**Supplemental figure. 1 Comparison of patient characteristics and clinicopathological features in LDG**

|                     | Large PLA<sup>b</sup> | Small PLA<sup>b</sup> | P value |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| **Age, years, median (range)** | 72 (38-90)             | 71 (41-90)             | 0.73    |
| **Sex, n (%)**      |                        |                        | 0.11    |
| Male                | 35 (60.3)              | 46 (74.2)              |         |
| Female              | 23 (39.7)              | 16 (25.8)              |         |
| **Height, median (range)** | 160 (142-180)          | 163 (138-180)          | 0.27    |
| **BMI<sup>c</sup>, kg/m², median (range)** | 21.9 (12.9-29.6)      | 22.5 (16.6-31.9)      | 0.25    |
| Differentiated      | 31 (53.4)              | 30 (48.4)              |         |
| Not differentiated  | 27 (46.6)              | 30 (48.4)              |         |
| Others              | 0 (0)                  | 2 (3.6)                |         |
| **cT, n (%)**       |                        |                        | 0.77    |
| 1                   | 35 (60.3)              | 39 (62.9)              |         |
| 2-4                 | 25 (39.7)              | 23 (37.1)              |         |
| **cN, n (%)**       |                        |                        | 0.78    |
| 0                   | 47 (81.0)              | 49 (79.0)              |         |
| 1-3                 | 11 (29.0)              | 13 (21.0)              |         |
| **cStage, (%)**     |                        |                        | 0.82    |
| I                   | 41 (70.7)              | 45 (72.6)              |         |
| II-IV               | 17 (29.3)              | 17 (27.4)              |         |
| **Surgical lymph node dissection, n (%)** |                       |                       | 0.61    |
| 1+                  | 31 (53.4)              | 36 (58.1)              |         |
| 2                   | 27 (47.6)              | 26 (42.9)              |         |

<sup>a</sup> LDG: Laparoscopic distal gastrectomy  
<sup>b</sup> PLA: pancreas-left gastric artery angle  
<sup>c</sup> BMI: body mass index