Reviewer's report

Title: Transcatheter arterial chemoembolization combined with radiofrequency ablation prolongs tumor progression and overall survival in patients with intermediate stage (BCLC B stage) hepatocellular carcinoma

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Reviewer: Morio Sato

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I cannot accept the content of this manuscript. There are two major problems; one is that according to Figure 1, the patient background is quite different between the patients with HCC who received RFA plus TACE and those who received TACE alone. None the less, no difference existed on tumor background in Table 1 between two groups. I suppose that it is really unlike.

Another one is that the complication rate is significantly higher in TACE alone group than in TACE plus RFA group. It is quite strange why the complication of TACE plus RFA is less than that of TACE alone. This is also really unlike.