing enhancer/exonic splicing silencer; ^a Genotype frequency in the studied group; ^b According to <https://snpinfo.niehs.nih.gov/snpinfo/snpfunc.html>; ^c According to RegulomeDB v2.2, www.regulomedb.org; ^d MAF in European population according to www.ensembl.org.

Table S2. Primers used in PCR-RFLP assay.

Primer name	Primer sequence	PCR product length
OPN rs1126772 F	5' GCATCTTCTGAGGTCAATTAAAAGG 3'	206 bp
OPN rs1126772 R	5' CAGGGAGTTTCCATGAAGCCACAACTAACTAATTATCAAACACAC 3'	
OPN rs4754 F	5' GATGATATGGATGATGAAGATGAAGA 3'	121 bp
OPN rs4754 R	5' AATGGTGAGACTCATCAGACTGG 3'	
CD44 rs187116 F	5' AGGTGGTTGGAGATCACCTG 3'	153 bp
CD44 rs187116 R	5' CTTTCGCAAGAACCACTTCC 3'	

F, forward primer; R, reverse primer.

Table S3. Osteopontin concentrations in plasma (ng/ml) according to the *OPN* genotypes.

SNP	Genotype	<i>n</i> (%)	OPN levels mean ± SD; median (range)	<i>p</i> value ^a
All patients				
OPN rs1126772 A>G	AA	202 (66)	116.6 ± 58.7; 103.6 (6.5–420.7)	0.808
	AG	95 (31)	126.1 ± 81.7; 103.5 (14.9–674.3)	
	GG	10 (3)	117.3 ± 39.2 ; 117.8 (52.1–183.5)	
OPN rs11730582 T>C	TT	94 (31)	125.4 ± 62.7; 110.3 (16.6–420.7)	0.125
	TC	137 (45)	119.6 ± 74.6; 99.7 (6.5–674.3)	
	CC	76 (24)	116.1 ± 53.0 ; 103.0 (44.8–255.7)	
OPN rs4754 T>C	TT	171 (56)	118.1 ± 59.9; 101.8 (6.5–420.7)	0.912
	TC	119 (39)	121.4 ± 72.4; 105.7 (44.8–674.3)	
	CC	17 (5)	121.0 ± 82.9; 96.6 (14.9–322.9)	
Curative treatment subgroup				
OPN rs1126772 A>G	AA	97 (67)	104.0 ± 49.4; 88.5 (6.5–327.6)	0.686
	AG	42 (29)	112.0 ± 102.7; 90.5 (14.9–674.3)	
	GG	6 (4)	100.1 ± 28.3; 102.8 (52.1–129.7)	
OPN rs11730582 T>C	TT	44 (30)	114.6 ± 57.2; 106.1 (16.6–327.6)	0.152
	TC	68 (47)	105.0 ± 81.6; 87.6 (6.5–674.3)	
	CC	33 (23)	109.4 ± 50.5; 93.2 (44.8–255.7)	
OPN rs4754 T>C	TT	79 (54)	105.7 ± 50.9; 88.5 (6.5–327.6)	0.829
	TC	57 (39)	111.5 ± 89.2; 91.9 (44.8–674.3)	
	CC	9 (7)	76.0 ± 43.8; 89.9 (14.9–129.7)	
SCC subgroup				
OPN rs1126772 A>G	AA	120 (66)	119.1 ± 59.8; 105.0 (6.5–342.5)	0.209
	AG	58 (32)	132.6 ± 93.5; 108.2 (14.9–674.3)	
	GG	3 (2)	152.5 ± 30.2; 152.5 (123.0–183.5)	
OPN rs11730582 T>C	TT	58 (32)	122.3 ± 58.9; 108.9 (31.5–327.6)	0.350
	TC	78 (43)	124.9 ± 89.7; 98.0 (6.5–674.3)	
	CC	45 (25)	124.5 ± 51.4; 112.0 (55.0–248.7)	
OPN rs4754 T>C	TT	105 (58)	119.1 ± 61.0; 103.2 (6.5–342.5)	0.508
	TC	70 (39)	129.1 ± 83.9; 109.1 (46.2–674.3)	
	CC	6 (3)	148.7 ± 102.9; 137.8 (14.9–322.9)	

SNP, single nucleotide polymorphism; OPN, osteopontin; SD, standard deviation; SCC, squamous cell carcinoma;

^a Kruskal-Wallis H test.

Figure S1. The haplotype block structure and linkage disequilibrium (LD) analysis for the polymorphisms examined in the study: (A) *OPN* rs4754, rs1126772 and rs11730582 and (B) *CD44* rs187116 and rs13347. The darkness of the cells indicates the strength of LD, and the numbers shown in the cells represent the pairwise D' values expressed as percentages.

