Stiffness on Shear Wave Elastography as a Potential Microenvironment Biomarker for Predicting Tumor Recurrence in HBV-Related Hepatocellular Carcinoma

ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Definition of pathological characteristics:

Proportion of stroma: The proportion of the stroma relative to tumor cells in the overall tumor bed. All H&E slides were screened and evaluated for proportion of stroma [1]. The assessment of proportion of stroma was conducted using scoring percentages in 10% increments (10%, 20%, 30%, etc.).

The presence of tumor necrosis: Characterized by homogenous clusters of sheets of dead cells, or coalescing groups of cells forming a coagulum, containing nuclear and cytoplasmic debris on H&E slides [2].

Proportion of tumor necrosis: Proportion of necrotic tissue in the overall tumor bed. Proportion of tumor necrosis was conducted using scoring percentages in 10% increments (10%, 20%, 30%, etc.).

Tumor capsule: Fibrous capsule around the tumor [3].

Peritumoral lymphocytic reaction: Peritumoral lymphocytic reaction was defined as discrete lymphoid reactions surrounding tumor [4]. It was scored as low, moderate, or high.

Microvascular invasion (MVI): Characterized by the cancer cell nest in vessels lined

with endothelial cells [5]. Most frequently found in the small branches of the portal

vein in the adjacent liver tissues.

Grade of liver fibrosis: Grade of liver fibrosis was evaluated according to Scheuer

liver fibrosis staging system [6]. The fibrosis is classified into no fibrosis, mild fibrosis,

moderate fibrosis, severe fibrosis, and cirrhosis.

Edmondson-Steiner grade: HCC differentiation grades were based on the

Edmondson-Steiner classification [7].

References for supplementary material

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