# Genome-wide analysis of IncRNAs, miRNAs and mRNAs forming a prognostic scoring model associated with the recurrence of osteosarcoma

### Keywords

recurrence, TCGA, Osteosarcoma, prognostic scoring model

### Abstract

#### Introduction

Purpose: Among young adults and adolescents, the most common malignant bone tumor is osteosarcoma (OS). Even patients who are cured by surgery or neoadjuvant chemotherapy still have a high possibility of recurrence. In recent years, due to the development of molecular biology research methods, many new prognostic markers based on the gene level have emerged. In addition, the mutual regulation mode among long non-coding RNA (IncRNA), miRNA and target genes are closely related to the occurrence and development of tumors. In our research, we aimed to analyze the molecular regulation mode and predict clinical outcomes by integrate three types of RNA expression.

#### Material and methods

Materials and Methods: We obtained the data of OS patients from The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) database including expression data (RNA and miRNA expression data) and clinical data.

#### Results

Results: After differential gene expression analysis, Cox regression analysis and functional enrichment analysis, 1 IncRNA, 3 miRNAs and 9 mRNAs were identified as prognostic RNA. We constructed the prognostic scoring (PS) model with high predicting prognosis performance. Using PS models and clinical data, we established a nomogram to calculate patients' 3-year and 5-year survival rates.

#### Conclusions

Conclusions: Finally, competing endogenous RNAs (ceRNAs) network and functional enrichment analysis help us to understand molecular mechanisms associated with the recurrence of osteosarcoma.

#### **Explanation letter**

#### Review 1:

The manuscript is interesting, but I have some comments:

1. the summary does not reflect the content of the manuscript, especially the results and conclusions do not contain specific information.

Response: thanks for your comment. We have rewritten the summary.

2. the discussion is very superficial. The results were briefly commented, such as "Through the univariate and multivariate analyzes, we identified tumor metastasis as an independent prognostic clinical factor." It seems that this factor was previously considered as a prognostic factor. The authors should elaborate on the markers they believe have prognostic potential, including studies in other neoplasms.

Response: Thanks for your comment. We have rewritten this part. We added the impact of two clinical factor (tumor metastasis and PS model) on OS recurrence.

3. The study group is not very numerous, therefore the conclusions should be formulated more carefully, especially since the authors do not refer to basic research on the mechanisms related to the markers that

Response: Thanks for your comment. We revised our conclusion.

4. there are errors in the manuscript related to punctuation, extra spaces and typos Response: We checked our manuscript carefully and corrected these errors. Review 2:

The authors responded to the comments of the reviewers and improved the manuscript. English editing also improved the manuscript.

Figure legends make the images more clear, however, Figure 2 and 3 seem to be switched.

Response: Thanks for your comment and sorry for the mistake. We have corrected it.

In current Figure 3A, it is not clear what the title "Metastatic" represents. Additionally, a couple of typos remain in the manuscript.

Response: Thanks for your comment. We have removed the "Metastatic" in Figure 3A.

Response one by one .docx

Genome-wide analysis of lncRNAs, miRNAs, and mRNAs forming a prognostic scoring model
 associated with the recurrence of osteosarcoma

3

#### 4 Abstract

**Purpose:** Among young adults and adolescents, the most common type of malignant bone tumor is osteosarcoma (OS). Even patients cured by surgery or neoadjuvant chemotherapy still have a high possibility of recurrence. Due to the development of molecular biology research methods, many new prognostic markers based on gene level have emerged. In addition, the mutual regulation mode among long noncoding RNA (lncRNA), microRNA (miRNA), and target genes is closely related to the occurrence and development of tumors. Therefore, in our research, we analyzed the molecular regulation mode and predicted clinical outcomes by integrating three types of RNA expression.

Materials and Methods: We obtained the data of patients with OS from The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA)
 database, including RNA and miRNA expression and clinical data.

14 **Results:** After performing differential gene expression, Cox regression, and functional enrichment analyses,

15 we identified 1 lncRNA (LINC00626), 3 miRNAs (has-miR-429, hsa-miR-526b, hsa-miR-615), and

16 9 mRNAs (such as BCAS4, CA9, CPA3) as prognostic RNAs. Baed on these genes, we constructed the

17 prognostic scoring (PS) model with a high predicting prognosis performance. Using this model and the

18 clinical data, we established a nomogram to calculate patients' 3- and 5-year survival rates. In addition, we

19 also construted a competing endogenous RNA (ceRNA) network. Functional enrichment analysis shows that

20 mRNAs in the ceRNA network were significantly related to biological processes of positive regulation of the

21 developmental process and regulation of neurogenesis.

22 **Conclusions:** The PS model had high predicting prognosis performance. It can help us predict which patients

23 will develop a recurrence. The ceRNA network and functional enrichment analysis can support the

24 understanding of the molecular mechanisms associated with OS recurrence.

