

**Efficacy of radiofrequency ablation following transarterial
chemoembolization combined with sorafenib for intermediate stage
recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma: A retrospective, multicentre,
cohort study**

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Supplementary figure 1. Distribution of the propensity score after matching.

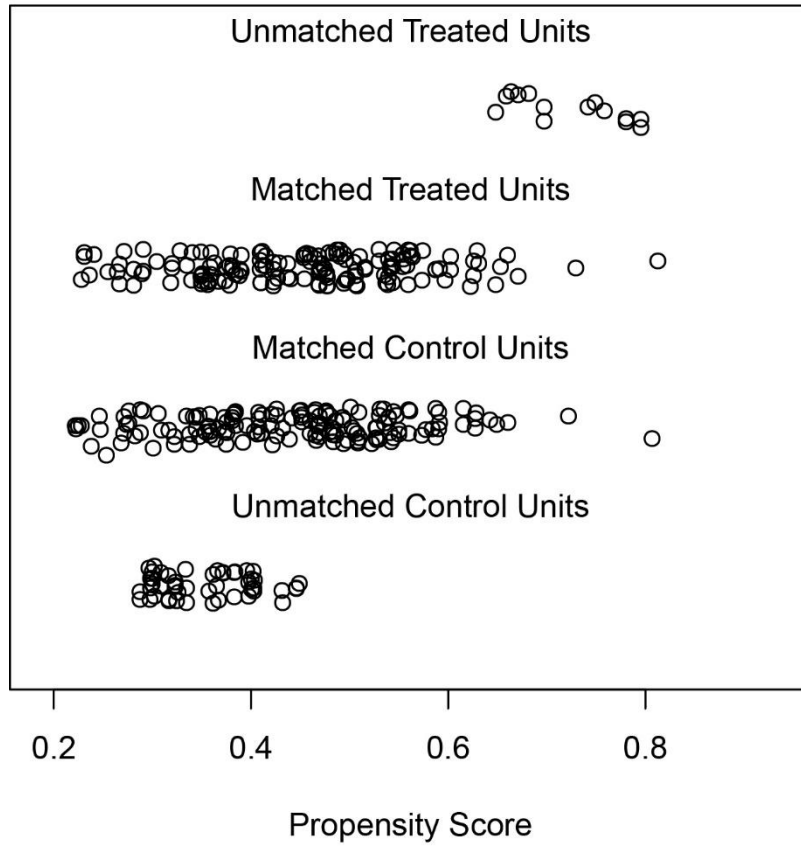
Supplementary figure 2. Standardised differences in mean or proportion of variables before and after propensity score matching.

Supplementary table 1. Univariate analysis of prognostic factors on overall survival (OS) and progression-free survival (PFS) in patients with intermediate-stage recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma (RHCC) after propensity score matching (PSM).

