Supplementary Table S1. (a) Table of relative standard deviation of marker concentration in HNSCC patients, control subjects without infection with at least 2 samples per material (b) Table of the subgroup with head and neck infections (*n*=15) and their diagnosis of infection at time of sample collection. Localization specified for the different types of infections. (c) R-packages used for statistical analysis and visualization.

Variable	TIMP-1 serum	TIMP-1 saliva	Hsp70 serum	Hsp70 saliva
Per Patient (n=29, ≥2 samples)	21.9%	56.5%	88.5%	81.4%
HNSCC patients (n=52)	37.5%	68.5%	182.7%	142.2%
Subjects without infection (n=25)	19.8%	70.1%	123.5%	97.8%

(a)

| Diagnosis of subgroups with infections	localization	number = n
abscess	peritonsilliar, tongue, jaw (*n*=2)	4
purulent sialadenitis	salivary gland	1
erysipelas	temporal scalp	1
laryngitis	larynx	2
osteonecrosis	lower jaw (*n*=2)	2
cellulitis	orbital, base of the mouth	2
sinusitis	paranasal sinus	1
tonsillitis	tonsills	2

(b)

| R-packages |
|---|
| datasets, car, pacman |
| tidyverse, dplyr |
| psych, survival, survminer |
| ggplot2, ggthemes, ggrepel, ggsignif, ggpubr |
| pROC, gridExtra, finalfit |
| gtsummary, devtools |

(c)

(a)

(b)

