

Supplementary materials

Table S1

Study	Journal	Cancer Type	Axl/Gas6 expression (cancer vs normal)	Detection method and reagent	Cut-off
Cormack ¹³	British Journal of Cancer	Breast cancer	Gas6: 87.8% (43/49) in cancer	QPCR, relative standard curve and internal control	Medians of 2- $\Delta\Delta$ CT methods
Hutterer ¹⁴	Clin Cancer Res	Glioblastoma multiforme	Axl Cancer: 59.2% (45/76) Gas6 Cancer: 72.4% (55/76) Normal: Not detectable	IHC, anti-Axl (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry)	GIS: Percentage of positive cells was graded as 0 (negative), 1 (up to 10%), 2(11-50%), 3 (51-80%), or 4 (>80% positive cells) and staining intensity as 0 (no staining), 1 (weak), 2(moderate), or 3 (strong). The final immunoreactive GIS was defined as the multiplication of both grading results .Protein expression frequencies were analyzed by dividing the GIS into no/low (GIS < 5), moderate (GIS 5-8), and high (GIS > 8) levels
Gustafsson ¹⁵	Clin Cancer Res	Renal cell carcinoma	Axl and Gas6: NR	QPCR, relative standard curve and internal control	mRNA: Axl mRNA (n =221) levels were divided into low (<25th
Gjerdrum ¹⁶	PNAS	Breast cancer	Axl: NR	IHC, anti-Axl (Santa	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to

				Cruz, H-124)	3: strong staining) multiply by percentage (0: no tumor cells positive; 1:<10% positive; 2:10%–50% positive; 3:>50% positive). Cut-off value: median value)
Hector ¹⁷	Cancer biology & Therapy	Esophageal adenocarcinoma	Axl Cancer: 60.9%(56/92) Normal: 5.8% (3/92)	TMA, anti-Axl (AF154; R&D)	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 2: intense staining) multiply by percentage (0: no tumor cells positive; 1:<25% positive; 2:25%–50% positive; 3:>51-75% positive; 4>75% positive). Cut-off value: 3.
Song ¹⁸	Cancer	pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma	Axl Cancer: 70%(38/54) Normal: 22%(11/50)	IHC, anti-Axl (Abcam)	25th percentile of Axl labeling score: Axl high (Axl labeling score >7.56), and Axl low (Axl labeling score<7.56).
Lee ¹⁹	Ann Surg Oncol	Oral squamous cell carcinoma	Axl Cancer: 54.5%(61/112) Normal: 10.9%(5/46)	IHC, anti-Axl (Santa Cruz)	Positive (>25%) and negative (<25%) according to the percentage of positive staining cells.
Chen ²⁰	Annals of Diagnostic Pathology	Ovarian carcinoma	Axl Cancer: 61.3%(49/80) Normal: 0(0/10)	IHC, anti-Axl (Santa Cruz)	Positive ($\geq 10\%$) and negative ($\leq 10\%$) according to the percentage of positive staining cells.
Han ²¹	Biochemical and	Osteosarcoma	Axl	IHC, anti-Axl	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to

	Biophysical Research Communications		Cancer: 43.5%(27/62) Normal: 14.3%(3/21)	(R&D)	3: intense staining) multiply by percentage (0: no tumor cells positive; 1:<25% positive; 2:25%–50% positive; 3:>51-75% positive; 4>75% positive). Cut-off value: 2.
Ishikawa ²²	Ann Surg Oncol	Lung cancer	Axl Cancer: 32.9%(29/88) Gas6: 25%(22/88) Normal: NR	IHC, anti-Axl (Santa Cruz, sc-20741)	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 3: intense staining) multiply by percentage (0: no tumor cells positive; 1:≤10% positive; 2:11%–50% positive; 3:>51-80% positive; 4>80% positive). Cut-off value: 7.
Kawano ²³	Carcinogenesis	Colorectal cancer	Gas6 Cancer: 46.8%(29/62) Normal: N/A	IHC, anti-Gas6 (Santa Cruz)	“high” ≥50% of the tumor cells stained with anti-Gas6 antibody; “low” : <50% of the tumor cells were stained.
Pinato ²⁴	British Journal of Surgery	Malignant pleural mesothelioma	Axl Cancer: 74%(47/63) Gas6 Cancer: 47%(30/63) Normal: NR	IHC anti-Axl (Sigma, HPA037422) anti-Gas6 (Sigma, HPA008275)	HS (histoscore): percentage of tumour cells staining positively (range 0-100) multiplied by staining intensity graded as negative, weak, moderate or strong (range 0-3) (total: 0-300). Cut-

Dunne ²⁵	Clin Cancer Res	Colorectal cancer	Axl Cancer: 64.6%(329/509) Normal: NR	IHC anti-Axl (Sigma)	off: Axl: 150; Gas6: 0) SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 3: strong staining), grade 0-1: low expression, and grade 2-3: high expression.
Fleuren ²⁶	Oncotarget	Ewing Sarcoma	Axl Cancer: 53%(8/15) Normal: NR	IHC anti-Axl (cell signaling)	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 3: strong staining), grade 0-2: low expression, and grade 3 (>10% positive cells): high expression.
Brand ²⁷	Clinical Cancer Research	Head and Neck Cancer	Axl Cancer: 38%(24/63) Normal: 0%(0/6)	TMA anti-Axl (R&D)	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 3: strong staining), grade 0-1: low expression, and grade 2-3: high expression.
Hsieh ²⁸	Oncotarget	Esophageal cancer	Axl Cancer: 93/116(80.3%) Normal: 5/89(5.6%)	IHC anti-Axl (Abcam, Ab72069)	Score 0: no reactivity in any tumor cell; Score 1+: tumor cells cluster with a faint reactivity irrespective of tumor cells stained; Score 2+: tumor cells cluster with a moderate eactivity irrespective of tumor cells stained; Score 3+: tumor cells cluster with a diffuse and strong reactivity. cut-off:>=1
Jiang ²⁹	Adv Clin Exp Med	nasopharygeal carcinoma	Axl Cancer:	IHC anti-Axl (R&D)	Staining percentage: >=10 (positive)

