**Supplementary Table S2.** Association between preoperative transferrin saturation (TSAT) levels and clinicopathological factors in patients with colorectal cancer (CRC) exhibiting low and negative levels of *F. nucleatum*

| Variable                        | TSAT ≥ 30% (n=30) | TSAT < 30% (n=116) | P-value |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Age (mean ± SD, years)          | 69.0±11.4         | 68.4±11.9          | 0.80    |
| Sex male                        | 19 (63.3%)        | 66 (56.9%)         | 0.52    |
| BMI (mean ± SD, kg/m²)          | 23.1±3.7          | 22.7±4.4           | 0.66    |
| Tumor location                  |                   |                    | 0.47    |
| Right-sided                     | 10 (33.3%)        | 31 (26.7%)         |         |
| Left-sided                      | 20 (66.7%)        | 85 (73.3%)         |         |
| Depth of invasion               |                   |                    | 0.11    |
| pathological T1-3               | 28 (93.3%)        | 94 (81.0%)         |         |
| pathological T4                 | 2 (6.7%)          | 22 (19.0%)         |         |
| LN metastasis                   |                   |                    | 0.21    |
| Absent                          | 23 (76.7%)        | 75 (64.7%)         |         |
| Present                         | 7 (23.3%)         | 41 (35.3%)         |         |
| Pathological type               |                   |                    | 0.040 * |
| Tub, pap                        | 23 (76.7%)        | 105 (90.5%)        |         |
| Por, sig, muc                   | 7 (23.3%)         | 11 (9.5%)          |         |
| Lymphatic invasion              |                   |                    | 0.52    |
| Absent                          | 23 (76.7%)        | 82 (70.7%)         |         |
| Present                         | 7 (23.3%)         | 34 (29.3%)         |         |
| Vascular invasion               |                   |                    | 0.46    |
| Absent                          | 17 (56.7%)        | 57 (49.1%)         |         |
| Present                         | 13 (43.3%)        | 59 (50.9%)         |         |

TSAT: transferrin saturation, CRC; colorectal cancer, *F. nucleatum: Fusobacterium nucleatum*, BMI: Body mass index, SD: standard deviation, LN: lymph node, Tub: tubular adenocarcinoma, Pap: papillary adenocarcinoma, Por: poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma, Sig: signet-ring cell carcinoma, Muc: mucinous adenocarcinoma. * p<0.05