

Figure S1 Aromatase inhibitor (AI)/placebo treatments to GS3-PDX: (a) Tumor growth curve of GS3-PDX with AI (letrozole, 10 mg, daily s.c.) or placebo treatment for 28 days; (b) immunohistochemistry of Ki-67 expression in GS3 tumors treated with AI or placebo; (c) Cell viability of 10⁴ organoids (isolated from GS3 tumor) treated with DMSO (Dimethyl sulfoxide), AI (letrozole, 200nM), or E2 (10nM) for 96 hours *in vitro* (***) $p < 0.0001$; Error bars represent SEM.

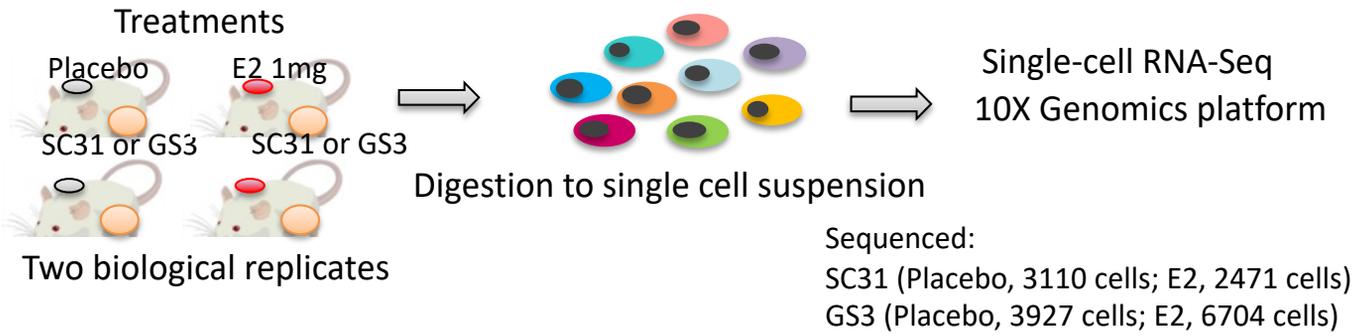


Figure S2 Overview of scRNA-Seq approach using two PDX models.

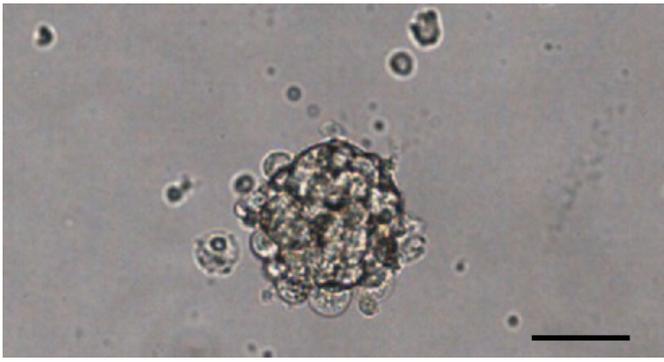


Figure S3 Organoids established from GS3-PDX tumors. Organoids were established from single cells isolated from fresh GS3 tumor. This organoid is control sample (Dimethyl sulfoxide) incubated for 3 days. Scale bar represents 50 μm .

ER α

GAPDH

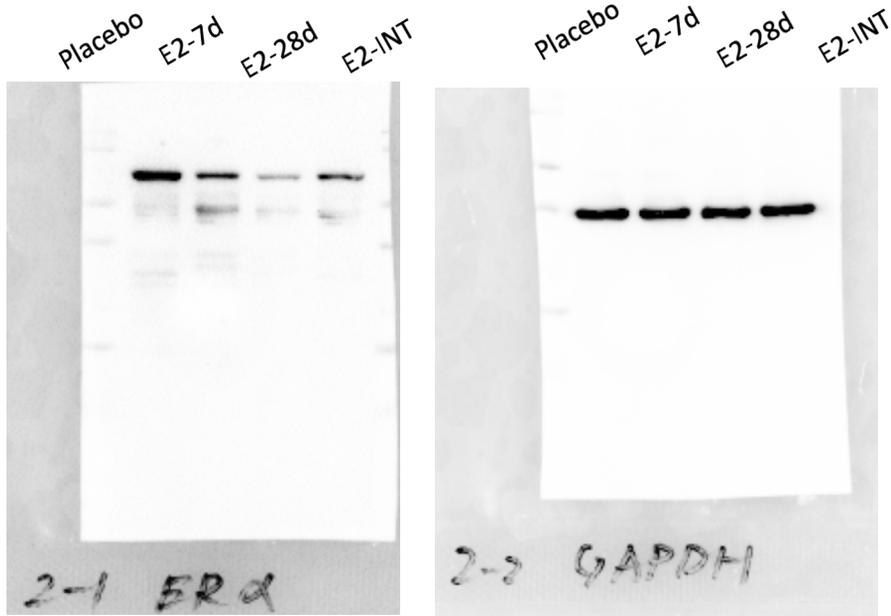
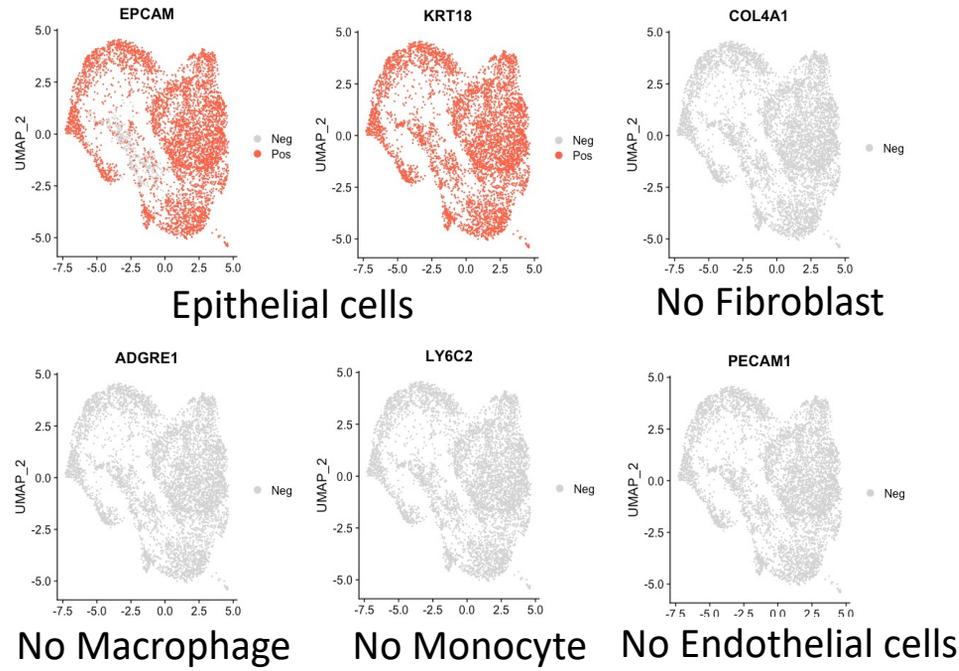


