Supplementary Material 2. Clinical features of the 39 HCC patients with 30 nodules or more who underwent TACE as an initial treatment with and without subsequent sorafenib administration.

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| Clinical features | Patients without subsequent sorafenib administration | Patients with subsequent sorafenib administration | p-value |
| Age (years) | 74 (63-88) | 69 (59-78) | NSa |
| Sex (male/female) | 20/9 | 8/2 | NS |
| Etiology (hepatitis B/hepatitis C/nonB, nonC) | 5/20/4 | 1/8/1 | NS |
| Alanine aminotransferase (U/l) | 37 (14-101) | 46 (17-98) | NS |
| Total.Bilirubin (mg/dl) | 0.9 (0.3-1.9) | 0.8 (0.6-1.9) | NS |
| Albumin (g/dl) | 3.5 (2.4-4.9) | 3.9 (3.4-4.6) | 0.046 |
| Prothrombin time (%) | 80 (58-96) | 87 (61-104) | NS |
| Child-Pugh classification (A/B/C) | 20/8/1 | 9/1/0 | NS |
| Number of tumor (30-59/≥60) | 17/12 | 7/3 | NS |
| Maximum diameter of tumor (mm) | 25 (13-55) | 28 (13-60) | NS |
| Alpha-fetoprotein (ng/ml) | 57 (<5-36927) | 57 (4-230) | NS |
| Des-gamma-carboxy prothrombin (mAu/ml) | 166 (<30-12100) | 177 (<30-1410) | NS |

**a** NS, not significant

Statistical analysis was performed using the Fisher’s exact tests or the Mann-Whitney U-test.