25 Keywords: osteosarcoma, prognostic scoring model, recurrence, The Cancer Genome Atlas

#### 26 Introduction

27 Osteosarcoma (OS), the most common malignant tumor that is prone to recurrence and metastasis (1). 28 Itoccurs mostly occurs in young adults and adolescents and usually originates from the long bones (2). In the 29 past, many patients died within 1 year of diagnosis due to treatment limitations. Today neoadjuvant 30 chemotherapy has greatly improved the survival rate, but the recurrence rate remains around 35% (3). 31 However, there are too many clinical indicators, such as age, gender, and tumor site and stage, can influence 32 OS prognosis and cause recurrence. It is difficult to confirm which patients will develop recurrence using only 33 these indicators. Therefore, finding effective and novel recurrent biomarkers to evaluate the prognosis of OS 34 recurrence is important to formulating treatment strategies and predicting efficacy.

In tumorigenesis and tumor progression, protein coding genes and noncoding RNAs play important roles. MicroRNAs (miRNAs) regulate mRNA expression at a post-transcriptional level with 20 nucleotides in length. Long noncoding RNAs (lncRNAs) (>200 nucleotides) can act as competing endogenous RNAs (ceRNAs), which usually regulate mRNA expression by competing for a common pool of miRNAs. This mechanism, called "ceRNA hypothesis"(4, 5). It occurs extensively in the basic cellular processes and functions and is closely related to disease development (5, 6).

In this study, we comprehensively analyzed all OS-related data in The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) database. We divided OS tissue samples into high-risk and low-risk groups, determining significant difference in overall survival through a prognostic scoring (PS) model. Then we established a nomogram to calculate patients' 3- and 5-year survival rates using this model and clinical data. In addition, we constructed a recurrence-related ceRNA network and explored the potential molecular mechanisms of recurrence mRNAs using functional enrichment analyses. Our aim is to discover some novel clues that can effectively predict which patients will develop recurrence.

#### 49 Materials and methods

#### 50 Data collection

51 Within the TCGA database (https://gdc-portal.nci.nih.gov), we identified 169 OS samples with mRNA (which 52 includes lncRNAs) and miRNA expression data and also recurrence prognosis information. We detected these 53 samples with the Illumina HiSeq 2000 RNA Sequencing platform. We used these data as the training data set 54 for this analysis.

We downloaded the validation data set from the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) database (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/) using the key words "osteosarcoma, homo sapiens." A total of 37 samples in GSE39058 met the following criteria: (1) solid tissue from OS tumors; (2) lncRNA, mRNA, and miRNA expression data; and (3) clinical information on recurrence and prognosis. We detected these samples using the Illumina platform.

#### 60 Analysis of differentially expressed RNA in OS tissues

61 Using the RefSeq ID information, we compared the profiles in the training data set with the genome 62 annotation file, which we downloaded from the HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee (HGNC(7); 63 http://www.genenames.org/) To further examine the differentially expressed RNAs (DERs; including 64 lncRNA, miRNA, and mRNA) between the recurrence and non-recurrence OS samples in the training data set, 65 we analyzed the expression data using the Limma package of the R software 66 (https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/limma.html) (8). We considered |log2 foldchange|>0.5 67 and FDR <0.05 as significant. We used heatmaps and volcano plots for visualization (9).

#### 68 Screening for independent prognostic clinical factors

69 Univariate and multivariate Cox regression analysis was used to screen out the independent prognostic

clinical factors by R package of survival. We both selected  $p_{log-rank} < 0.05$  as the threshold for significant correlation. To further investigate the relationship between independent prognostic factors and high- and low-risk groups, we conducted risk stratification analysis on these independent prognostic clinical factors.

#### 73 **PS model and performance evaluation**

We used Cox regression analysis to assess the effects of candidate high-risk gene expression on overall survival and used univariate Cox regression analysis to test the relationship between DER expression levels and prognosis in the training data set. We used a multivariate Cox regression analysis to examine the results.

We selected p<sub>log-rank</sub> <0.05 as the threshold for significant correlation and screened out the DERs related to independent prognosis. On the basis of DER expression, we used the R package of penalized (http://bioconductor.org/packages/penalized/) to screen out the optimal prognosis-related signature DERs using the Cox proportional-hazards model (10)

Using the signature DER expression and their prognosis coefficients in the training data set, we identified a combined signature to build a PS model. With this model, we calculated an expression-based risk score for every sample. Then the samples were classified into two groups (high-risk and low-risk) according to their median score.

Using Kaplan–Meier analysis we evaluated for the association between the samples and actual survival prognostic information (11). We also evaluated the association in the validation data set.

#### 87 Nomogram construction

To further investigate the correlation among the independent prognostic clinical factors, the PS model, and survival prognosis, we established a nomogram for 3- and 5-year survival rates using the regression modeling strategies package in R(12, 13).

