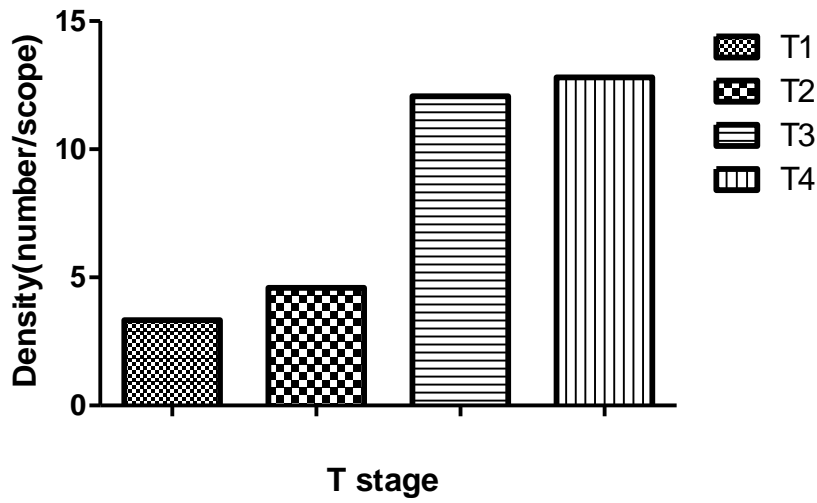


Table-1: Clinical characteristics of cases

T-stage	Case	Age(y)	Gender	N	D
T-1	1	59	M	1	0
	2	67	M	0	0
	3	33	M	0	0
	4	52	F	0	0
	5	58	M	0	0
T-2	1	58	M	0	0
	2	70	F	0	0
	3	75	M	0	0
	4	64	M	1	0
	5	49	M	0	0
T-3	1	39	F	1	0
	2	57	F	1	0
	3	63	M	0	0
	4	64	M	1	0
	5	60	M	1	0
T-4	1	50	F	1	0
	2	56	M	1	0
	3	38	F	1	0
	4	66	F	1	0
	5	44	F	0	0

(y: year; M: male; F: female; N0: lymph node metastasis free, N1: lymph node metastasis; D0: distant site metastasis free)

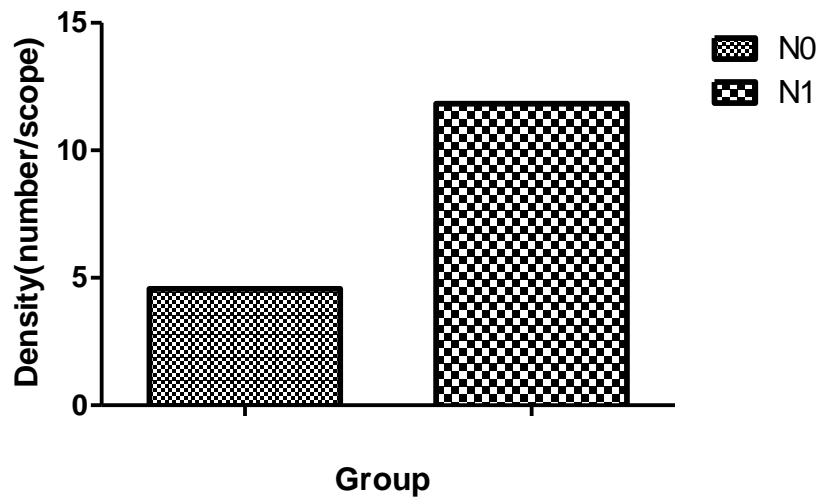
Table-2: Density of new growth nerve bundles in T-stage



Group	Early stage		Late stage	
	T1	T2	T3	T4
Density (number/scope)	3.33±1.92	4.60±2.23	12.07±3.33* &	12.8±2.01* &

(* p < 0.01 versus T1; & p < 0.01 versus T2)

Table-3: Density of new growth nerve bundles in lymph node metastasis or not



Group	N0	N1
Density (number/scope)	4.57±3.03	11.83±3.57*

(N0: lymph node metastasis free, N1: lymph node metastasis, * p < 0.01)