### Table S1 The disposition status of the patients in various analyses populations

| Populations and reason for discontinuation                                      | DC60, n (%) | DC75, n (%) | Total, n (%) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| ITT-1                                                                          | 188         | 187         | 375          |
| EP-1                                                                           | 155 (82.4)  | 159 (85.0)  | 314 (83.7)   |
| SP-1                                                                           | 188 (100.0) | 186 (99.5)  | 374 (99.7)   |
| ITT-2                                                                          | 90 (47.9)   | 94 (50.3)   | 184 (49.1)   |
| EP-2                                                                           | 74 (39.4)   | 80 (42.8)   | 154 (41.1)   |
| SP-2                                                                           | 87 (46.3)   | 92 (49.2)   | 179 (47.7)   |
| **Follow up patients after treatment completed**                               | 184 (97.9)  | 180 (96.3)  | 364 (97.1)   |
| Patients have completed the study                                              | 31 (16.5)   | 18 (9.6)    | 49 (13.1)    |
| Patients discontinuation                                                       | 157 (83.5)  | 169 (90.4)  | 326 (86.9)   |
| **Major cause for study completion/discontinuation**                           |             |             |              |
| Complete according to study protocol                                           | 31 (16.5)   | 18 (9.6)    | 49 (13.1)    |
| Adverse event                                                                  | 0           | 0           | 0            |
| Death                                                                          | 137 (72.9)  | 139 (74.3)  | 276 (73.6)   |
| Disease progression confirmed                                                  | 0           | 0           | 0            |
| Treatment/procedure required by patient is against study protocol              | 0           | 0           | 0            |
| Lost to follow up                                                             | 16 (8.5)    | 23 (12.3)   | 39 (10.4)    |
| Major study protocol violation                                                 | 0           | 0           | 0            |
| Informed consent withdrawn                                                     | 4 (2.1)     | 6 (3.2)     | 10 (2.7)     |
| Other                                                                          | 0           | 1 (0.5)     | 1 (0.3)      |

ITT, intent-to-treat population; EP, evaluable population; SP, safety population; -1, first-line therapy period; -2, maintenance therapy period; DC75, group assigned to receive docetaxel 75 mg/m² as first-line treatment; DC60, group assigned to receive docetaxel 60 mg/m² as first-line treatment.
| Adverse events incidence                        | DC60 (N=188), n (%) n’ | DC75 (N=186), n (%) n’ | Total (N=374), n (%) n’ | Docetaxel maintenance (N=118), n (%) n’ | BSC (N=61), n (%) n’ | Total (N=179), n (%) n’ |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| All adverse events                             | 86 (45.7) 660           | 89 (47.8) 738           | 175 (46.8) 1398         | 87 (73.7) 506                           | 7 (11.5) 14         | 94 (52.5) 520           |
| Serious adverse events [1]                     | 4 (2.1) 4               | 7 (3.8) 10              | 11 (2.9) 14             | 6 (5.1) 8                               | 0                   | 6 (3.4) 8               |
| Adverse events related to study treatment [2]   | 85 (45.2) 604           | 85 (45.7) 673           | 170 (45.5) 1277         | 84 (71.2) 454                           | 2 (3.3) 4           | 86 (48.0) 458           |
| Serious adverse events related to study treatment [3] | 3 (1.6) 3               | 7 (3.8) 8               | 10 (2.7) 11             | 4 (3.4) 5                               | 0                   | 4 (2.2) 5               |
| Adverse events which led to study discontinuation | 0                      | 2 (1.1) 3               | 2 (0.5) 3               | 5 (4.2) 7                               | 0                   | 5 (2.8) 7               |
| Adverse events related to study treatment that lead to study discontinuation | 1(0.5) 1               | 1(0.3) 1               | 4 (3.4) 5               | 0                                        | 4 (2.2) 5           |
| Adverse events which led to death               | 1 (0.8) 1               | 0                      | 1 (0.6) 1               |                                          |                     |
| Adverse event related to study treatment that led to death | 0                      | 0                      | 0                       |                                          |                     |

AEs in the first-line treatment period were all AEs from screening to the end of pre-maintenance treatment (the day before second randomization). [1] Severe adverse events were AEs with a level of 3 or above graded by the NCI-CTC. If severity data was missing, calculated as level 4 “life-threatening”. [2] AEs related to study treatment were all adverse events except those determined as “not related”. [3] SAEs related to study treatment were all serious adverse events except those determined as “not related”. DC75, group assigned to receive docetaxel 75 mg/m$^2$ as first-line treatment; DC60, group assigned to receive docetaxel 60 mg/m$^2$ as first-line treatment; BSC, best supportive care; NCI-CTC, National Cancer Institute Common Toxicity Criteria; N, number of patients included in each treatment group; n (%), number (percentage) of patients in a given category; n, number of adverse events.