#### 91 ceRNA network construction

#### 92 Prediction of lncRNA-miRNA-mRNA interactions

We used the experimental module DIANA-LncBase Version 2 (14) (http://www.microrna.gr/LncBase) to predict the lncRNA-miRNA interactions. Then, we used T starBase Version 2.0 (15) (http://starbase.sysu.edu.cn/) to predict the interactions between the DEmiRNAs and DEmRNAs. We mapped the signature mRNAs to regulated target genes to predict the signature miRNA-mRNA interactions. Finally, we constructed an lncRNA-related ceRNA network using Cytoscape Version 3.6.1 (16). It shows which lncRNAs can affect miRNA function and how to regulate mRNA expression.

99 Gene function analysis

- We performed the Gene Ontology (GO) biology process and the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) signaling pathway enrichment analysis on the genes contained in the ceRNA network using the DAVID version 6.8(17, 18) (Database for Annotation, Visualization, and Integrated Discovery, http://david.abcc.ncifcrf.gov/). P < 0.05 was the threshold of enrichment significance.
- 104 Functional enrichment analysis for DERs between the high- and low-risk groups
- 105 First, we used the Limma package of R to screen DERs between the high- and low-risk groups in the training
- 106 data set. We considered |log2 foldchange| >0.5 and FDR < 0.05 as significant. Then we used DAVID Version
- 107 6.8 for the functional analysis of the DERs.
- 108
- 109 **Results**
- 110 DE IncRNA, DEmiRNA, and DEmRNA
- We found 169 OS tissue samples for combined mRNA, miRNA, and lncRNA from the TCGA database. We annotated 10,700 mRNAs, 1,029 lncRNAs, and 1,881 miRNAs. Utilizing the recurrence information, we divided the samples into recurrence and non-recurrence groups containing 28 and 141 samples, respectively.

From the analysis of the expression profile we identified 54 miRNAs, 178 mRNAs, and 47 lncRNAs differentially expressed between recurrent and non-recurrent OS. The volcano plot (Fig 1A) and heatmap (Fig 1B) for the lncRNAs, miRNAs, and mRNAs showed that the recurrence tissues clustered separately from the non-recurrence tissues.

#### 118 Identifying the independent prognosis DERs and the PS model

In the TCGA dataset, 133 OS tumor samples contained recurrence prognosis information. From the univariate Cox proportional hazard regression analysis, we identified 61 significant RNAs (P < 0.05). We performed a multivariate Cox regression analysis for these using recurrence-free survival as an independent variable; thus, we identified 20 DERs, including 4 lncRNAs, 3 miRNAs, and 13 mRNAs, that were significantly associated with independent prognosis in OS (P < 0.05). Finally, from the Cox-PH model of the regularization regression algorithm, which screens the optimal combination of the signature DERs, we obtained a total of 13 DERs (Table 1).

- 126 Therefore, we proposed the following PS model for recurrence-free survival with the risk scoring method, 127 which integrated the signature DER expression levels and their prognosis coefficients:
- 128 Prognostic score =  $\sum \beta_{\text{DERs}} \times \text{Exp}_{\text{DERs}}$

129 where  $\beta_{\text{DERs}}$  is the prognosis coefficient of the signature DERs and  $\text{Exp}_{\text{DERs}}$  is the expression level of the 130 signature DERs.

#### 131 Screening the independent prognostic clinical factors

With the univariate and multivariate Cox regression analyses we selected the independent prognostic clinical factors. Two factors were significantly associated with independent prognosis in OS: tumor metastasis and PS model status (Table 2). As is shown in Fig 2A, samples with tumor metastasis had a worse prognosis than did samples without (P < 0.0001). This result is consistent with the actual situation. We then divided the samples into with– and without–tumor metastasis groups, analyzing the correlation between the prediction results of the PS model and the actual prognosis for each group. Our results showed that the PS model remained significantly correlated with recurrence-free survival time after adjustment by tumor metastasis (Fig 2B).

#### 139 **Prognostic scoring model and performance evaluation**

140 We calculated the risk scores based on the formula of the PS model and divided the samples into low-risk (n =141 66) and high-risk (n = 67) groups according to median risk score. The prognostic value of these signature 142 DERs was demonstrated in Kaplan-Meier plots (Fig 3A). For this PS model, we obtained a good area under 143 the curve (AUC) value of 0.966 based on a 10-fold cross-validation in the training data set. Samples in the 144 high-risk group had a worse prognosis than did those in the low-risk group (P < 0.0001). We tested the 145 robustness of the combined prognostic signature DERs for predicting recurrence in patients with OS in the 146 validation data set (GSE39058, n = 37) downloaded from the GEO, obtaining similar risk stratification results 147 (Fig 3B). As with the training data set, the combined prognostic signature DERs classified 37 samples into 148 low-risk (n = 18) and high-risk (n = 19) groups with significantly different recurrence-free survival times. The 149 AUC of the prognostic model in the validation was 0.854.