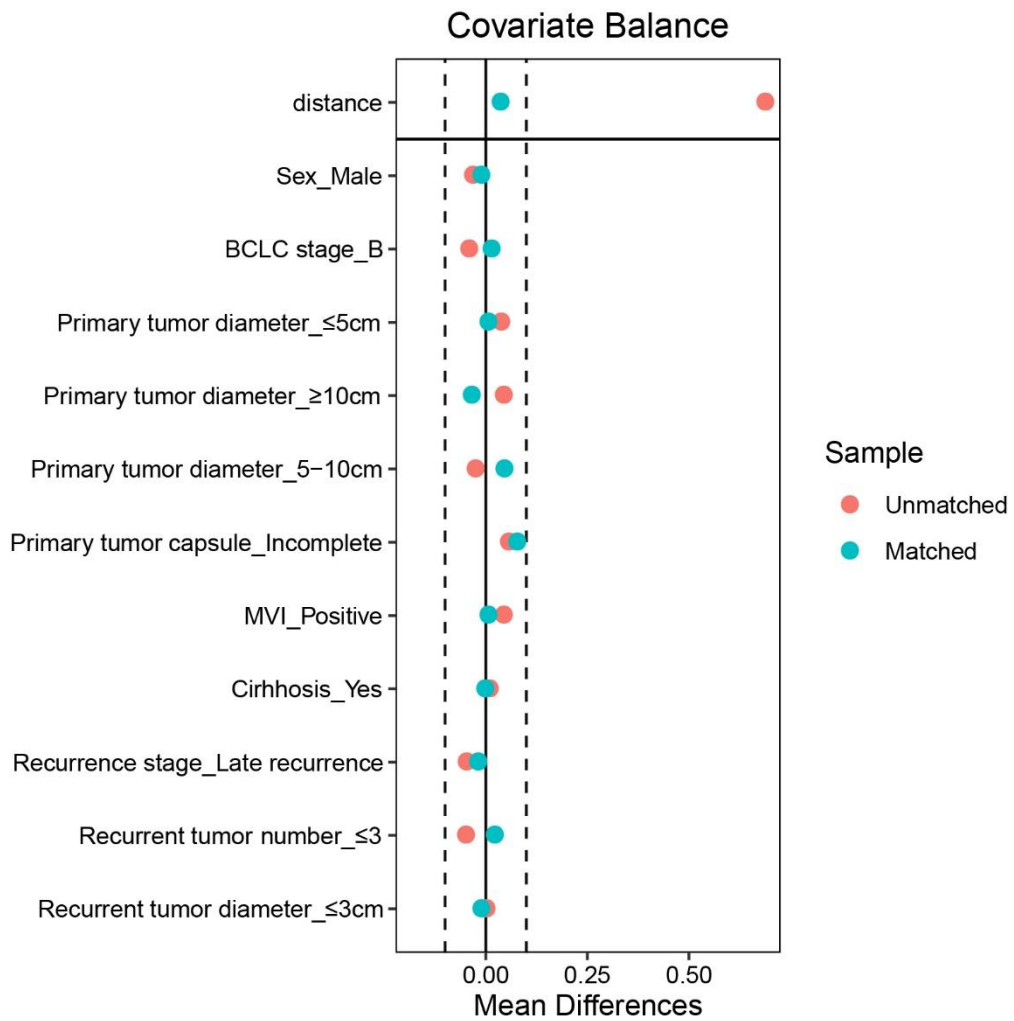
Supplementary table 2. Treatment-related adverse events of patients in transarterial chemoembolization (TACE)-sorafenib and TACE-sorafenib + radiofrequency ablation (RFA) groups.

Supplementary figure 1. Distribution of the propensity score after matching.

Distribution of Propensity Scores



Supplementary figure 2. Standardised differences in mean or proportion of variables before and after propensity score matching.



Supplementary table 1. Univariate analysis of prognostic factors on overall survival (OS) and progression-free survival (PFS) in patients with intermediate-stage recurrent hepatocellular carcinoma (RHCC) after propensity score matching (PSM).