(b)
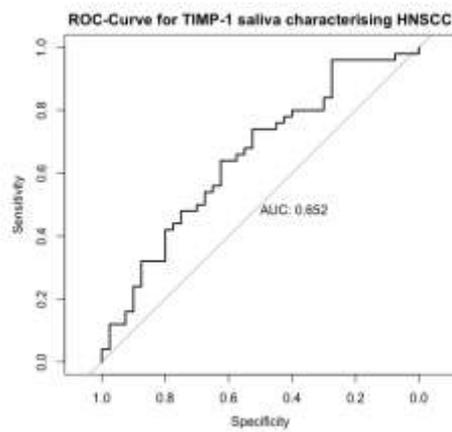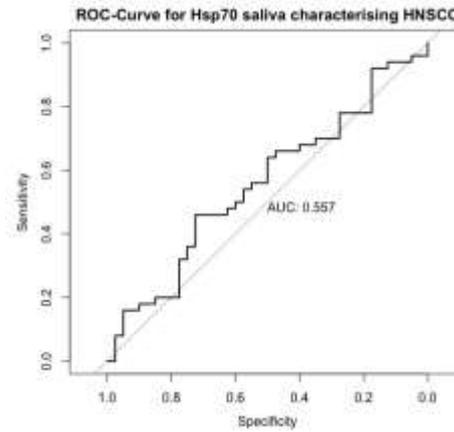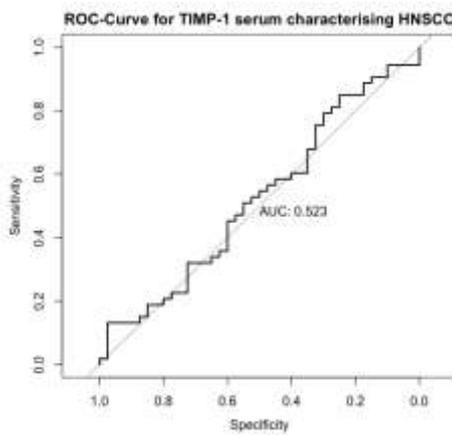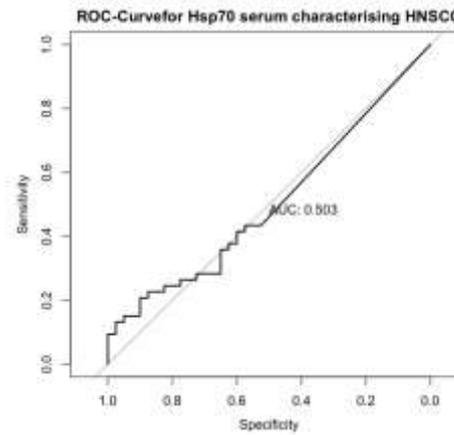
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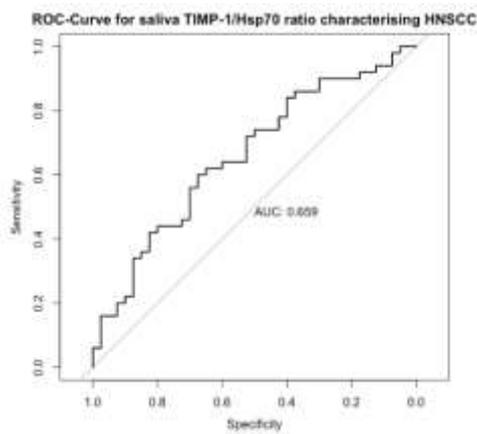
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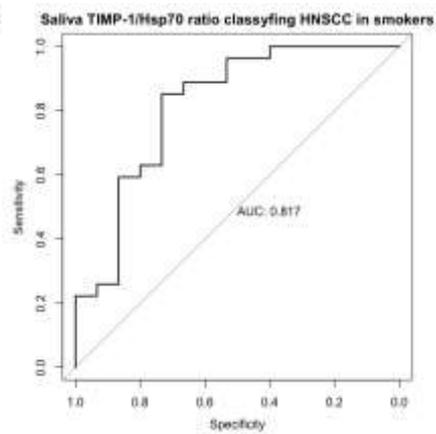
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