#### 150 Nomogram survival rate model with independent prognostic factors

To further analyze the correlation among the tumor metastasis and PS model status factors and survival prognosis, we conducted a nomogram survival rate model construction analysis with the TCGA samples, a practical way to predict the survival probability for OS patients (Fig 4A). As shown in Fig 4B, the 3- and 5-year C-indexes were 0.834 and 0.869, respectively, suggesting a high prediction of performance.

#### 155 Construction of ceRNA regulatory network

In this research, we constructed a ceRNA network using the DERs obtained from Step 2.2. This network
contained 33 miRNAs, 55 mRNAs, and 22 lncRNAs (Fig 5). We found 3 significant RNAs in the network: *CPA3*, *SERTAD4*, and *GLRB*.

159 By performing the GO and KEGG analyses for the mRNAs in the ceRNA network, we screened 23

significant correlations in the biological processes and 3 KEGG signal pathways. As shown in Fig 6, these mRNAs were mostly enriched in specific categories, such as positive regulation of the developmental process and regulation of neurogenesis. The results of the KEGG analysis revealed the potential biological relationships between our gene set and the endocytosis, axon guidance, and cancer pathways.

#### 164 *Pathway enrichment analysis of the DEGs between the high- and low-risk groups*

We obtained 257 differentially expressed genes (DEGs), including 140 upregulated genes and 117 downregulated genes. Then we performed pathway enrichment analysis on these. As shown in Fig 7, the DEGs were mainly enriched in the biological processes of immune response and cytokine-cytokine receptor interaction.

169

### 170 Discussion

Growing research has proved that RNAs are important prognostic factors in human diseases such as OS. For example, Zhang et al.(19) has reported that LncRNA *CBR3-AS1* is an independent prognostic factor for OS. Using real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction, Li et al. (20) has verified that *miR-1826* can be a new prognostic marker for OS. *Receptor interacting protein kinase 4 (RIPK4)*, *Matrilin-2 (MATN2)*, and many other genes also can play important roles in prognosis(21-23). Therefore, our prediction model integrates multiple types of RNA, which may have better prognostic efficacy.

In our research, we proposed a novel PS model based on miRNA, lncRNA, and mRNA that had a high prediction performance. We analyzed the clinical factors (Age, Gender, Tumor multifocal, Tumor metastatic, Radiotherapy, Tumor necrosis and PS model) of the samples and screened out independent prognostic clinical factors. Through the univariate and multivariate analyses, tumor metastasis and PS model was screened out. Despite combined treatment of extensive resection and chemotherapy, 40%–50% of patients will develop lung metastases (24). Lung metastases remain an important cause of OS-related mortality (25). With the 183 improvement of treatment technology, the survival rates of nonmetastatic OS have been increased to 65% to

184 75%. (26-28). But, the survival rates of OS systemic metastasis, especially the occurrence of lung metastasis

- 185 is still only 11% to 30%(28). The nomogram we constructed, which combines the PS model and tumor
- 186 metastasis information, can more effectively predict the survival probability of individual patients with OS.

Noncoding RNAs can act as central players in modulating gene expression at multiple levels and can affect diverse aspects of cellular processes, including cell apoptosis, proliferation, cycle, migration, and invasion, as well as drug resistance (29). Most RNAs used in the construction of the PS model are related to malignant tumors. *miR-429* can suppress tumorigenesis in OS by affecting cell proliferation and invasion (30). *miR-526b* can regulate the initiation and progression of non-cardia gastric, esophageal squamous cell, breast, and colon cancers(31-34). *miR-615* plays an important role in renal cell carcinoma progression [(35)]. However, until now, no research has been done on *LINC00626* in cancer.

194 Carboxypeptidase A3 is a metalloexopeptidase that can be expressed in the subtype of mast cells (36), which 195 can promote the development of certain malignant tumors such as stomach, prostate, or pancreatic 196 cancers(37). Glycine receptors, including its beta receptor subunit, can inhibit neurotransmission. (38). The 197 expression of BCAS4 is significantly reduced in myelodysplastic syndromes patients (39). CA9 198 overexpression is identified as an independent favorable prognostic marker in many cancers such as 199 intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma, tongue squamous cell carcinoma and (RCC) (40-42). LOXL3 contributes to 200 proliferation and metastasis in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, gastric cancer and melanoma (43). NRXN2 201 is one of neurexins genes and relates to a wide variety of neuropsychiatric disorders (44). RAMP1 plays a 202 critical role in inflammation-related lymphangiogenesis (45). SUSD2 expression correlates with the 203 progression of lung adenocarcinoma, breast cancer and high grade serous ovarian cancer (46-48). SERTAD4 is 204 a SERTA domain-containing protein. It can interacts with I-mfa which considered to be candidate tumor 205 suppressor gene (49).

