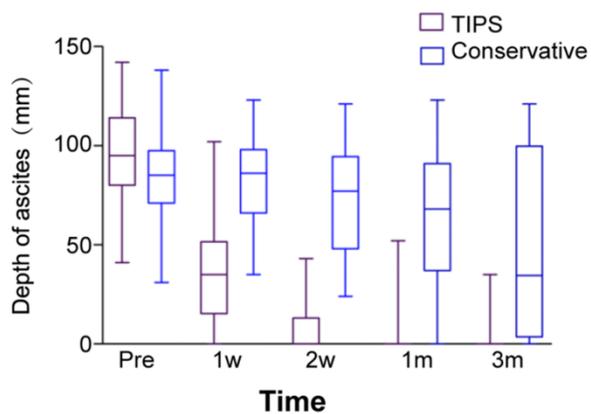
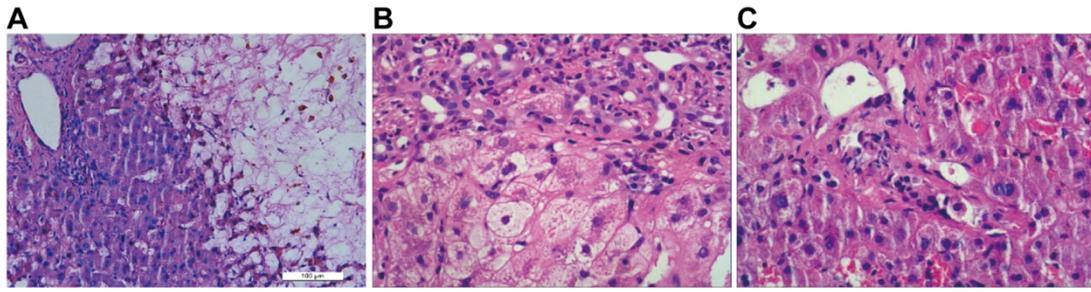


**Supplementary Figure 1.** Box plots showing the results of liver function tests at different time points for patients in the two groups. The data are shown as median, interquartile range and range.



**Supplementary Figure 2.** Box plots showing the maximum depth of ascites at different time points for patients in the two groups. The data are shown as median, interquartile range and range.



**Supplementary Figure 3.** Pathological findings (hematoxylin/eosin;  $\times 400$ ). (A) Before TIPS. Hepatocyte swelling with focal degeneration and necrosis, localized abnormalities in hepatic cell arrangement, mild vacuolar degeneration, hepatic sinusoidal dilatation, congestion, focal hemorrhage, and a prominent central vein were evident. Scattered and small focal lymphatic infiltration was present in the portal area, and mild proliferation of the small bile duct was seen. (B) One month after TIPS for the same patient. (C) Six months after TIPS for the same patient. Liver congestion and hepatocyte swelling improved with time after surgery.