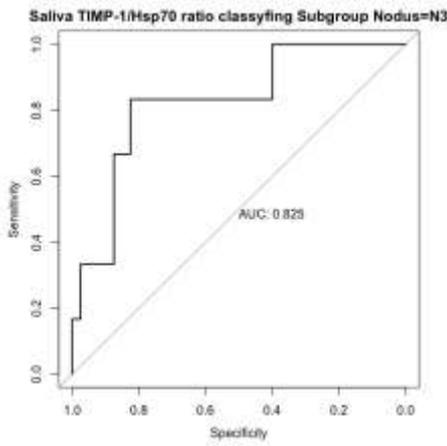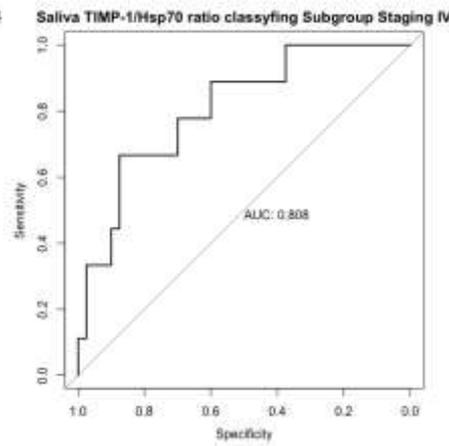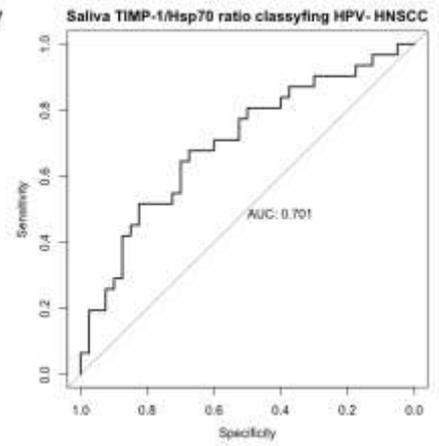
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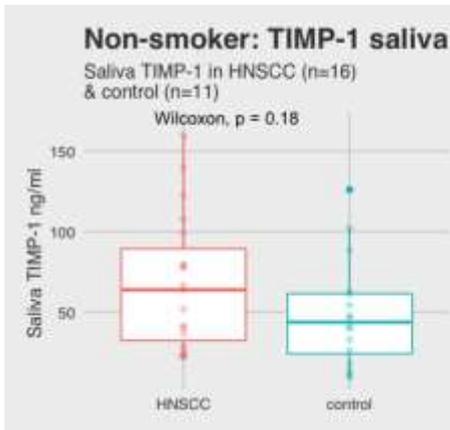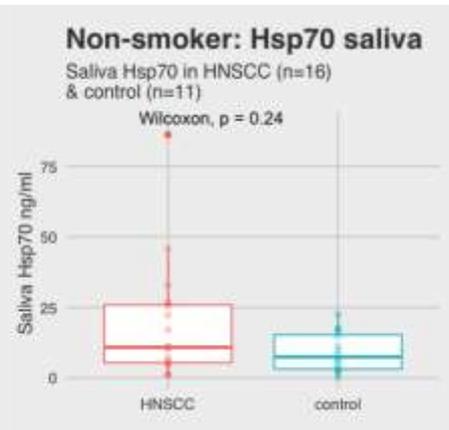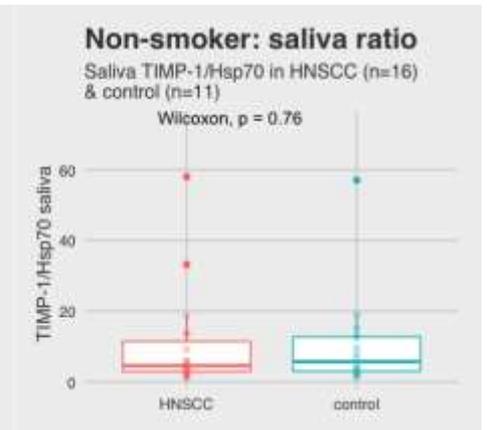
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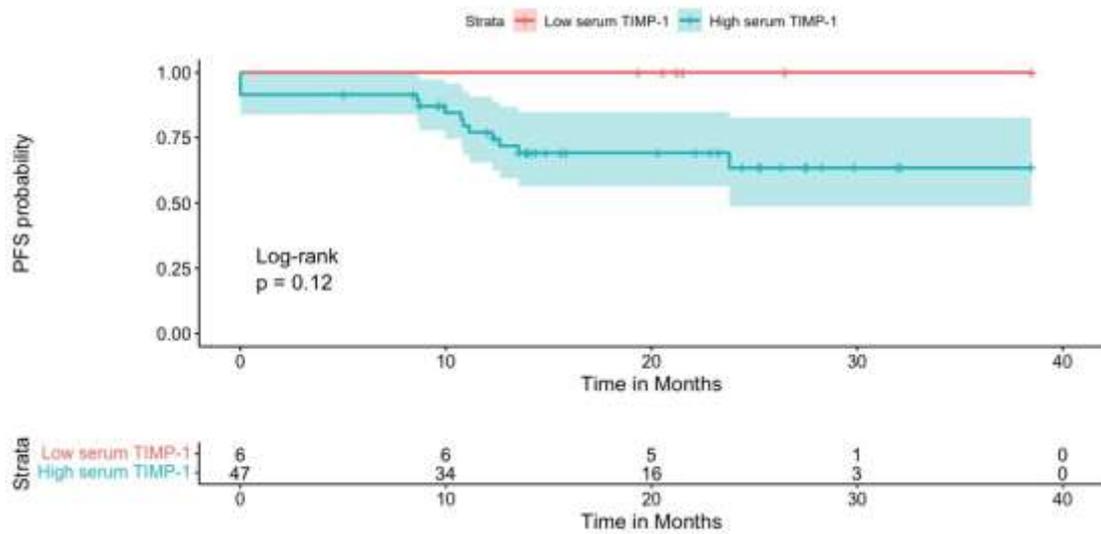
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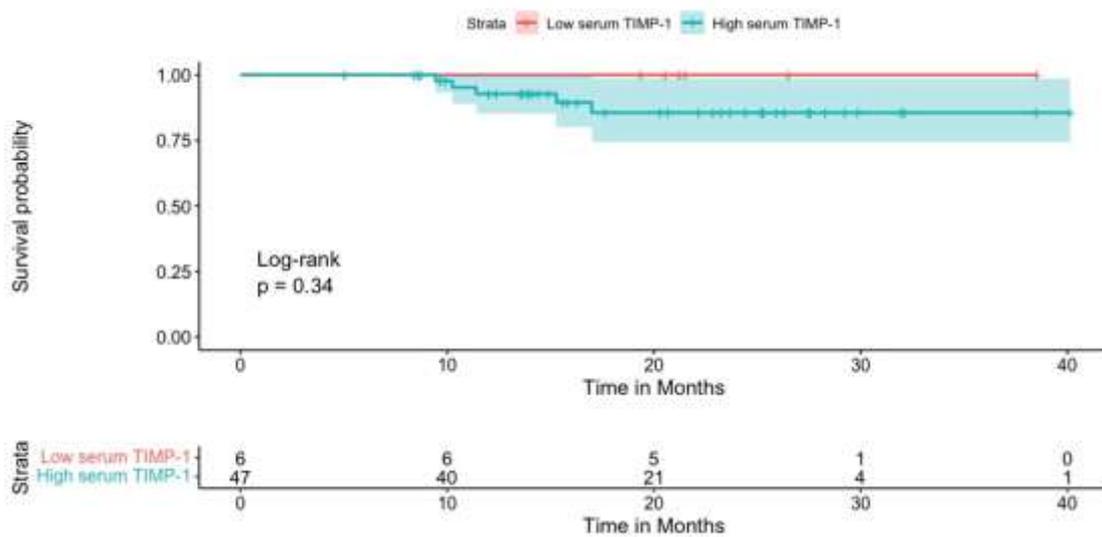