Because post-transcriptional regulation is a complex regulatory network, we should not focus only on miRNA-mRNA silencing mechanisms. The ceRNA network is an effective tool for comprehensively 208 analyzing the function and regulation mechanisms. We constructed a ceRNA network in OS based on 33 209 miRNAs, 55 mRNAs, and 22 lncRNAs. Many factors such as heredity, inflammation, and environment can 210 affect OS occurrence and development. OS has a complicated pathophysiological process (50). Due to 211 mRNAs are the implementers of molecular function, we performed a GO analysis; our results revealed that 212 mRNAs in the ceRNA network were mainly enriched in positive regulation of the developmental process and 213 of neurogenesis. We also made a GO-enriched analysis for the DEGs between the high- and low-risk groups. 214 The DEGs enriched the biological processes, including those for immune responses and the 215 cytokine-cytokine receptor interaction pathways.

#### 216 Conclusions

218

- 217 In our research, we have added the exploration of miRNAs. Therefore, our PS model was constructed using
- these 3 types of RNA, with high predicting prognosis performance. Combined with tumor metastasis
- 219 information, this model can help us to predict survival probability through the nomogram, helping us predict
- 220 the likelihood of a patient's recurrence. Through the ceRNA network and enrichment analysis, we can
- 221 understand how lncRNAs can affect the function of miRNAs. These RNAs were potential biomarkers for OS
- 222 diagnosis and prognosis. Our research also has some limitations. We could not explore the 5-year and 10-year
- 223 survival rates using the nomogram model. In future studies, we will collect more data. In addition, we also
- 224 need to validate our results through experiment.
- 225 Funding: No funding was received to assist with the preparation of this manuscript.
- 226 Declaration of Interests: No potential competing interests are reported by the authors.
- 227 Acknowledgments: None.
- 228 Data availability: The data that support the findings of this study are openly available in TCGA at 229 https://gdc-portal.nci.nih.gov.
- 230

#### 232 **References**

- Liu Y, Teng Z, Wang Y, Gao P, Chen JJMsmimjoe, research c. Prognostic significance of
   survivin expression in osteosarcoma patients: a meta-analysis. 2015;21:2877.
- 235 2. Allison DC, Carney SC, Ahlmann ER, Hendifar A, Chawla S, Fedenko A, et al. A meta-analysis
  236 of osteosarcoma outcomes in the modern medical era. 2012;2012.
- 237 3. Yu W, Tang L, Lin F, Li D, Wang J, Yang Y, et al. Stereotactic radiosurgery, a potential
- 238 alternative treatment for pulmonary metastases from osteosarcoma. 2014;44(4):1091-8.
- 4. Salmena L, Poliseno L, Tay Y, Kats L, Pandolfi PPJC. A ceRNA hypothesis: the Rosetta Stone
  of a hidden RNA language? 2011;146(3):353-8.
- 5. Tay Y, Rinn J, Pandolfi PPJN. The multilayered complexity of ceRNA crosstalk and
  competition. 2014;505(7483):344-52.
- Karreth FA, Pandolfi PPJCd. ceRNA cross-talk in cancer: when ce-bling rivalries go awry.
  2013;3(10):1113-21.
- 245 7. Wright MWJHg. A short guide to long non-coding RNA gene nomenclature. 2014;8(1):7.
- Ritchie ME, Phipson B, Wu D, Hu Y, Law CW, Shi W, et al. limma powers differential
  expression analyses for RNA-sequencing and microarray studies. 2015;43(7):e47-e.
- Wang L, Cao C, Ma Q, Zeng Q, Wang H, Cheng Z, et al. RNA-seq analyses of multiple meristems
  of soybean: novel and alternative transcripts, evolutionary and functional implications.
  2014;14(1):169.
- 251 10. Tibshirani RJSim. The lasso method for variable selection in the Cox model.

252 1997;16(4):385–95.