Figure S4 Whole blots of ER α expression of GS3 tumors treated with placebo, 7-day E2, 28-day E2 and intermittent E2 by Western blotting.

(a) Human-derived cells of SC31



(b) Mouse-derived cells of SC31

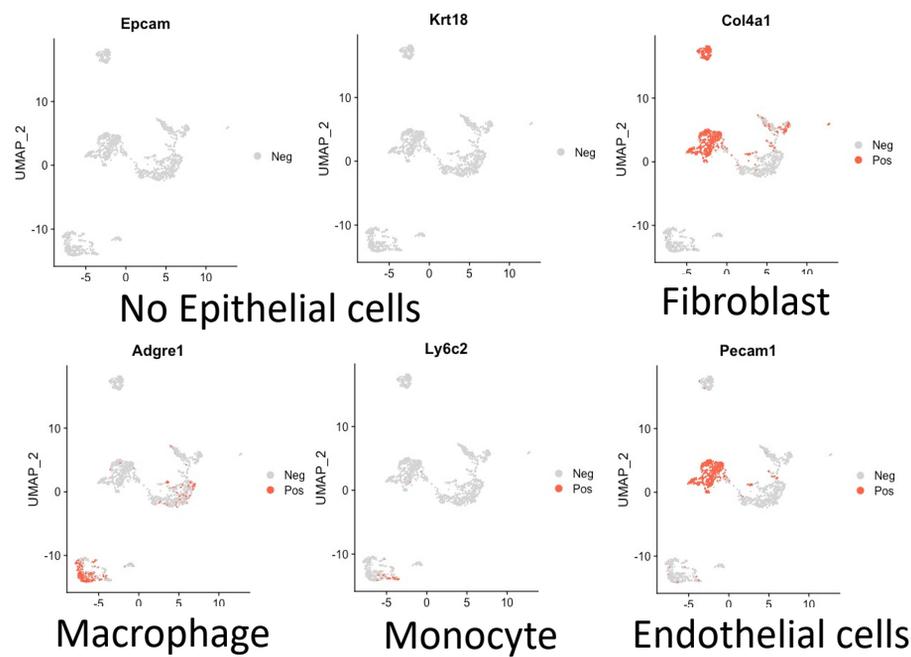
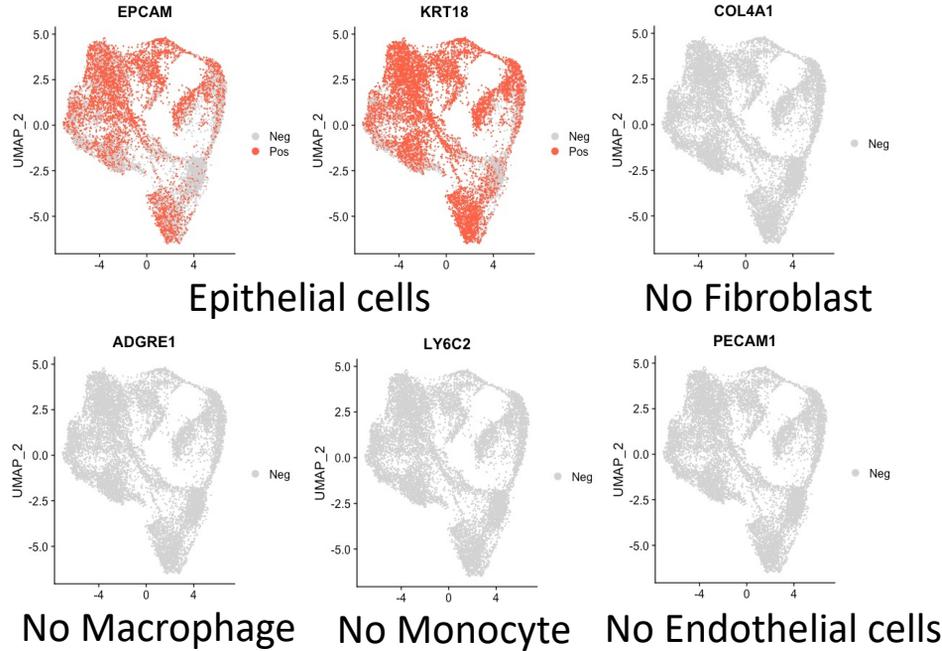


Figure S5 (1/2) Epithelial and stromal cell markers in human/mouse-derived cells in SC31 (a, b) and GS3 (c, d).

