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Hepatobiliary

Hepatocellular Carcinoma in HIV-Infected Patients: Check Early, Treat Hard

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ABSTRACT

Purpose. Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is an increasing cause of mortality in HIV-infected patients in the highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) era. The aims of this study were to describe HCC tumor characteristics and different therapeutic approaches, to evaluate patient survival time from HCC diagnosis, and to identify clinical prognostic predictors in patients with and without HIV infection.

Patients and Methods. A multicenter observational

retrospective comparison of 104 HIV-infected patients and 484 uninfected patients was performed in four Italian centers. HCC was staged according to the Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer (BCLC) criteria.

Results. Tumor characteristics of patients with and without HIV were significantly different for age, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status (PS) score ≤ 1 , and etiology of chronic liver disease. Despite the similar potentially curative option rate and

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