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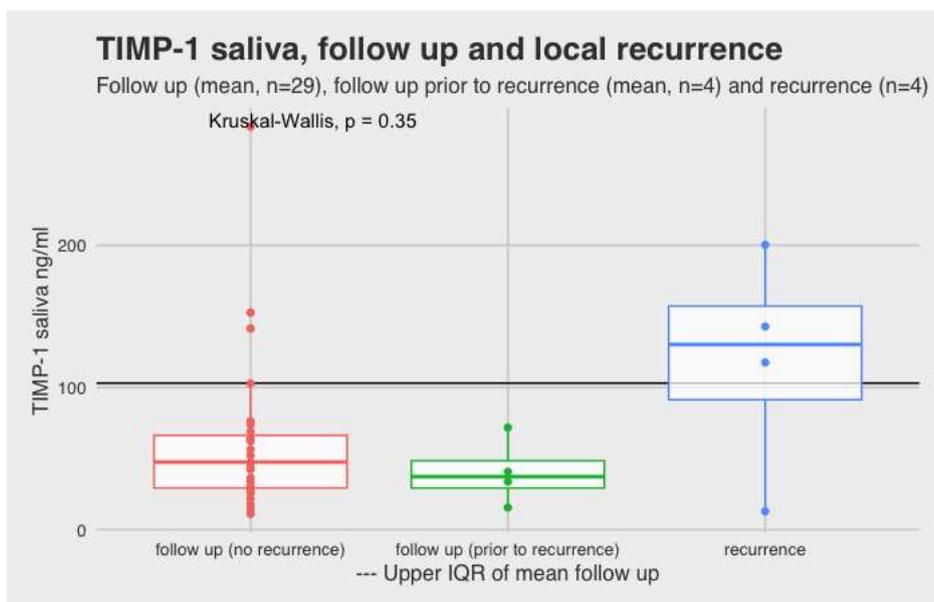
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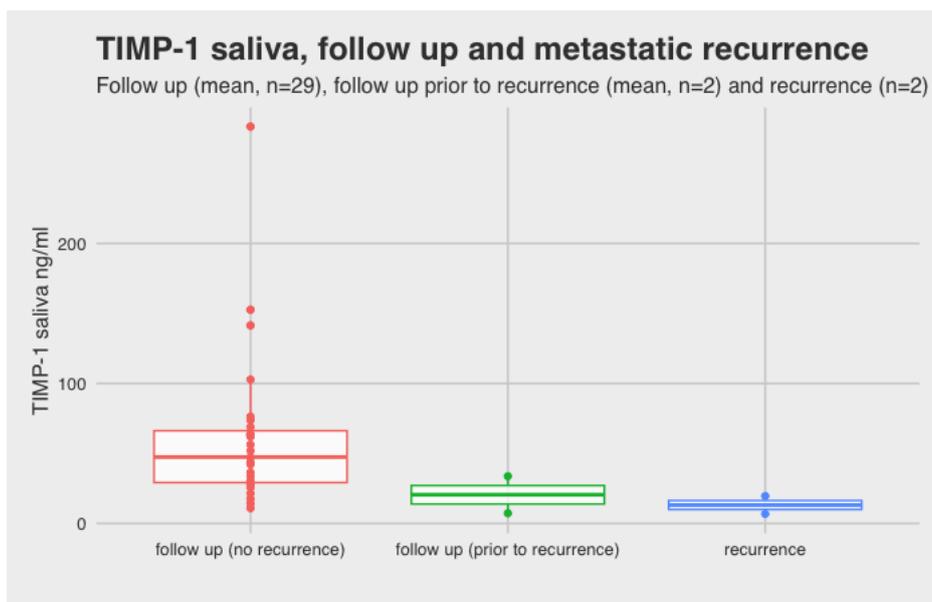
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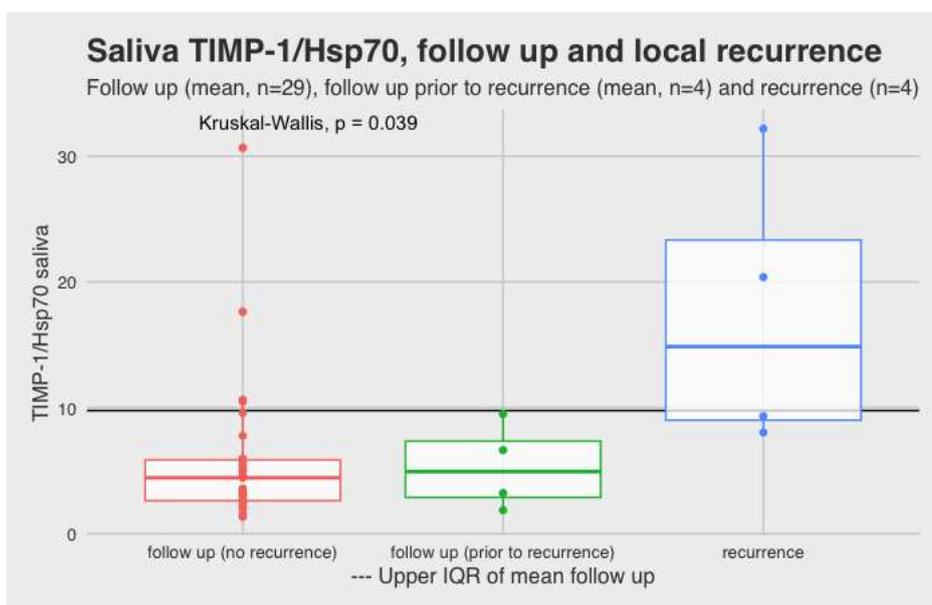
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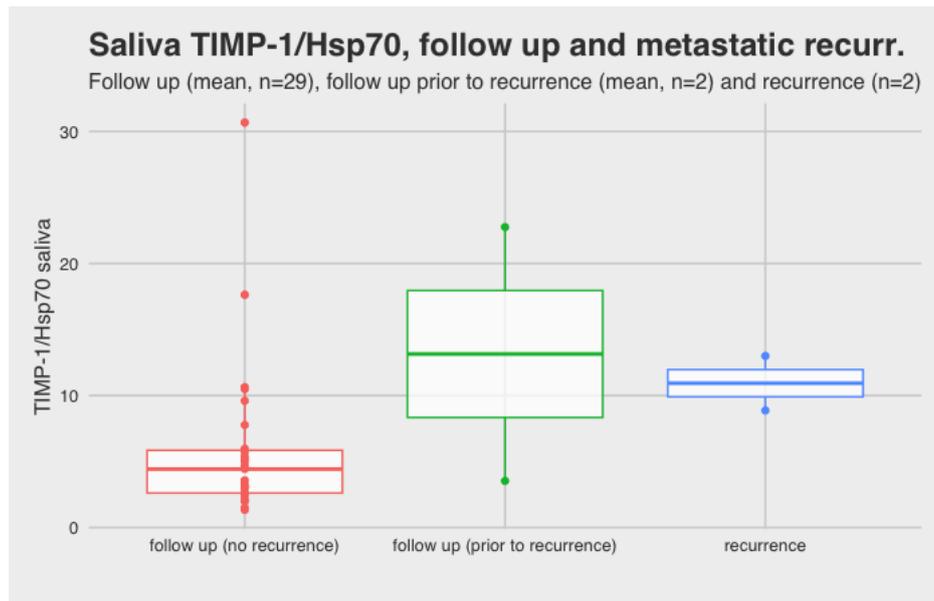
(r)