(c) Human-derived cells of GS3



(d) Mouse-derived cells of GS3

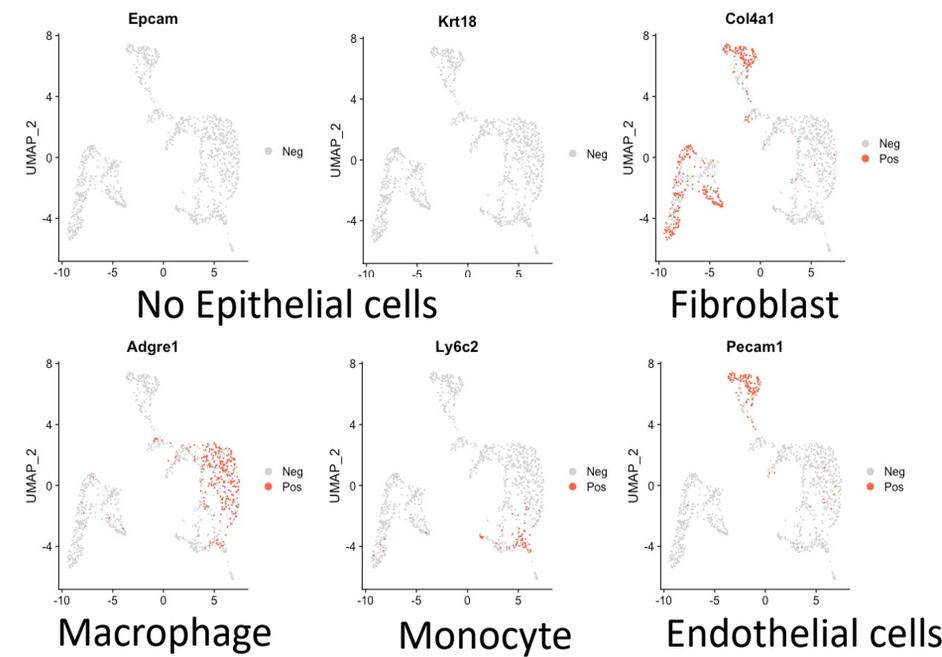
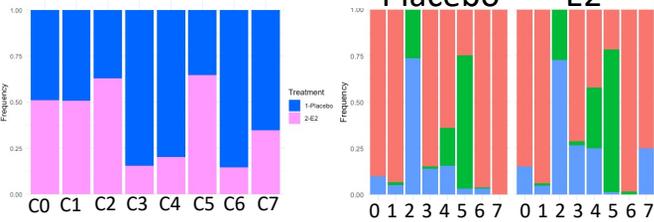
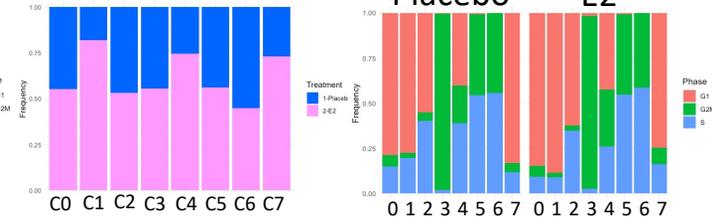


Figure S5 (2/2) Epithelial and stromal cell markers in human/mouse-derived cells in SC31 (a, b) and GS3 (c, d).

