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| **Appendix** **Table 2.** Descriptions of the components of PICO |
| **Acronym** | **Definition** | **Description** |
| P  | Patients  | SCLC patients without BM at baseline  |
| I  | Intervention  | NA |
| C  | Comparison  | NA |
| O  | Outcome  | BM during or after antitumor treatment (follow-up BM), time to BM development, and risk factors associated with BM, overall survival |
| *Abbreviations*: BM, Brain metastasis; SCLC, small cell lung cancer. |