Reviewer’s report

Title: Liver function changes after transarterial chemoembolization in US hepatocellular carcinoma patients: The LiverT study

Version: 1 Date: 08 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Nicholas Fidelman

Reviewer's report:

The authors have thoughtfully addressed the majority of the reviewers' comments.

Several points should be addressed.

1. Please specify whether values reported in Table 4 and Figure 1. were based on primary analysis.

2. Data on TARE is limited to 78 patients, and does not contribute to the overall message of the study. Please focus on patients who underwent TACE.

3. Patients with chronic liver disease and cirrhosis develop deterioration of liver function over time. A note should be made in the limitations section of Discussion that the study lacked a control group of patients (such as MELD-matched patients without HCC) who could have demonstrated prevalence of liver function deterioration over a 3 month time period without the concomitant effect of liver-directed therapy.

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.

No

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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None

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