

S6 Table. Baseline demographic data and patient characteristics at the time of being diagnosed with intermediate-stage hepatocellular carcinoma (propensity score matched dataset)

	Starting sorafenib before progressing to advanced stage	Starting sorafenib after progressing to advanced stage	<i>P</i>
Number of patients	36	36	
Gender [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Male	31 (86)	30 (83)	1.000
Female	5 (14)	6 (17)	
Age, years [<i>n</i> (%)]			
≤72	22 (61)	22 (61)	1.000
>72	14 (39)	14 (39)	
HBV [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Absent	35 (93)	31 (86)	0.199
Present	1 (7)	5 (14)	
HCV [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Absent	9 (25)	20 (56)	0.016
Present	27 (75)	16 (44)	
Alcohol abuse [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Absent	36 (100)	31 (86)	0.054
Present	0 (0)	5 (14)	
Child–Pugh [<i>n</i> (%)]			
A	35 (97)	34 (94)	1.000
B	1 (3)	2 (6)	
Maximum size of the intrahepatic lesion, >50 mm [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Absent	27 (75)	26 (72)	1.000
Present	9 (25)	10 (28)	
Number of intrahepatic lesions, >7 [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Absent	25 (69)	26 (72)	1.000
Present	11 (31)	10 (28)	
Sub-classification of BCLC B [<i>n</i> (%)]			
B1	13 (36)	11 (31)	0.539
B2	23 (64)	23 (64)	
B3	0 (0)	1 (3)	
B4	0 (0)	1 (3)	
AFP, ng/mL [<i>n</i> (%)]			
≤400	24 (67)	25 (69)	1.000
>400	12 (33)	11 (31)	
Initial diagnosis [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Early stage	18 (50)	14 (39)	0.477
Intermediate stage	18 (50)	22 (61)	
Initial dose of sorafenib, 800 mg/day [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Absent	1 (3)	2 (6)	1.000
Present	35 (97)	34 (94)	
Effectiveness of initial TACE in intermediate stage [<i>n</i> (%)]			
Responder	22 (61)	24 (67)	0.807
Non-responder	14 (39)	12 (33)	

Abbreviations: HBV, hepatitis B virus; HCV, hepatitis C virus; BCLC, Barcelona clinic liver cancer; AFP, alpha-fetoprotein;

TACE, transcatheter arterial chemoembolization