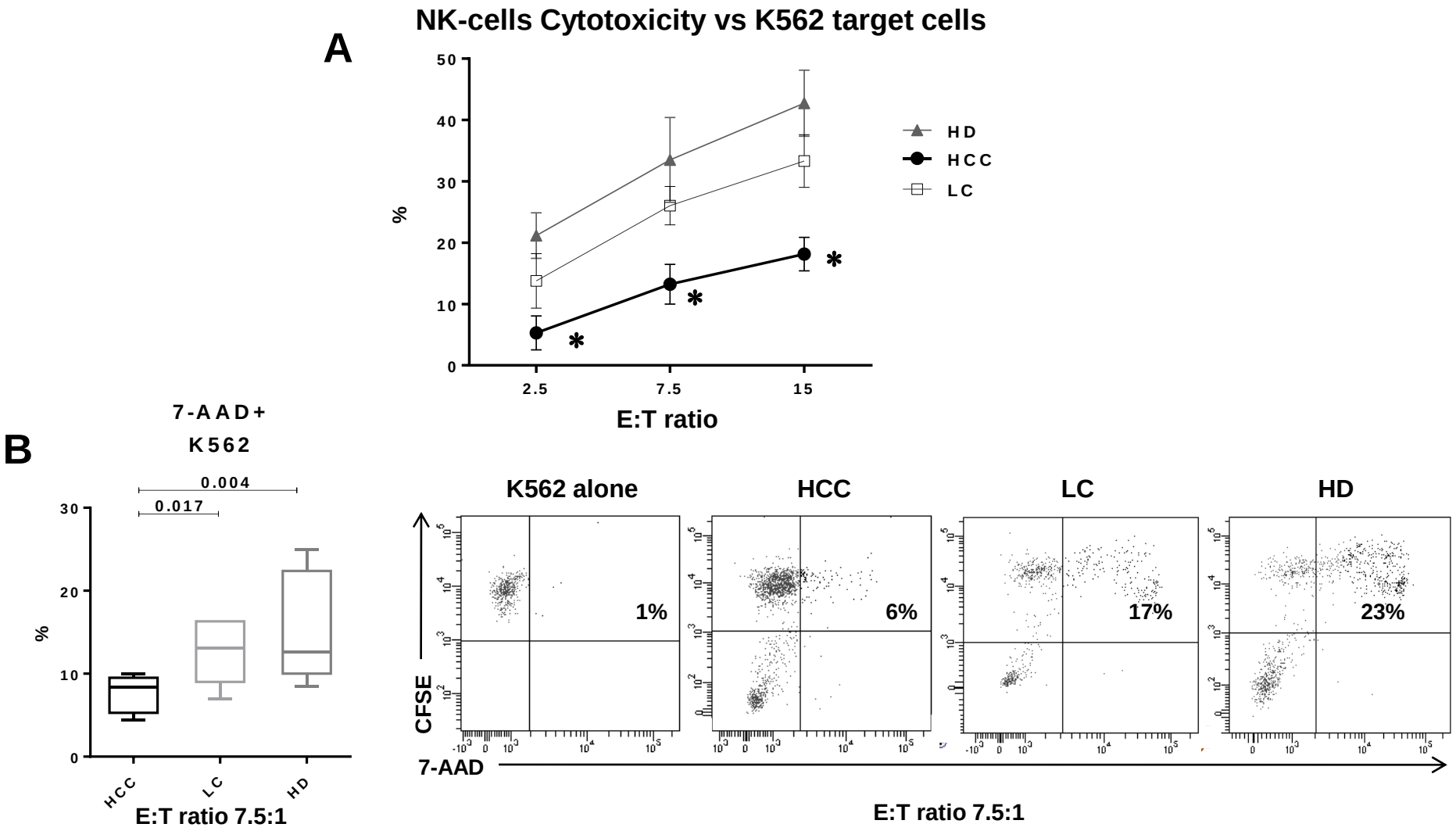

Supplementary Figure 5.

Killing assays. **A.** Bioluminescence-based assay was used to measure the GADPH release from dying cells at different effector cells to target cells (E:T) ratios using K562 cells as targets and purified NK-cells from HCC (n.7), LC patients (n.7) and HD (n.7) as effectors. Graph shows the percentage of cytotoxicity (mean±SEM) at 2.5:1, 7.5:1 and 15:1 E:T ratios (*: $p<0.05$ HCC vs LC and HD).

B. Cytotoxic potential was measured by flow cytometry on purified NK-cells from HCC and LC patients and HD. After staining for CFSE, K562 cells were incubated with purified NK-cells at 1:7.5 ratio for 4h. 7-AAD was then added in order to recognize dying target cells. Data were expressed by the percentage of CFSE/7AAD double positive cells (left panel). The right panels show representative dot plots of K562 targets alone and with purified NK-cells from HCC, LC and HD.

Differences between multiple groups were evaluated by non-parametric Kruskal-Wallis test; p values were corrected for pairwise multiple comparisons by the Dunn's test.