

Point by point response:

Reviewer (01437833)#1:

In this study, the authors performed a comparative analysis between 9 different scoring systems in 1912 patients with hepatocellular carcinoma, and validated the recently proposed modified ALBI-T score system. Generally, this is a meaningful study with solid data, which is great helpful for the clinical management of hepatocellular carcinoma patients. My only concern is the language. There are grammar errors even in the Core Tip.

Reply:

We would like to thank reviewer 1 for these helpful remarks and all the suggestions have been taken up. We confirm that we did language polishing and proof reading to improve the manuscript.

Reviewer (03552376) #2:

The authors validated their proposed modified albumin-bilirubin-TNM (mALBI-T) grade as a prognostic model for patients with HCC in Egypt. They demonstrated that the modified ALBI-T showed better stratification and significant improvement in prediction of survival. minors: 1. only 11.6% patients were ALBI-T grades 0 and1, why choose the grade 2 as the cut-off of ALBI-T grades ? 2. whether the scoring systems could predict different response to therapy? 3. Multivariate cox regression of survival analysis would be better to be performed include clinicopathologic features and scoring system.

Reply:

We would like to thank reviewer 2 for the encouraging and helpful comments.

1-Unfortunately, there is a misunderstanding here as we didn't propose the modification of ALBI-T score as it was proposed by Hiraoka et al as we stated in the manuscript and in this manuscript we are offering a validation of the modified score in addition to a comparative analysis with other established and novel scoring systems.

2- For this point we would need the response to treatment and unfortunately we don't have this in our dataset. However, we are planning to conduct such study in the future.

3- We added multivariate cox regression analysis in table 3 and was discussed in the highlighted paragraph in the discussion.