Baishideng Publishing Group

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*

Manuscript NO: 69907

Title: Liver resection vs radiofrequency ablation in single hepatocellular carcinoma of posterosuperior segments in elderly patients

Reviewer's code: 02527549

Position: Editorial Board

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: South Korea

Author's Country/Territory: Italy

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-07-22 07:58

Reviewer performed review: 2021-07-22 08:46

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	[ ] Grade A: Excellent [Y] Grade B: Very good [ ] Grade C: Good
	[ ] Grade D: Fair [ ] Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	[Y] Grade A: Priority publishing [ ] Grade B: Minor language polishing
	[ ] Grade C: A great deal of language polishing [ ] Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	[ ] Accept (High priority) [ ] Accept (General priority)
	[Y] Minor revision [ ] Major revision [ ] Rejection
Re-review	[ ] Yes [Y] No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: [Y] Anonymous [ ] Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: [ ] Yes [Y] No

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

General comment: the authors compared clinical outcomes (OS, DFS, Cx, etc) of RFA and LR in elderly patients with difficult location to treat (4a, 7, 8 segment). They used PSM to reduce any selection bias caused by nonrandmized restrospective study design. The results were similiar between the two groups, however RFA had more advantages (reduced hospital stay etc) than LR in this specific patient cohort. Overall, this manuscript was very well written with excellent logic.   I have minor comments about statistical issue.   1. The median OS b-PSM was 24.9 months   and 24.5 months in the RFA and LR groups, respectively. The median OS a-PSM was 26.5 months   and 25.9 months in the RFA and LR groups, respectively. However, when I looked at the KM graph, survival graphes of both groups were still above 50% until the end of F/U (60 months). Thus, median OS may not be calculated in this study, but can be expected to be longer than 60 months.   2. Also, median DFS b-PSM/a-PSM in both groups seemed to be longer than the values that the authors stated. Please check again, or conult a statistician if required.