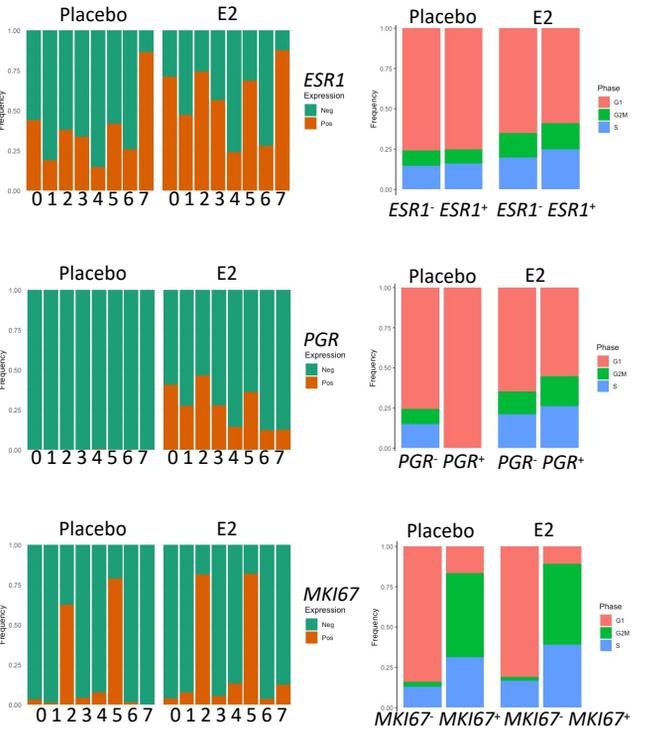
(a) SC31



(c) GS3



(b) SC31



(d) GS3

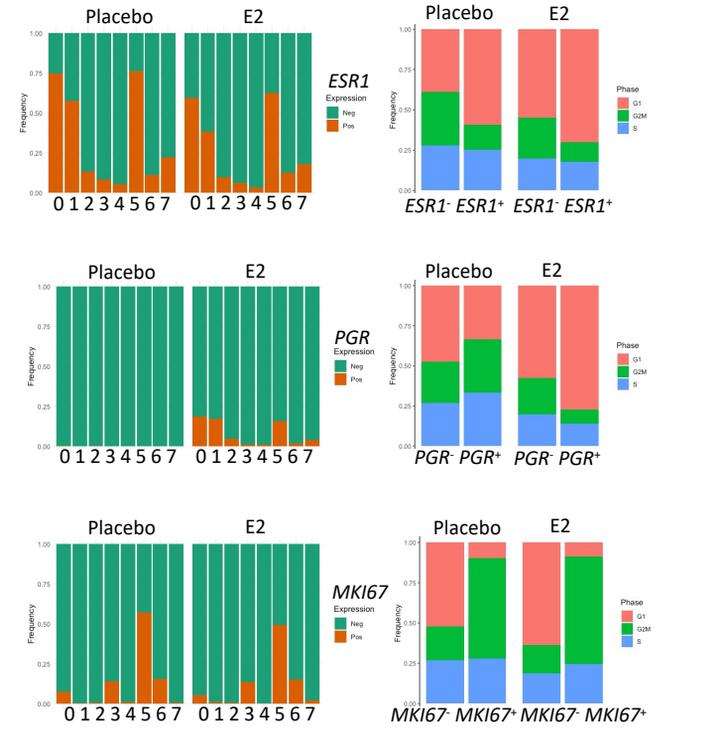


Figure S6 Cell distribution of single-cell clusters by treatments and by cell cycle phases (separated by treatments) in (a) SC31 and (c) GS3; Cell distribution of single cell clusters and cell cycle phases by gene expression (separated by treatments) in (b) SC31 and (d) GS3.

(a) SC31

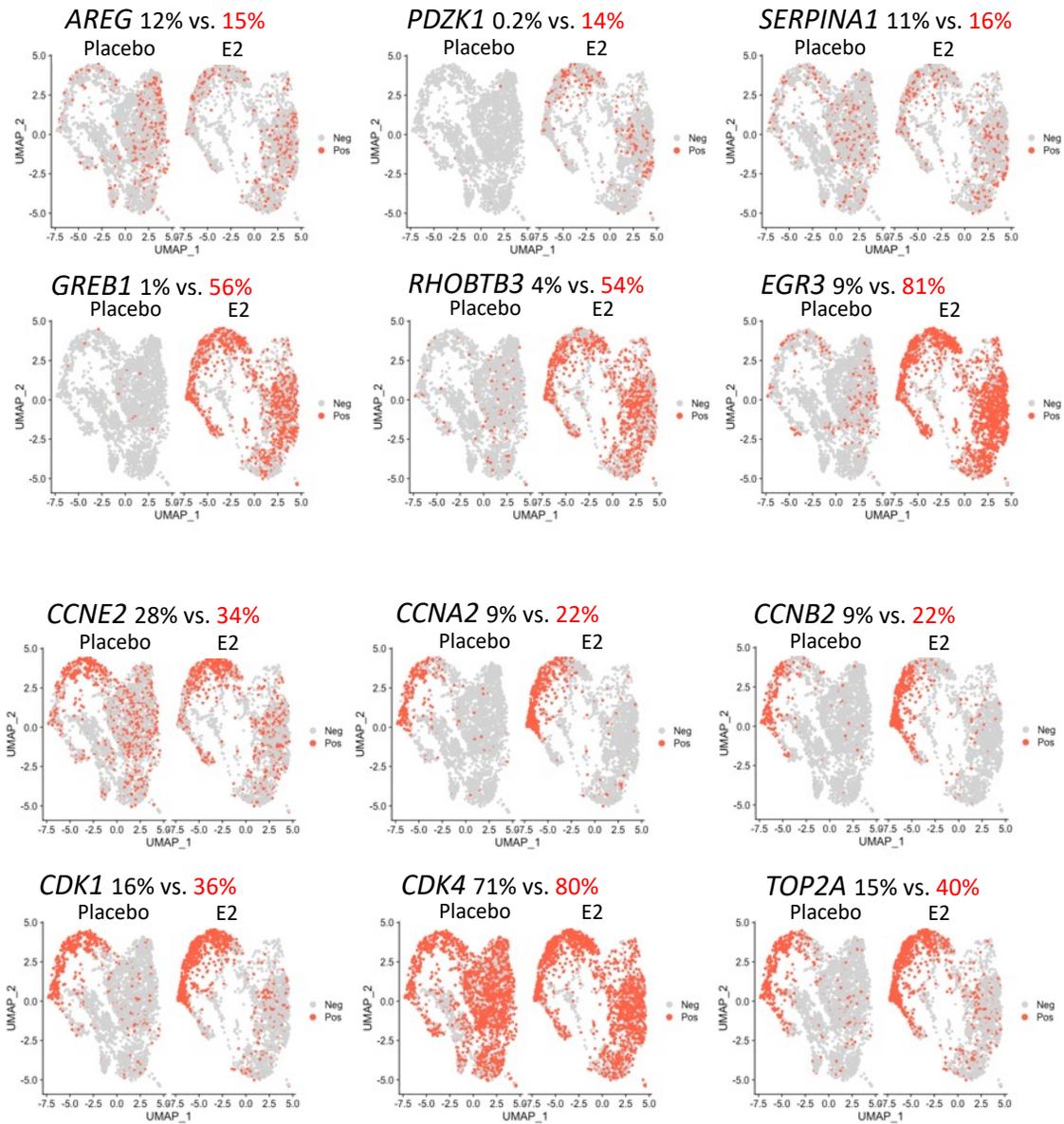


Figure S7 (1/2) Gene expression (estrogen-regulated genes and cell cycle proliferation genes) comparison of E2-treated cells versus placebo-treated cells in (a) SC31 and (b) GS3.

