

## **Code book for categorical variables from the Supplemental data table**

### **Tumor type**

- AC (adenocarcinoma of the lung)
- SqCC (squamous cell carcinoma of the lung)

### **Distribution**

In estimating the distribution of Cx43 expression, the percentage of tumor cells expressing Cx43 in the slides was classified as follows:

- 0 (negative [percentage of stained tumor cells below 10%]),
- 1 (intermediate expression [percentage of stained tumor cells between 10% and 50%]), and
- 2 (high expression [percentage of stained tumor cells 50% or more]).

### **Intensity**

The staining intensity was classified into four groups:

- 0 (negative),
- 1 (low intensity),
- 2 (moderate intensity),
- 3 (high intensity of staining).