

Table SI. Primary antibodies used for multiplex immunofluorescence staining.

Antibody	Dilution	Opal dye	Antibody type	Catalog no.	Supplier
CK(Pan)	1:10	Opal 620	Mouse monoclonal	PA125	Suzhou Baidao Medical Technology Co., Ltd.
CD44v9	1:50	Opal 540	Mouse monoclonal	MAB15069	Abnova Corporation
TIM3	1:200	Opal 690	Rabbit monoclonal	45208	Cell Signaling Technology, Inc.

CD44v9, cluster-of-differentiation gene 44 variant isoform 9; TIM3, T cell immunoglobulin and mucin domain-containing protein 3; CK, cytokeratin.

Table SII. Correlation of clinical characteristics with the expression of multiplex immunofluorescence markers in the total region in patients with gastric cancer (n=96).

Characteristic	CD44v9		TIM3		CD44v9/TIM3	
	$r_s$	P-value	$r_s$	P-value	$r_s$	P-value
Sex	0.115	0.266	0.068	0.511	0.070	0.496
Age	0.256	0.012 <sup>a</sup>	0.300	0.003 <sup>a</sup>	0.296	0.003 <sup>a</sup>
Tumor size	-0.001	0.990	0.035	0.735	0.024	0.819
T classification	-0.088	0.395	0.001	0.991	-0.012	0.910
N classification	-0.002	0.982	0.090	0.382	0.071	0.490
M classification	0.095	0.358	0.176	0.086	0.174	0.091
TNM stage	-0.072	0.489	0.023	0.827	-0.011	0.912
Pathological grade	0.014	0.896	0.061	0.554	0.034	0.743

<sup>a</sup>P<0.05.  $r_s$ , Spearman's rank correlation coefficient; CD44v9, cluster-of-differentiation gene 44 variant isoform 9; TIM3, T cell immunoglobulin and mucin domain-containing protein 3; T, tumor; N, node; M, metastasis.

Table SIII. Correlation of clinical characteristics with the expression of multiplex immunofluorescence markers in cytokeratin-positive region in patients with gastric cancer (n=96).

Characteristic	CD44v9		TIM3		CD44v9/TIM3	
	r <sub>s</sub>	P-value	r <sub>s</sub>	P-value	r <sub>s</sub>	P-value
Sex	0.081	0.434	0.023	0.825	0.041	0.695
Age	0.363	<0.001 <sup>a</sup>	0.352	<0.001 <sup>a</sup>	0.347	0.001 <sup>a</sup>
Tumor size	-0.148	0.150	0.022	0.829	-0.008	0.937
T classification	-0.054	0.605	0.025	0.811	-0.008	0.939
N classification	-0.039	0.704	0.061	0.556	0.028	0.786
M classification	-0.011	0.919	0.124	0.230	0.126	0.220
TNM stage	-0.127	0.217	-0.018	0.859	-0.067	0.518
Pathological grade	0.042	0.687	0.028	0.786	0.040	0.696

<sup>a</sup>P<0.05. r<sub>s</sub>, Spearman's rank correlation coefficient; CD44v9, cluster-of-differentiation gene 44 variant isoform 9; TIM3, T cell immunoglobulin and mucin domain-containing protein 3; T, tumor; N, node; M, metastasis.