(b) GS3

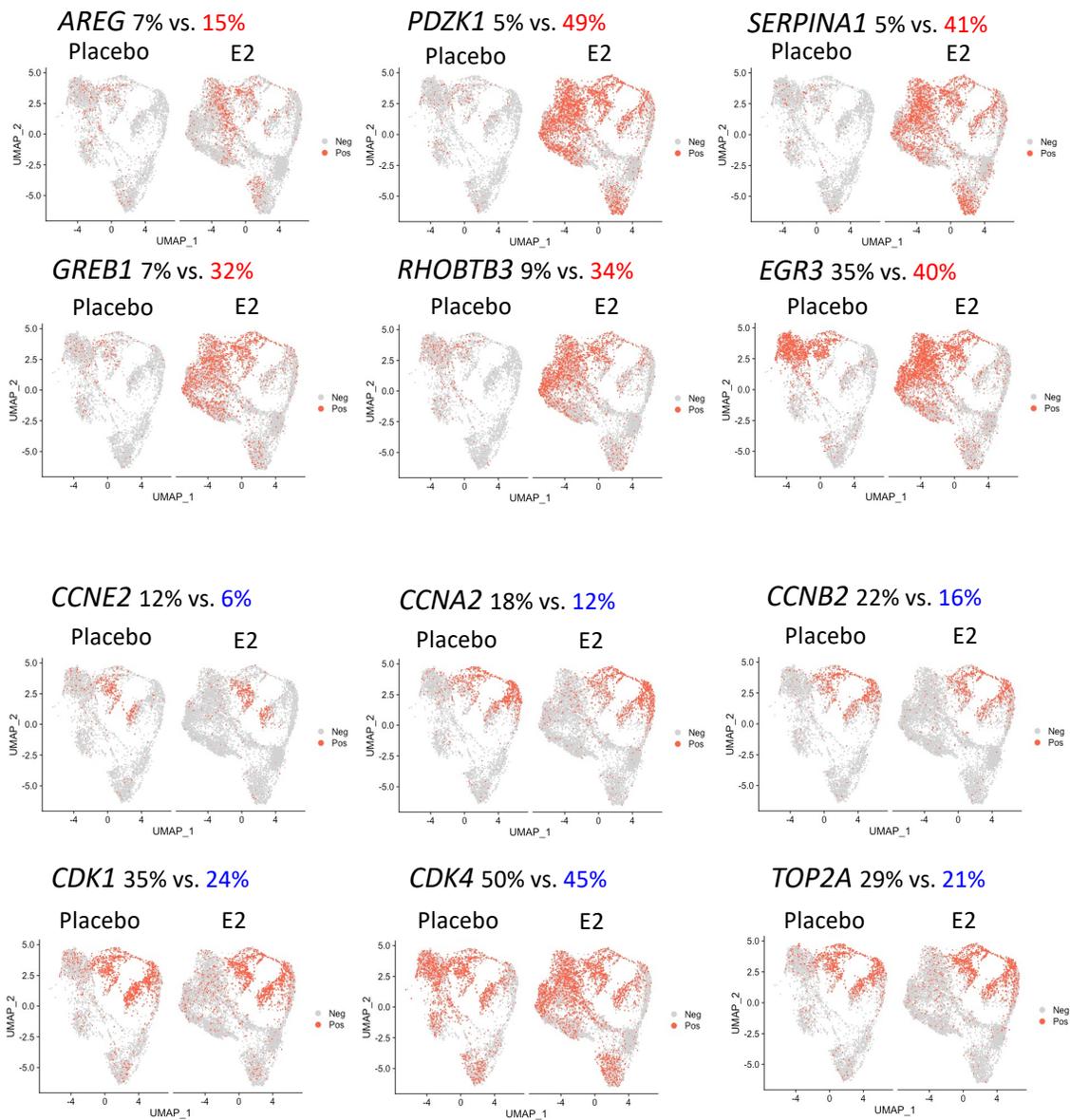
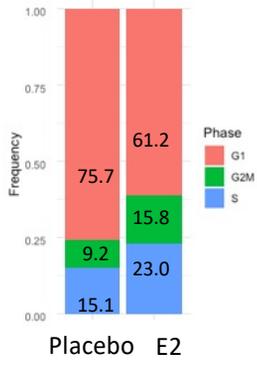


Figure S7 (2/2) Gene expression (estrogen-regulated genes and cell cycle proliferation genes) comparison of E2-treated cells versus placebo-treated cells in (a) SC31 and (b) GS3.

(a) SC31



(b) GS3

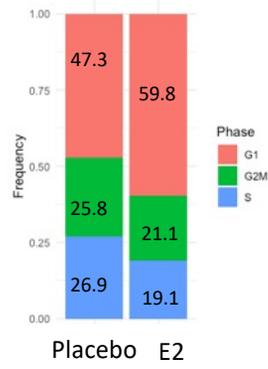


Figure S8 Distribution of cells in the G1, S, or G2M phases separated by treatments in (a) SC31 and (b) GS3.