			68.8% (59/86) Normal: 20% (4/20)		
Qu ³⁰	Oncology Letters	Lung cancer	Axl Cancer: 54.5%(73/134) Normal: 29.1%(39/134)	TMA anti-Axl (Abcam, Ab72069)	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 3: intense staining) multiply by percentage (1:<30% positive; 2:30%–60% positive; 3:>60% positive.). Cut-off value: 3.
Reichl ³¹	Hepatology	Hepatic cancer	Axl: NR	TMA anti-Axl (cell signaling)	NR
Hattori ³²	Ann Surg Oncol	Urothelial Carcinoma	Cancer: Axl:58.4% (94/161) Gas6:55.3% (89/161) Normal: NR	IHC anti-Axl (Santa cruz, H-124) anti-Gas6 (R&D, AF885)	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 3: intense staining) multiply by percentage (0:negative, 1:<10% positive; 2:11%–50% positive; 3:51-80% positive; 4:>80% positive.). Cut-off value: 6.
Liu ³³	Plos One	Hepatic cancer	Axl Cancer: 54/246(22%) Normal: Not detectable	TMA anti-Axl (R&D)	“high” ≥50% of the tumor cells stained with anti-Axl antibody; “low” : <50% of the tumor cells were stained.
Roland ³⁴	Ann Surg Oncol	Undifferentiated Pleomorphic Sarcoma	Axl Cancer: NR Normal: NR	IHC anti-Axl (cell signaling)	Percentage was recorded, and an intensity score was assigned: 0 = no expression; 1 = low expression;

					2 = intermediate expression; 3 = high expression. >10 % of cells were stained is considered positive.
Tanaka ³⁵	Clinical Breast Cancer	Breast cancer	Axl Cancer: 49.6%(170/343) Normal: NR	IHC anti-Axl (Santa Cruz, H-124)	Percentage of cytoplasmic staining area was recorded as 0% to 100%. Axl staining >60% cells was considered Axl-high expression
Wang ³⁶	Theranostics	Breast cancer	Axl Cancer: 21/50(42%) Normal: NR	IHC anti-Axl (cell signaling)	NR
Jin ³⁷	Oncology Letters	Breast cancer	Axl Cancer: 34/60(56.6%) Normal: 13/40(32.5%)	IHC anti-Axl (Abcam, Ab37861)	SI: Intensity (0: no staining to 4: extremely staining) multiply by percentage (0:≤10% positive; 1:11-25% positive; 2:26%–50% positive; 3:51-75% positive; 4>75% positive). Cut-off value: 4.

Table S2

	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Item	Sum	Quality
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20			Score%
1	2	2	1	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	28	70%	
2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	0	2	33	83%	
3	2	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	1	2	0	2	27	68%	
4	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	1	2	0	2	29	73%	
5	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	32	80%	
6	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	31	78%	
7	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	0	2	28	70%	
8	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	30	75%	
9	2	2	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	0	2	1	2	30	75%	
10	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	32	80%	
11	2	1	0	2	2	1	2	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	1	1	0	2	1	2	26	65%	
12	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	31	78%	
13	2	2	0	2	2	1	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	0	1	27	68%	
14	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	30	75%	
15	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	1	29	73%	
16	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	31	78%	
17	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	0	2	29	73%	
18	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	0	1	29	73%	
19	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	1	2	0	2	21	53%	
20	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	1	34	85%	
21	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	32	80%	
22	2	2	2	0	2	1	2	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	2	1	0	2	2	2	28	70%	
23	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	1	2	32	80%	
24	2	2	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	0	2	1	2	26	65%	

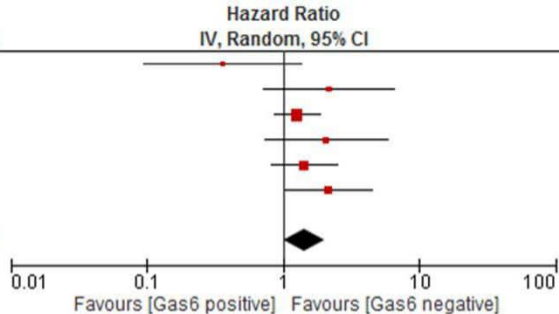
25	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	0	2	0	2	31	78%
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Study or Subgroup	log[Hazard Ratio]	SE	Weight	Hazard Ratio	
				IV, Random, 95% CI	
2008 Cormack	-1.022	0.677	6.1%	0.36	[0.10, 1.36]
2008 Hutterer	0.779	0.566	8.4%	2.18	[0.72, 6.61]
2009 Gustafsson	0.23	0.198	35.4%	1.26	[0.85, 1.86]
2013 Ishikawa	0.732	0.53	9.4%	2.08	[0.74, 5.88]
2013 Pinato	0.358	0.285	23.9%	1.43	[0.82, 2.50]
2016 Hattori	0.765	0.371	16.7%	2.15	[1.04, 4.45]

Total (95% CI) 100.0% **1.44 [1.02, 2.04]**

Heterogeneity: $\tau^2 = 0.05$; $\chi^2 = 6.82$, $df = 5$ ($P = 0.23$); $I^2 = 27\%$

Test for overall effect: $Z = 2.08$ ($P = 0.04$)



Supplemental Figure 1.

Forest plot of the hazard ratio (HR) for overall survival (OS) associated with Gas6 expression with 1 study deleted in all solid tumor patients.