**Suppl 2.** The baseline information of the three age groups stratified by treatment type before IPTW.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **65-69 years of age before IPTW** | | | **70-74 years of age before IPTW** | | | **≥75 years of age before IPTW** | | |
|  | **Resection(n=362)** | **Ablation(n=291)** | ***p*** | **Resection(n=132)** | **Ablation(n=168)** | ***p*** | **Resection(n=67)** | **Ablation(n=125)** | ***p*** |
| Age | 66.4±1.4 | 66.6±1.4 | 0.04 | 71.7±1.4 | 72.0±1.5 | 0.07 | 77.1±2.4 | 79.4±3.8 | 0.00 |
| Sex |  |  | 0.77 |  |  | 0.00 |  |  | 0.27 |
| Male | 298(82.3%) | 237(81.4%) |  | 113(85.6%) | 118(70.2%) |  | 56(83.6%) | 96(76.8%) |  |
| Female | 64(17.7%) | 54(18.6%) |  | 19(14.4%) | 50(29.8%) |  | 11(16.4%) | 29(23.2%) |  |
| Background disease of the liver |  |  | 0.60 |  |  | 0.18 |  |  | 0.20 |
| HBV infection | 238(65.7%) | 197(67.7%) |  | 74(56.1%) | 107(63.7%) |  | 31(46.3%) | 70(56.0%) |  |
| Other | 124(34.3%) | 94(32.3%) |  | 58(43.9%) | 61(36.3%) |  | 36(53.7%) | 55(44.0%) |  |
| Comorbid illness |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hypertension | 104(28.7%) | 76(26.1%) | 0.46 | 44(33.3%) | 67(39.9%) | 0.24 | 31(46.3%) | 57(45.6%) | 0.93 |
| Diabetes | 57(15.7%) | 51(17.5%) | 0.54 | 22(16.7%) | 29(17.3%) | 0.89 | 14(20.9%) | 28(22.4%) | 0.81 |
| Heart disease | 30(8.3%) | 16(5.5%) | 0.17 | 11(8.3%) | 21(12.5%) | 0.25 | 11(16.4%) | 18(14.4%) | 0.71 |
| Tumor size | 30.1±11.4 | 26.2±10.4 | 0.00 | 30.8±12.0 | 27.6±9.8 | 0.01 | 31.0±11.6 | 28.7±10.7 | 0.17 |
| AFP |  |  | 0.82 |  |  | 0.47 |  |  | 0.70 |
| <10 | 166(45.9%) | 134(46.1%) |  | 57(43.2%) | 64(38.1%) |  | 31(46.2%) | 61(48.8%) |  |
| 10-100 | 79(21.8%) | 71(24.4%) |  | 29(22.0%) | 33(19.6%) |  | 18(26.9%) | 28(22.4%) |  |
| 100-1000 | 65(18.0%) | 49(16.8%) |  | 28(21.2%) | 37(22.0%) |  | 12(17.9%) | 19(15.2%) |  |
| >1000 | 52(14.3%) | 37(12.7%) |  | 18(13.6%) | 34(20.2%) |  | 6(9.0%) | 17(13.6%) |  |
| ALT | 45.6±77.2 | 37.7±39.8 | 0.11 | 34.8±25.9 | 35.4±30.2 | 0.86 | 31.9±22.4 | 33.2±27.6 | 0.72 |
| AST | 43.8±62.1 | 40.4±37.1 | 0.41 | 36.3±23.5 | 42.0±31.2 | 0.08 | 34.4±18.2 | 38.4±31.0 | 0.34 |
| ALB | 42.9±20.2 | 40.1±4.9 | 0.02 | 42.0±4.0 | 39.3±5.0 | 0.00 | 42.5±3.3 | 39.4±4.0 | 0.00 |
| TBIL | 15.3±17.6 | 18.4±20.3 | 0.04 | 13.8±5.5 | 17.2±10.2 | 0.00 | 14.3±5.6 | 15.4 ±7.4 | 0.27 |
| PLT | 163.1±67.5 | 124.7±57.2 | 0.00 | 178.0±60.5 | 123.7±65.8 | 0.00 | 171.9±66.0 | 135.6±58.1 | 0.00 |
| PT | 12.2±1.5 | 13.3±1.9 | 0.00 | 12.0±1.2 | 13.6±1.7 | 0.00 | 12.0±1.1 | 13.4±1.9 | 0.00 |
| INR | 1.0±0.1 | 1.1±0.1 | 0.00 | 1.0±0.1 | 1.1±0.1 | 0.00 | 1.0±0.1 | 1.0±0.1 | 0.00 |
| SCr | 78.6±22.5 | 76.3±31.5 | 0.29 | 79.6±17.4 | 80.5±71.1 | 0.88 | 83.2±25.0 | 78.8±22.0 | 0.21 |
| Child‒Pugh class |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | 355(98.0%) | 265(91.0%) | 0.00 | 129(97.7%) | 157(93.5%) | 0.08 | 67(100%) | 120(96.0%) | 0.10 |
| B | 7(2.0%) | 26(9.0%) |  | 3(2.3%) | 11(6.5%) |  | 0(4.8%) | 5(4.0%) |  |
| C | 0(0%) | 0(0%) |  | 0(0%) | 0(0%) |  | 0(0%) | 0(0%) |  |
| Liver cirrhosis |  |  | 0.00 |  |  | 0.00 |  |  | 0.00 |
| Yes | 75(20.7%) | 194(66.7%) |  | 25(18.9%) | 117(69.6%) |  | 10(14.9%) | 68(54.4%) |  |
| No | 287(79.3%) | 97(33.3%) |  | 107(81.1%) | 51(30.4%) |  | 57(85.1%) | 57(45.6%) |  |
| Number |  |  | 0.00 |  |  | 0.00 |  |  | 0.02 |
| 1 | 344(95.0%) | 229(78.7%) |  | 122(92.4%) | 134(79.8%) |  | 61(91.0%) | 93(74.4%) |  |
| 2 | 16(4.4%) | 45(15.5%) |  | 8(6.1%) | 25(14.9%) |  | 5(7.5%) | 21(16.8%) |  |
| 3 | 2(0.6%) | 17(5.8%) |  | 2(1.5%) | 9(5.4%) |  | 1(1.5%) | 11(8.8%) |  |
| IPTW (Inverse-probability-of-treatment weighting), AFP (Alpha-fetoprotein), ALT (alanine aminotransferase), AST (aspartate aminotransferase), PLT (platelet), PT (prothrombin time), INR (international normalized ratio), ALB (albumin), TBIL (total bilirubin). | | | | | | | | | |