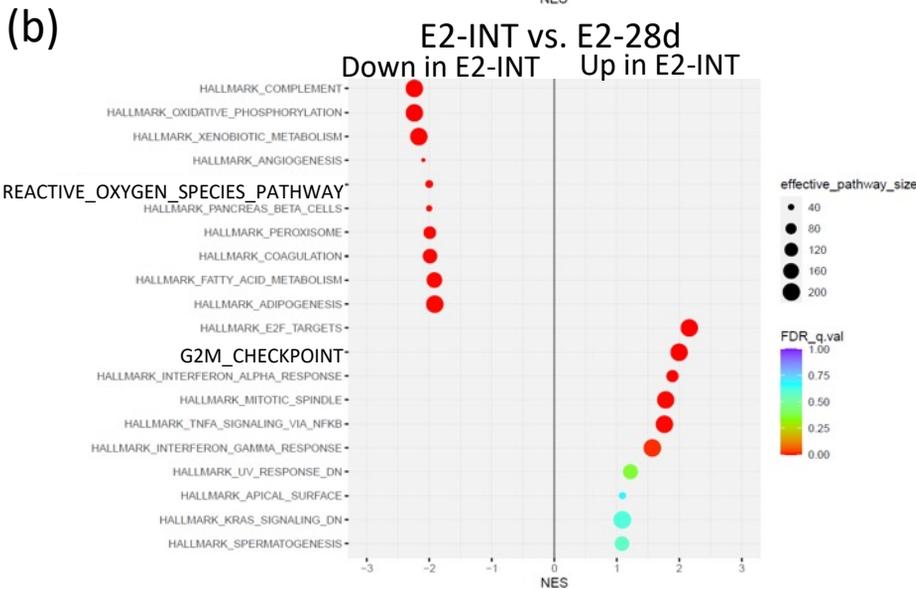
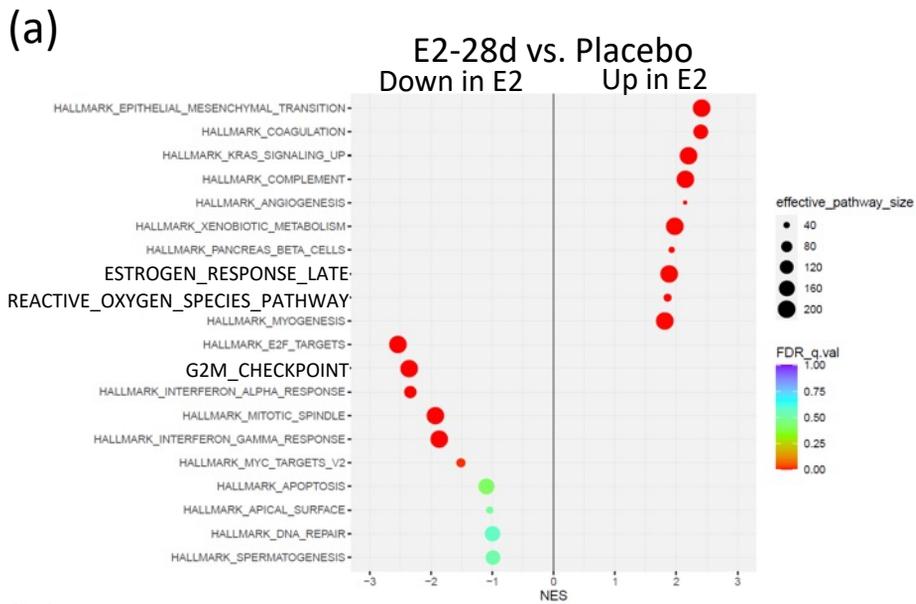


Figure S9 Analysis of hallmark gene sets based on bulk RNA-Seq data of intermittent E2 sample in GS3: (a) Analysis of hallmark gene sets of 28-day E2 treatment versus placebo; (b) Analysis of hallmark gene sets of intermittent E2 versus 28-day E2 treatment; E2-28d, E2 treatment for 28 days; E2-INT, intermittent E2 treatment.

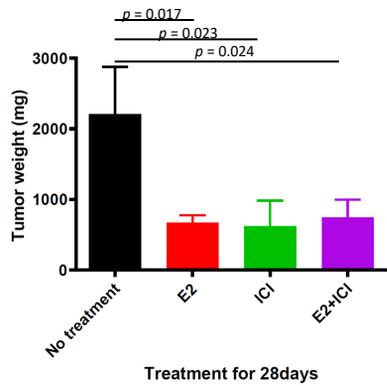


Figure S10 Tumor weight of GS3 after 4 weeks of placebo/E2/ICI/E2+ICI treatment; Error bars represent SEM and *p* value was determined by t-test.

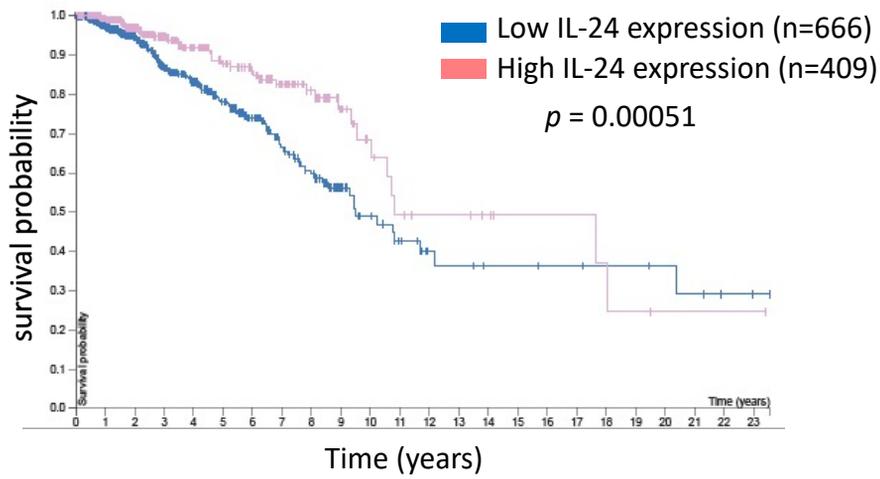


Figure S11 Prognostic value of IL-24 expression: Kaplan-Meier curves showing estimating overall survival for IL-24 expression according to the human protein atlas (<https://www.proteinatlas.org/ENSG00000162892-IL24/pathology/breast+cancer>, Accessed on 11/18/2021); p value is for comparison of two groups.