- 11. Goeman JJJJBj. L1 penalized estimation in the Cox proportional hazards model.
  2010;52(1):70-84.
- Anderson WI, Schlafer DH, Vesely KRJJowd. Thyroid follicular carcinoma with pulmonary
   metastases in a beaver (Castor canadensis). 1989;25(4):599-600.
- 257 13. Eng KH, Schiller E, Morrell KJO. On representing the prognostic value of continuous gene
  258 expression biomarkers with the restricted mean survival curve. 2015;6(34):36308.
- 259 14. Paraskevopoulou MD, Vlachos IS, Karagkouni D, Georgakilas G, Kanellos I, Vergoulis T,
- 260 et al. DIANA-LncBase v2: indexing microRNA targets on non-coding transcripts.
- 261 2016;44(D1):D231-D8.
- 262 15. Li J-H, Liu S, Zhou H, Qu L-H, Yang J-HJNar. starBase v2. 0: decoding miRNA-ceRNA,
- 263 miRNA-ncRNA and protein RNA interaction networks from large-scale CLIP-Seq data.
- 264 2014;42(D1):D92-D7.
- 265 16. Shannon P, Markiel A, Ozier O, Baliga NS, Wang JT, Ramage D, et al. Cytoscape: a software
- 266 environment for integrated models of biomolecular interaction networks.
- 267 2003;13(11):2498-504.
- 268 17. Sherman BT, Lempicki RAJNp. Systematic and integrative analysis of large gene lists using
- 269 DAVID bioinformatics resources. 2009;4(1):44.

- 18. Huang DW, Sherman BT, Lempicki RAJNar. Bioinformatics enrichment tools: paths toward the comprehensive functional analysis of large gene lists. 2009;37(1):1-13.
- 272 19. Zhang Y, Meng W, Cui H. LncRNA CBR3-AS1 predicts unfavorable prognosis and promotes
- 273 tumorigenesis in osteosarcoma. Biomedicine & pharmacotherapy = Biomedecine &
- 274 pharmacotherapie. 2018;102:169-74.
- 275 20. Li P, Wei L, Zhu W. Downregulation of miR-1826 Indicates a Poor Prognosis for Osteosarcoma
- Patients and Regulates Tumor Cell Proliferation, Migration, and Invasion. Internationaljournal of genomics. 2020;2020:7968407.
- 278 21. Jiang H, Guo W, Yuan S, Song L. Matrilin-2 is a novel prognostic marker in osteosarcoma.
- 279 International journal of clinical and experimental pathology. 2019;12(10):3752-60.
- 280 22. Liu S, Liu J, Yu X, Shen T, Fu QJFiO. Identification of a two-gene (PML-EPB41) signature
  281 with independent prognostic value in osteosarcoma. 2019;9.
- 282 23. Yi Z, Pu Y, Gou R, Chen Y, Ren X, Liu W, et al. Silencing of RIPK4 inhibits epithelial
- -mesenchymal transition by inactivating the Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling pathway in osteosarcoma.
- 284 2020;21(3):1154-62.
- 285 24. Kager L, Zoubek A, Po"tschger U, Kastner U, Flege S, Kempf-Bielack B, et al. Primary
- metastatic osteosarcoma: presentation and outcome of patients treated on neoadjuvant
   Cooperative Osteosarcoma Study Group protocols. 2003;21(10):2011-8.
- 288 25. Fan TM, Roberts RD, Lizardo MMJFiO. Understanding and Modeling Metastasis Biology to
  289 Improve Therapeutic Strategies for Combating Osteosarcoma Progression. 2020;10.
- 290 26. Eilber F, Giuliano A, Eckardt J, Patterson K, Moseley S, Goodnight J. Adjuvant
- 291 chemotherapy for osteosarcoma: a randomized prospective trial. 1987;5(1):21-6.
- 292 27. Allison DC, Carney SC, Ahlmann ER, Hendifar A, Chawla S, Fedenko A, et al. A meta-analysis
  293 of osteosarcoma outcomes in the modern medical era. Sarcoma. 2012;2012:704872.
- 28. Meyers PA, Heller G, Healey JH, Huvos A, Applewhite A, Sun M, et al. Osteogenic sarcoma
  with clinically detectable metastasis at initial presentation. Journal of clinical oncology :
  official journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. 1993;11(3):449-53.
- 297 29. Wang JY, Yang Y, Ma Y, Wang F, Zhang QAJB, Biomedecine p, et al. Potential regulatory
  298 role of lncRNA-miRNA-mRNA axis in osteosarcoma. 2020;121:109627.
- 299 30. Li X, Jiang H, Xiao L, Wang S, Zheng JJMsmimjoe, research c. miR-200bc/429 inhibits
   300 osteosarcoma cell proliferation and invasion by targeting PMP22. 2017;23:1001.
- 301 31. Fan Q-H, Yu R, Huang W-X, Cui X-X, Luo B-H, Zhang L-Y. The has-miR-526b binding-site
  302 rs8506G>a polymorphism in the lincRNA-NR\_024015 exon identified by GWASs predispose to
  303 non-cardia gastric cancer risk. PLoS One. 2014;9(3):e90008-e.
- 304 32. Han L, Liu S, Liang J, Guo Y, Shen S, Guo X, et al. A genetic polymorphism at miR 526b
- 305 binding site in the lincRNA NR\_024015 exon confers risk of esophageal squamous cell 306 carcinoma in a population of North China. 2017;56(3):960-71.

