

#1 SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

TACE is recommended as the first-line treatment for the patients have no chance of surgery when they are diagnosed. The cTACE uses iodized oil and gelatin sponges as the main embolization materials and injects chemotherapeutic drugs and iodized oil into the tumor feeding artery to achieve a dual effect of embolization and chemotherapy. Nowadays, DEBs have been gradually applied in TACE technology as D-TACE. The D-TACE seems easier to standardize than cTACE. In this study, the authors investigated the effect and systemic response of chemotherapy drugs in TACE under the new local drug delivery mode. Overall, the aim of this study is clear, and the methods are clearly described. After a minor revision, this manuscript can be accepted for publication. Comments: 1. The results section is missing in the abstract, please check and add it. And the background and conclusion in the abstract are too long. 2. The figures should be described in the main text. 3. The references should be edited and updated.

#2 SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting study of the short-term effects of drug-loaded microspheres TACE and traditional TACE in the treatment of advanced liver cancer. This study is well designed and well

performed. The authors found that drug-loaded microsphere TACE may have some advantages in the treatment of advanced hepatocellular carcinoma with a large tumor load in the short term. The conclusion is reasonable. The manuscript is well written. The reviewer has no specific comments to the authors. Only a minor editing is required for the manuscript.

#3 SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I read this manuscript with great interesting. The study is well performed. The findings in this study are interesting. The samples in the study are enough. The tables require to be re-arranged. And some minor language polishing should be corrected.

Answers to the reviewers

Critic 1

Re: Thanks a lot for the reviewer's guidance, "The tables" and "some minor language" I have edited.

Critic 2

Re: Many thanks to the reviewers for their comments.

Critic 3

Re: Many thanks to the reviewers for their guidance, "The results section" has been added to the abstract, The "background and conclusion in the abstract" has been shortened; "The figures" have

been placed in the text; "The references" have also been revised.