Table S1 Primer sequences

| Genes | | Sequence (5'->3') | Tm (°C) | Amplicon Size (bp) |
|---------|---------|---------------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| ESR1 | Forward | AAG CTT CGA TGA TGG GCT TA | 54.0 | 145 |
| | Reverse | AGG ATC TCT AGC CAG GCA CA | 57.7 | |
| ESR2 | Forward | CCA TGA TCC TGC TCA ATT CC | 53.5 | 150 |
| | Reverse | ATT GCT GCT GGG AGG AGA T | 56.3 | |
| PGR | Forward | CTT AAT CAA CTA GGC GAG AG | 49.9 | 122 |
| | Reverse | AAG CTC ATC CAA GAA TAC TG | 49.6 | |
| IL24 | Forward | CTT TGT TCT CAT CGT GTC ACA AC | 54.3 | 114 |
| | Reverse | TCC AAC TGT TTG AAT GCT CTC C | 55.3 | |
| GADD45A | Forward | GGT GTA CGA AGC GGC CAA | 58.3 | 59 |
| | Reverse | GCA GGC ACA ACA CCA CGT TA | 58.4 | |
| GREB1 | Forward | CAA AGA ATA ACC TGT TGG CCC TGC | 58.7 | 172 |
| | Reverse | GAC ATG CCT GCG CTC TCA TAC TTA | 58.8 | |
| TFF1 | Forward | GTG TCA CGC CCT CCC AGT | 60.2 | 63 |
| | Reverse | GGA CCC CAC GAA CGG TG | 58.9 | |
| ERBB2 | Forward | AAA GGC CCA AGA CTC TCT CC | 56.6 | 89 |
| | Reverse | CAA GTA CTC GGG GTT CTC CA | 56.2 | |
| ACTB | Forward | CAA CTG GGA CGA CAT GGA GA | 56.7 | 170 |
| | Reverse | ACG TAC ATG GTG GGG TGT TG | 57.6 | |
| GAPDH | Forward | GGT CTC CTC TGA CTT CAA CA | 53.8 | 116 |
| | Reverse | AGC CAA ATT CGT TGT CAT AC | 50.9 | |

Table S2 Analysis of hallmark gene sets based on bulk RNA-Seq data of different treatment samples in GS3

| Treatment | Upregulated in E2 (vs. control) | <i>p</i>-value | Downregulated in E2 (vs. control) | <i>p</i>-value |
|------------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| E2-5 days | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 1.43×10^{-31} | P53_PATHWAY | 2.93×10^{-06} |
| | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 2.57×10^{-29} | MYOGENESIS | 9.75×10^{-05} |
| | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 6.51×10^{-09} | KRAS_SIGNALING_DN | 4.57×10^{-04} |
| E2-10 days | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 3.03×10^{-27} | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 1.21×10^{-24} |
| | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 4.60×10^{-23} | MITOTIC_SPINDLE | 3.59×10^{-12} |
| | PANCREAS_BETA_CELLS | 4.94×10^{-11} | E2F_TARGETS | 3.87×10^{-11} |

Footnote: This table included top three hallmark gene sets.

Table S3 Human-derived cells and mouse-derived cells in SC31 and GS3

| | SC31 | GS3 |
|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Human-placebo | 3,110 | 3,927 |
| Human-E2 | 2,471 | 6,704 |
| Human | 5,581 | 10,631 |
| Mouse-placebo | 1,143 | 224 |
| Mouse-E2 | 356 | 905 |
| Mouse | 1,499 | 1,129 |

Table S4 The number of cells in each cluster of single-cells in SC31 and GS3

| SC31 | C0 | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 | C5 | C6 | C7 | Total |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Placebo | 1,050 | 351 | 263 | 496 | 445 | 157 | 333 | 15 | 3,110 |
| E2 | 1,102 | 364 | 448 | 90 | 112 | 290 | 57 | 8 | 2,471 |
| Total | 2,152 | 715 | 711 | 586 | 557 | 447 | 390 | 23 | 5,581 |
| GS3 | C0 | C1 | C2 | C3 | C4 | C5 | C6 | C7 | total |
| Placebo | 1,163 | 409 | 690 | 527 | 277 | 392 | 315 | 154 | 3,927 |
| E2 | 1,427 | 1,847 | 784 | 662 | 809 | 500 | 257 | 418 | 6,704 |
| Total | 2,590 | 2,256 | 1,474 | 1,189 | 1,086 | 892 | 572 | 572 | 10,631 |

Table S5 Analysis of GSEA hallmark gene sets based on scRNA-Seq data in each cluster of SC31

| Cluster | Upregulated Gene Set Name | <i>p</i> -value | Downregulated Gene Set Name | <i>p</i> -value |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| C0 | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 9.08×10^{-45} | E2F_TARGETS | 2.15×10^{-73} |
| | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 1.92×10^{-13} | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 7.77×10^{-54} |
| | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 4.33×10^{-12} | HYPOXIA | 4.86×10^{-23} |
| | HYPOXIA | 4.33×10^{-12} | | |
| C1 | HYPOXIA | 4.24×10^{-62} | E2F_TARGETS | 2.92×10^{-55} |
| | GLYCOLYSIS | 2.94×10^{-34} | MTORC1_SIGNALING | 8.01×10^{-42} |
| | MTORC1_SIGNALING | 1.19×10^{-17} | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 8.01×10^{-42} |
| C2 | E2F_TARGETS | 6.72×10^{-208} | P53_PATHWAY | 3.55×10^{-14} |
| | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 1.73×10^{-111} | INTERFERON_GAMMA_RESPONSE | 3.66×10^{-13} |
| | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 1.38×10^{-79} | APOPTOSIS | 8.21×10^{-13} |
| C3 | INTERFERON_ALPHA_RESPONSE | 2.76×10^{-84} | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 1.31×10^{-71} |
| | INTERFERON_GAMMA_RESPONSE | 4.29×10^{-76} | E2F_TARGETS | 3.41×10^{-51} |
| | COMPLEMENT | 6.25×10^{-13} | HYPOXIA | 4.65×10^{-41} |
| C4 | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 2.95×10^{-10} | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 2.07×10^{-20} |
| | P53_PATHWAY | 2.95×10^{-10} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 3.58×10^{-18} |
| | MITOTIC_SPINDLE | 2.05×10^{-09} | MTORC1_SIGNALING | 4.39×10^{-17} |
| C5 | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 2.72×10^{-112} | INTERFERON_GAMMA_RESPONSE | 5.42×10^{-29} |
| | E2F_TARGETS | 7.16×10^{-98} | INTERFERON_ALPHA_RESPONSE | 2.41×10^{-25} |
| | MITOTIC_SPINDLE | 1.00×10^{-42} | HYPOXIA | 1.31×10^{-15} |
| C6 | MTORC1_SIGNALING | 3.30×10^{-41} | E2F_TARGETS | 1.33×10^{-70} |
| | APOPTOSIS | 1.40×10^{-25} | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 1.36×10^{-40} |
| | UNFOLDED_PROTEIN_RESPONSE | 3.94×10^{-25} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 2.35×10^{-39} |
| C7 | OXIDATIVE_PHOSPHORYLATION | 8.89×10^{-52} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 6.09×10^{-28} |
| | ADIPOGENESIS | 3.81×10^{-11} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 6.65×10^{-24} |
| | HEME_METABOLISM | 3.81×10^{-11} | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 3.17×10^{-15} |