- 307 33. Majumder M, Landman E, Liu L, Hess D, Lala PKJMCR. COX-2 elevates oncogenic miR-526b in
  308 breast cancer by EP4 activation. 2015;13(6):1022-33.
- 309 34. Zhang R, Zhao J, Xu J, Wang J, Jia JJAjotr. miR-526b-3p functions as a tumor suppressor
  310 in colon cancer by regulating HIF-1α. 2016;8(6):2783.
- 311 35. Wang Q, Wu G, Zhang Z, Tang Q, Zheng W, Chen X, et al. Long non-coding RNA HOTTIP promotes
- 312 renal cell carcinoma progression through the regulation of the miR-615/IGF-2 pathway.
- 313 International journal of oncology. 2018;53(5):2278-88.
- 314 36. Balzar S, Fajt ML, Comhair SA, Erzurum SC, Bleecker E, Busse WW, et al. Mast cell phenotype,
  315 location, and activation in severe asthma: data from the severe asthma research program.
  316 2011;183(3):299-309.
- 317 37. Varricchi G, Galdiero MR, Loffredo S, Marone G, Iannone R, Marone G, et al. Are mast cells
  318 MASTers in cancer? 2017;8:424.
- 319 38. Lueken U, Kuhn M, Yang Y, Straube B, Kircher T, Wittchen H, et al. Modulation of defensive
  reactivity by GLRB allelic variation: converging evidence from an intermediate phenotype
  approach. 2017;7(9):e1227-e.
- 322 39. Shiseki M, Ishii M, Okada M, Ohwashi M, Wang YH, Osanai S, et al. Expression analysis
  323 of genes located within the common deleted region of del(20q) in patients with myelodysplastic
  324 syndromes. Leukemia research. 2019;84:106175.
- 40. Gu M. CA9 overexpression is an independent favorable prognostic marker in intrahepatic
   cholangiocarcinoma. International journal of clinical and experimental pathology.
- 327 2015;8(1):862-6.
- 41. Guan C, Ouyang D, Qiao Y, Li K, Zheng G, Lao X, et al. CA9 transcriptional expression
  determines prognosis and tumour grade in tongue squamous cell carcinoma patients. Journal
  of cellular and molecular medicine. 2020;24(10):5832-41.
- 331 42. Li G, Bilal I, Gentil-Perret A, Feng G, Zhao A, Peoc'h M, et al. CA9 as a molecular marker
- 332 for differential diagnosis of cystic renal tumors. Urologic oncology. 2012;30(4):463-8.
- 43. Laurentino TS, Soares RDS, Marie SKN, Oba-Shinjo SM. LOXL3 Function Beyond Amino Oxidase
  and Role in Pathologies, Including Cancer. International journal of molecular sciences.
  2019;20(14).
- 44. Kasem E, Kurihara T, Tabuchi K. Neurexins and neuropsychiatric disorders. Neuroscience
  research. 2018;127:53-60.
- 338 45. Tsuru S, Ito Y, Matsuda H, Hosono K, Inoue T, Nakamoto S, et al. RAMP1 signaling in immune
- cells regulates inflammation-associated lymphangiogenesis. Laboratory investigation; a
   journal of technical methods and pathology. 2020;100(5):738-50.
- 341 46. Guo W, Shao F, Sun S, Song P, Guo L, Xue X, et al. Loss of SUSD2 expression correlates
- with poor prognosis in patients with surgically resected lung adenocarcinoma. Journal ofCancer. 2020;11(7):1648-56.
- 47. Hultgren EM, Patrick ME, Evans RL, Stoos CT, Egland KA. SUSD2 promotes tumor-associated
   macrophage recruitment by increasing levels of MCP-1 in breast cancer. PLoS One.

- 346 2017;12(5):e0177089.
- 347 48. Xu Y, Miao C, Jin C, Qiu C, Li Y, Sun X, et al. SUSD2 promotes cancer metastasis and confers
  348 cisplatin resistance in high grade serous ovarian cancer. Experimental cell research.

349 2018; 363 (2) : 160–70.