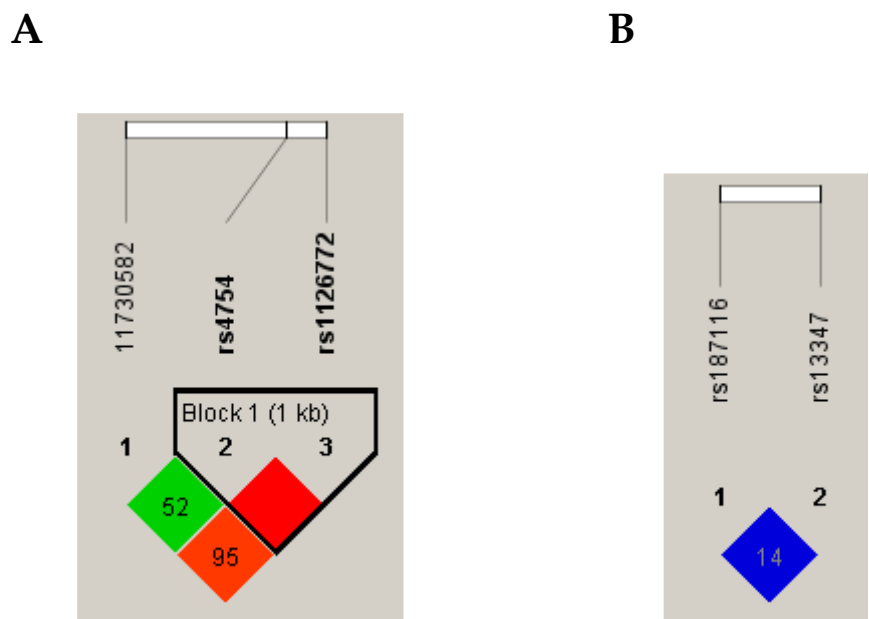


Figure S2. The Kaplan-Meier plots according to the *OPN* haplotypes for (A) OS, (B) LRFS and (C) MFS in the curative treatment subgroup. Only haplotypes with log-rank test $p < 0.100$ are shown.

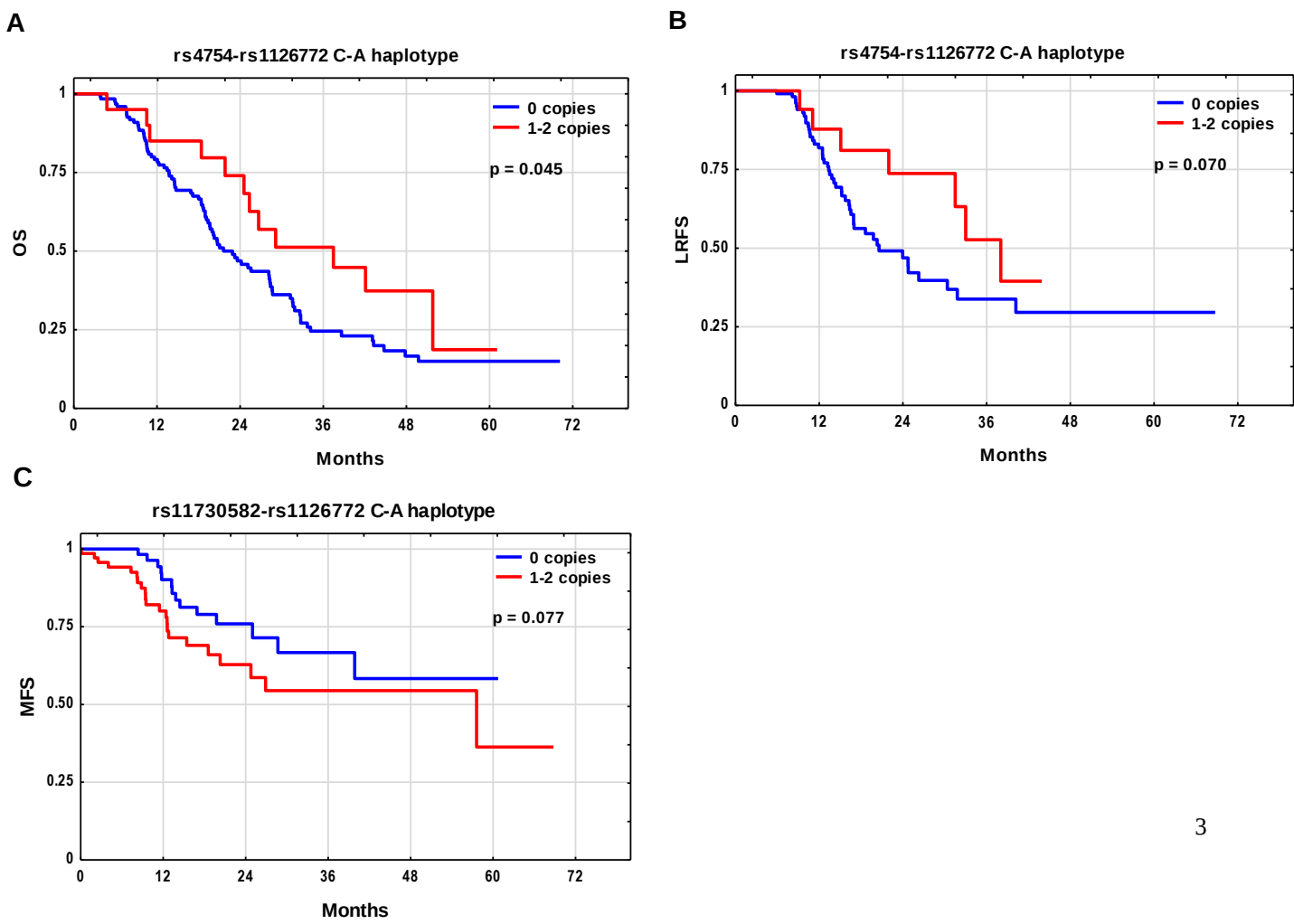


Figure S3. The Kaplan-Meier plots according to the *OPN* haplotypes for (A) LRFS and (B, C) OS in the SCC subgroup. Only haplotypes with log-rank test $p < 0.100$ are shown.