(s)

**Supplementary Figure S1.** (a) Receiver operator characteristic curve for saliva TIMP-1 classifying HNSCC patients (*n*=53) and control subjects (*n*=40), (b) Receiver operator characteristic curve for saliva Hsp70 classifying HNSCC patients (*n*=53) and control subjects (*n*=40), (c) Receiver operator characteristic curve for serum TIMP-1 classifying HNSCC patients (*n*=53) and control subjects (*n*=40), (d) Receiver operator characteristic curve for serum Hsp70 classifying HNSCC patients (*n*=53) and control subjects (*n*=40), (e) Receiver operator characteristic curve for TIMP-1/Hsp70 saliva ratio classifying HNSCC patients (*n*=53) and control subjects (*n*=40), (f) Receiver operator characteristic curve for TIMP-1/Hsp70 saliva ratio classifying HNSCC patients in smoker subgroup with smokers with HNSCC (*n*=28) & smokers control (*n*=15) (g) Receiver operator characteristic curve for TIMP-1/Hsp70 saliva ratio classifying HNSCC patients in a subgroup with Nodus state N3 (*n*=6) & control (*n*=40), (h) Receiver operator characteristic curve for TIMP-1/Hsp70 saliva ratio classifying HNSCC patients in a subgroup with UICC Stage IV (*n*=6) & control (*n*=40), (i)