- 49. Kusano S, Shiimura Y, Eizuru Y. I-mfa domain proteins specifically interact with SERTA
- domain proteins and repress their transactivating functions. Biochimie. 2011;93(9):1555-64.
- 50. Zhang G, Li Y, Xu J, Xiong ZJOM. Advances in the role of miRNAs in the occurrence and development of osteosarcoma. 2020;15(1):1003-11.
- 354 **Figure captions**
- Fig 1. The DER results. A. Volcano plot. The horizontal dashed line indicates FDR < 0.05; the two vertical
- dashed lines indicate | log2FC | >0.5. The point size represents the absolute value of logFC; the larger the
- 357 value, the larger the point. **B.** Heatmap.
- 358 Fig 2. A. Kaplan-Meier curve of tumor metastasis related to prognosis in the training data set. Blue and red
- 359 curves indicate no-recurrence and recurrence groups for the OS tumor samples, respectively. B. The OS
- 360 sample group with and without tumor metastasis is based on the PS prediction model and the
- 361 prognosis-related Kaplan-Meier curve line graphs. Blue: low-risk samples; red: high-risk samples.
- 362 Fig 3. Training and validation data sets used in the study. A. Training set. B. Validation set. Left:
- 363 Kaplan-Meier survival plots of low-grade and high-grade samples. Right: receiver operating characteristic
- 364 (ROC) curve for the PS model. The area under the curve (AUC) values of 0.966 and 0.854 showed a good
- 365 performance of the risk prediction.
- Fig 4. Nonogram and concordance plots for the study. A. Nomogram of prognosis. B. Concordance plots
  of predictions of 3- and 5-year recurrence survival probability with actual recurrence survival probability. Red:
  3 years; blue: 5 years.
- 369 Fig 5. ceRNA network. Squares: lncRNA; triangles: miRNA; circles: mRNA. The change in color from blue
- 370 to red indicates the change in logFC expression from down-regulation to up-regulation, respectively, and the
- 371 nodes with larger numbers represent signature RNAs.

- 372 Fig 6. GO analysis of the mRNA in the ceRNA network. Horizontal axis: number of genes; vertical axis: GO
- arrange entry name. Dot size: number of genes involved; dot color: -log10 (FDR). The closer the color is to red, the
- higher the significance.
- Fig 7. Comparisons between the high- and low-risk groups. (A) GO results for the DEmRNAs between the
- high- and low-risk groups. (B) 8 enrichment of KEGG pathway analysis of DEmRNAs between the high- and
- 377 low-risk groups. Horizontal axis: number of genes; vertical axis: GO entry name. Dot size: number of genes
- involved; dot color: -log10 (FDR). The closer the color is to red, the higher the significance.

Symbol	Tumo	Multi-va	LASSO			
Symbol	гуре	HR	95%CI	P value	coefficient	
LINC00626	lncRNA	1.0056	1.0011-1.0101	3.840E-03	0.02461	
has-miR-429	miRNA	1.0166	1.0092-1.042	4.858E-02	0.33082	
hsa-miR-526b	miRNA	1.0211	1.0099-1.043	1.565E-02	0.24799	
hsa-miR-615	miRNA	0.9967	0.9934-0.9999	1.155E-02	-0.14581	
BCAS4	mRNA	0.9663	0.9419-0.9914	8.742E-03	-0.67382	
CA9	mRNA	1.0111	1.0031-1.0191	6.424E-03	0.17397	
CPA3	mRNA	1.0125	1.0013-1.0238	2.826E-02	0.13737	
GLRB	mRNA	0.9613	0.9375-0.9856	1.965E-03	-0.18084	
LOXL3	mRNA	0.9776	0.9644-0.9911	1.158E-03	-0.21229	
NRXN2	mRNA	0.9154	0.9035-0.9275	1.108E-02	-0.13537	
RAMP1	mRNA	0.9911	0.9826-0.9997	4.173E-02	-0.03370	
SERTAD4	mRNA	0.9864	0.973-0.9999	4.833E-02	-0.50416	
SUSD2	mRNA	1.0123	1.0034-1.0212	6.659E-03	0.29587	

Table 1. The optimal combination of signature DERs.

Age(years,mean±sd) Gender(Male/Female)	38.81±35.63	<b>HR</b> 1.001	<b>95%CI</b> 0.977-1.025	<b>P</b> 9 59E-01	HR	95%CI	Р
Age(years,mean±sd) Gender(Male/Female)	38.81±35.63	1.001	0.977-1.025	9 59E-01			
Gender(Male/Female)				).5)L 01	-	-	-
	52/81	1.935	0.920-4.070	8.24E-02	-	-	-
Tumor multifocal(Yes/No/-)	27/98/8	2.803	1.290-6.092	6.56E-03	1.688	0.753-3.784	2.04E-0
Tumor metastatic(Yes/No)	29/104	7.695	3.588-16.50	6.75E-10	7.094	3.179-15.83	1.70E-0
Radiotherapy(Yes/No)	46/87	1.262	0.597-2.670	5.42E-01	-	-	-
Tumor necrosis(No/Slight/Moderate/Severe/-)	49/26/44/6/8	1.257	0.842-1.876	2.60E-01	-	-	-
PS model(High/ Low)	68/69	15.98	3.792-67.35	5.29E-08	14.01	3.309-59.35	3.38E-04
Tumor recurrence(Yes/No)	28/105	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recurrence free survival time(months,mean±sd)	60.40±15.51	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10						

## Table 2. Univariate and multivariate Cox regression analysis for clinical factors.







Recurrence free survival time(months)



Recurrence free survival time(months)