Footnote: This table included top three hallmark gene sets.

Table S6 Analysis of GSEA hallmark gene sets based on scRNA-Seq data in each cluster of GS3

| Cluster | Upregulated Gene Set Name | <i>p</i> -value | Downregulated Gene Set Name | <i>p</i> -value |
|---------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| C0 | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 1.33×10^{-53} | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 7.44×10^{-36} |
| | APOPTOSIS | 1.09×10^{-15} | E2F_TARGETS | 6.13×10^{-29} |
| | HYPOXIA | 5.09×10^{-13} | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 2.02×10^{-22} |
| C1 | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 3.90×10^{-07} | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 5.13×10^{-65} |
| | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 5.13×10^{-06} | E2F_TARGETS | 1.19×10^{-37} |
| | PROTEIN_SECRETION | 1.81×10^{-05} | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 5.62×10^{-25} |
| C2 | OXIDATIVE_PHOSPHORYLATION | 7.48×10^{-33} | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 3.76×10^{-25} |
| | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 3.45×10^{-13} | E2F_TARGETS | 1.03×10^{-23} |
| | ADIPOGENESIS | 5.50×10^{-12} | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 9.61×10^{-11} |
| C3 | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 3.52×10^{-66} | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 2.12×10^{-35} |
| | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 2.76×10^{-59} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 4.71×10^{-17} |
| | E2F_TARGETS | 2.97×10^{-54} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 1.40×10^{-14} |
| C4 | REACTIVE_OXYGEN_SPECIES_PATHWAY | 2.99×10^{-05} | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 6.12×10^{-07} |
| | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 1.05×10^{-04} | E2F_TARGETS | 2.46×10^{-04} |
| | HYPOXIA | 1.05×10^{-04} | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 2.46×10^{-04} |
| C5 | E2F_TARGETS | 9.16×10^{-80} | MTORC1_SIGNALING | 1.62×10^{-08} |
| | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 1.77×10^{-48} | P53_PATHWAY | 1.06×10^{-05} |
| | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 1.80×10^{-13} | UNFOLDED_PROTEIN_RESPONSE | 2.21×10^{-05} |
| C6 | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 2.46×10^{-97} | TNFA_SIGNALING_VIA_NFKB | 8.16×10^{-31} |
| | E2F_TARGETS | 3.78×10^{-78} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY | 7.28×10^{-20} |
| | G2M_CHECKPOINT | 5.57×10^{-41} | APOPTOSIS | 4.36×10^{-14} |
| C7 | MYC_TARGETS_V1 | 6.62×10^{-13} | OXIDATIVE_PHOSPHORYLATION | 4.05×10^{-22} |
| | UNFOLDED_PROTEIN_RESPONSE | 1.89×10^{-11} | E2F_TARGETS | 8.10×10^{-21} |
| | P53_PATHWAY | 1.30×10^{-09} | ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE | 4.71×10^{-17} |

Footnote: This table included top three hallmark gene sets.

Table S7 The percentage of *ESR1*⁺ and *ESR1*⁻ cells in two tumors treated with placebo or E2

| | <i>ESR1</i> ⁺ cells | | <i>ESR1</i> ⁻ cells | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|-----|
| | Placebo | E2 | Placebo | E2 |
| SC31 | 33% | 64% | 67% | 36% |
| GS3 | 41% | 31% | 59% | 69% |

Table S8 Reported E2 therapies for AI resistant ER⁺ breast cancer

| Reference | Treatments | Objective Response Rate (CR+PR) (%) | Clinical Benefit Rate (CR+PR+SD) (%) |
|-----------------------|---|--|---|
| Lønning et al, 2001 | DES: 5 mg, three times a day | 10/32 (31) | 12/32 (38) |
| Agrawal et al, 2006 | EE: 1 mg | 3/12 (25) | 4/12 (33%) |
| Ellis et al, 2009 | E2: 6 mg vs. 30 mg | 6 mg, 3/34 (9) 30 mg, 1/32 (3) | 6 mg, 10/34 (29) 30 mg, 9/32 (28) |
| Mahtani et al, 2009 | DES: 5 mg, three times a day E2: 10 mg, three times a day E2: 2 mg, three times a day | 5/20 (25) | 9/20 (45) |
| Iwase et al, 2013 | EE: 3 mg | 9/18 (50) | 10/18 (56) |
| Chalasani et al, 2014 | E2: 6 mg | 3/13 (23) | 6/13 (46) |
| Zucchini et al, 2015 | E2V: 2 mg/day | 0/19 (0) | 5/19 (26) |

DES, Diethylstilbestrol; EE, Ethinyl estradiol; E2, Estradiol; CR, complete response; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease