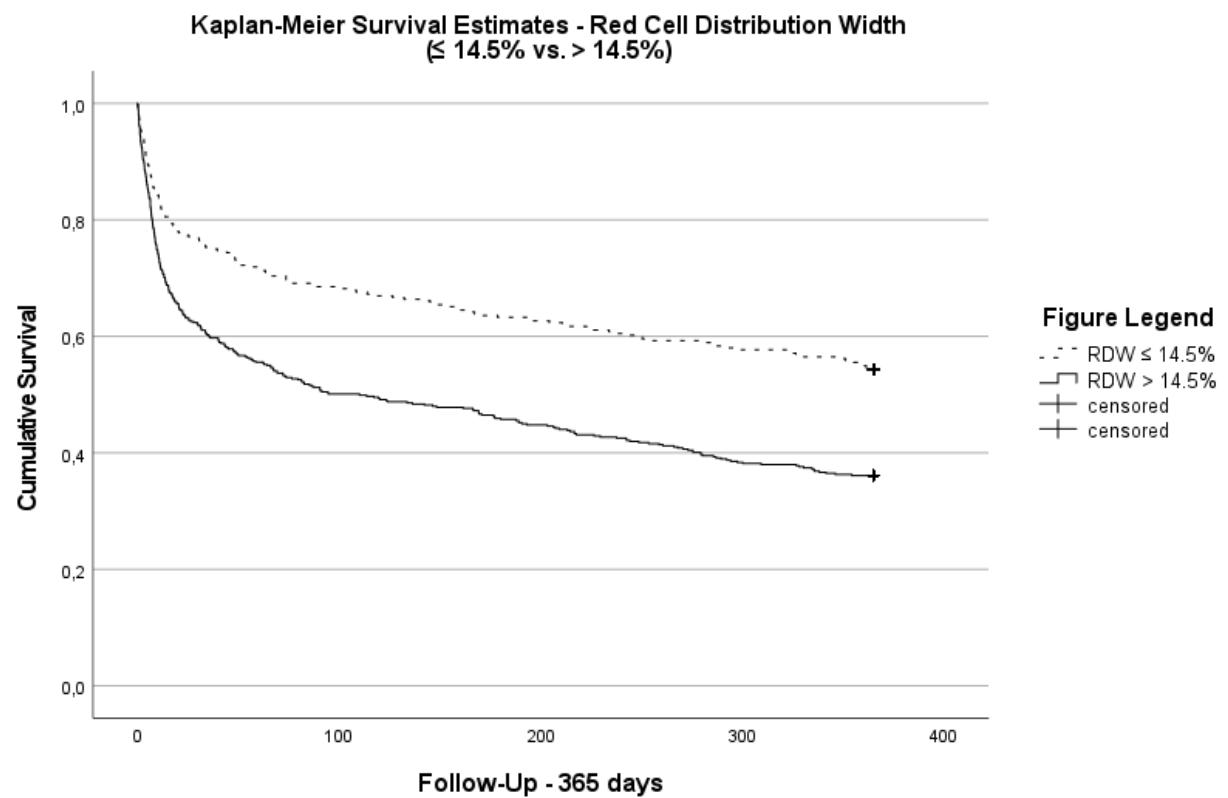


**Supplementary Figure S1:** 1-Year Kaplan-Meier survival estimates stratified according Red Cell Distribution Width ( $\leq 14.5\%$  vs.  $> 14.5\%$ ) (Log-Rank:  $p < 0.001$ )



**Supplementary Table S1 – Pre-existing comorbidities**

Parameters	<b><i>RDW ≤ 14.5%</i></b> (n = 327)	<b><i>RDW &gt; 14.5%</i></b> (n = 536)	<i>p</i> -value
<b>AIDS n (%)</b>	0 (0)	1 (0)	0.434
<b>Cerebral arterial disease n (%)</b>	49 (15)	90 (17)	0.484
<b>Chronic lung disease n (%)</b>	23 (7)	46 (9)	0.416
<b>Chronic kidney disease n (%)</b>	56 (17)	143 (27)	0.001
<b>Congestive heart disease n (%)</b>	50 (15)	126 (24)	0.004
<b>Connective tissue disease n (%)</b>	2 (1)	0 (0)	0.070
<b>Coronary heart disease n (%)</b>	56 (17)	71 (13)	0.119
<b>Dementia n (%)</b>	57 (17)	110 (21)	0.265
<b>Diabetes Mellitus n (%)</b>	46 (14)	69 (13)	0.617
<b>Liver cirrhosis n (%)</b>	3 (1)	4 (1)	0.786
<b>Peripheral arterial disease n (%)</b>	27 (9)	51 (10)	0.532
<b>Malignancy n (%)</b>			
Solid tumor	28 (9)	53 (10)	0.517
Leukemia	1 (0)	4 (1)	0.408
Lymphoma	1 (0)	7 (1)	0.137
Solid tumor with metastases	9 (3)	21 (4)	0.364

**Abbreviations:** AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome; n, number; RDW, red cell distribution width;

**Supplementary Table S2** – Cox-Regression model for RDW and factors associated with 28d-Mortality

<b>Cox regression</b>	<b>Covariables</b>	<b>HR (95% CI)</b>	<b>p value</b>
<i>Final Model</i>	<b>RDW</b> (high vs. low)	1.372 (1.045 – 1.802)	0.023
	<b>Gender</b> (male vs. female)	1.007 (0.782 – 1.297)	0.955
	<b>SAPS II</b> (points)	1.051 (1.040 – 1.061)	< 0.001
	<b>Myocardial Infarction</b> (yes vs. no)	1.164 (0.836 – 1.622)	0.368
	<b>Chronic Lung Disease</b> (yes vs. no)	0.752 (0.477 – 1.184)	0.218
	<b>Chronic kidney disease</b> (yes vs. no)	0.979 (0.744 – 1.289)	0.881
	<b>Diabetes Mellitus Type II</b> (yes vs. no)	0.744 (0.504 – 1.097)	0.136
	<b>Mechanical Ventilation</b> (yes vs. no)	1.568 (1.169 – 2.103)	0.003
	<b>Vasopressors</b> (yes vs. no)	1.513 (1.113 – 2.058)	0.008

Abbreviations: HR, hazard ratio; CI, confidence interval; RDW, red cell distribution width; SAPS II, simplified acute physiology score II;