Receiver operator characteristic curve for TIMP-1/Hsp70 saliva ratio classifying HNSCC patients in a subgroup with HPV negative (*n*=34) & control (*n*=40), (j) Saliva ratio TIMP-1 in non-smoking subjects, comparing HNSCC and the combined control group, (k) Saliva ratio Hsp70 in non-smoking subjects, comparing HNSCC and the combined control group, (l) Saliva ratio TIMP-1/Hsp70 in non-smoking subjects, comparing HNSCC and the combined control group, (m) PFS probability for TIMP-1 concentration above (high) and below (low) cut off value 196ng/ml, (n) OS probability for TIMP-1 concentration above (high) and below (low) cut off value 196ng/ml, (o) Saliva TIMP-1 concentration mean during follow up, follow up before local recurrence and concentration at diagnosis of local recurrence, (p) Saliva TIMP-1/Hsp70 ratio mean during follow up, follow up before local recurrence and at diagnosis of local recurrence, (q) Saliva TIMP-1/Hsp70 ratio mean during follow up, follow up before metastatic recurrence and concentration at diagnosis of metastatic recurrence, (r) Saliva TIMP-1/Hsp70 ratio mean in follow up, follow up before metastatic recurrence and concentration at diagnosis of metastatic recurrence, (s) TIMP-1/Hsp70 saliva ratio mean during follow up and mean six months prior to recurrence