Variable	Comparison	Overall survival		Progression-free survival	
		HR (95% CI)	<i>P</i> value	HR (95% CI)	<i>P</i> value
Recurrent stage data					
Age level, years	<60 vs. ≥60	0.93 (0.65-1.33)	0.708	0.97 (0.72-1.29)	0.814
Sex	Female vs. Male	0.73 (0.46-1.16)	0.181	0.74 (0.51-1.08)	0.116
ALBI grade	Grade 1 vs. Grade 2	1.15 (0.86-1.54)	0.350	0.96 (0.75-1.23)	0.729
Anti-virus	Yes vs. No	0.86 (0.64-1.16)	0.327	0.90 (0.70-1.17)	0.444
AFP level, ng/ml	<400 vs. ≥400	1.24 (0.93-1.65)	0.145	1.43 (1.12-1.82)	0.004
Tumour size, cm	≤3 vs. >3	1.77 (1.32-2.37)	<0.001	1.16 (1.27-2.05)	<0.001
Tumour number	≤3 vs. >3	2.42 (1.75-3.34)	<0.001	2.68 (2.06-3.49)	<0.001
Recurrent stage	Late vs. Early	2.53 (1.84-3.47)	<0.001	2.06 (1.61-2.65)	<0.001
Types of treatment	TACE-sorafenib +RFA vs. TACE-sorafenib	1.93 (1.44-2.60)	<0.001	2.09 (1.64-2.66)	<0.001
Initial hepatectomy stage data					
Tumour size, cm	≤5	Reference			
	>5, <10	1.47 (0.99-2.24)	0.058	0.99 (0.72-1.36)	0.960
	≥10	2.00 (1.27-3.16)	0.003	1.40 (0.98-2.00)	0.063
BCLC stage	A vs. B	1.93 (1.44-2.58)	<0.001	1.62 (1.27-2.07)	<0.001
MVI	Negative vs. Positive	1.81 (1.31-2.50)	<0.001	1.67 (1.29-2.16)	<0.001
Resection margin, cm	>1 vs. ≤1	1.45 (1.09-1.93)	0.010	1.25 (0.99-1.58)	0.063
Tumour differentiation	I-II vs. III-IV	1.02 (0.75-1.39)	0.895	1.15 (0.89-1.49)	0.279
Tumour capsule	Complete vs. Incomplete	0.99 (0.74-1.34)	0.979	1.01 (0.78-1.29)	0.960
Cirrhosis	No vs. Yes	0.97 (0.73-1.29)	0.817	1.10 (0.87-1.39)	0.434

AFP, alpha-fetoprotein; ALBI, albumin-bilirubin; BCLC, Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; MVI, microvascular invasion; RFA, radiofrequency ablation; TACE, transarterial chemoembolization;

Supplementary table 2. Treatment-related adverse events of patients in transarterial chemoembolization (TACE)-sorafenib and TACE-sorafenib + radiofrequency ablation (RFA) groups.

Adverse Event	TACE-sorafenib (n=164)	TACE-sorafenib +RFA (n=199)	<i>P</i> value
Hand-foot skin reaction			0.748
Grade 1–2	55 (33.5)	57 (28.6)	
Grade 3–4	3 (1.8)	4 (2.0)	
Hypertension			0.889
Grade 1–2	56 (34.1)	62 (31.2)	
Grade 3–4	4 (2.4)	4 (2.0)	
Rash or desquamation			0.532
Grade 1–2	26 (15.9)	28 (14.1)	
Grade 3–4	2 (1.2)	1 (0.5)	
Diarrhea			0.371
Grade 1–2	22 (13.4)	27 (13.6)	
Grade 3–4	0 (0)	1 (0.5)	
Alopecia			0.291
Grade 1–2	21 (12.8)	24 (12.1)	
Grade 3–4	1 (0.6)	0 (0)	
Fatigue			0.358
Grade 1–2	30 (18.2)	34 (17.1)	
Grade 3–4	0 (0)	1 (0.5)	
Decreased appetite			0.436
Grade 1–2	32 (19.5)	41 (20.6)	
Grade 3–4	2 (1.2)	1 (0.5)	
Voice change			0.347
Grade 1–2	19 (11.6)	21 (10.6)	
Grade 3–4	0 (0)	1 (0.5)	
Oral mucositis			0.308
Grade 1–2	12 (7.3)	13 (6.5)	
Grade 3–4	1 (0.6)	0 (0)	
Increased ALT/AST			0.609
Grade 1–2	18 (11.0)	19 (9.5)	
Grade 3–4	1 (0.6)	2 (1.0)	
Pleural effusion			0.772
Grade 1–2	35 (21.3)	40 (20.1)	
Grade 3–4	2 (1.2)	3 (1.5)	
Haemorrhage			0.505
Grade 1–2	1 (0.5)	2 (1.0)	
Grade 3–4	0 (0)	1 (0.5)	
Fever			0.572
Grade 1–2	81 (49.3)	94 (47.2)	
Grade 3–4	4 (2.4)	3 (1.5)	

RFA, radiofrequency ablation; TACE, transarterial chemoembolization; ALT, alanine aminotransferase;
AST, aspartate aminotransferase;