Reviewer’s report

Title: Comparison of overall survival on surgical resection versus transarterial chemoembolization with or without radiofrequency ablation in intermediate stage hepatocellular carcinoma: A propensity score matching analysis

Version: 0 Date: 28 Feb 2020

Reviewer: Giovanni B Levi Sandri

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor, thank you for considering me as a reviewer for your Journal. I read the manuscript entitled "Comparison of overall survival on surgical resection versus transarterial chemoembolization with or without radiofrequency ablation in intermediate stage hepatocellular carcinoma: A propensity score matching analysis". Authors analyze a retrospective cohort of BCLC Stage B HCC patients according to the type of treatment: Surgical, TACE, or TACE + RFA.

As a surgeon I really appreciate the results and the conclusions, surgical resection may achieved better overall survival.

In the discussion, authors need to discuss the role of BCLC staging according with the study result. What authors think about it. The role of surgery must be more present in the staging system.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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