

Table II

Relationships between clinical characteristics and cytoplasmic TERT expression in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma undergoing surgery.

Variable	Cytoplasmic TERT (-) (n = 44)	Cytoplasmic TERT (+) (n = 91)	<i>P</i> -value
Age, years	71 (67-75)	69 (63-75)	0.279
Gender			0.805
Male	33	70	
Female	11	21	
HBs antigen positive			0.007
Yes	6	33	
No	38	58	
HCV antibody positive			0.354
Yes	15	24	
No	29	67	
Child-Pugh class			0.576
A	36	77	
B	8	13	
Not available	0	1	
Liver cirrhosis			0.101
Yes	12	38	
No	31	51	
Not available	1	2	
Poor tumor differentiation			0.043
Yes	3	19	
No	40	72	
Not available	1	0	
AFP, ng/mL	4 (3-58)	10 (4-92)	0.849
PIVKA-II, mAU/mL	38 (18-146)	79 (27-587)	0.239
Size of largest tumor nodule, cm	3.2 (2.2-5.3)	3.0 (2.0-5.6)	0.135
Tumor Number			0.973
≥ 2	11	23	
1	33	67	
Portal vein invasion			0.417
Yes	13	21	

No	31	70	0.741
TNM Stage			
I	21	42	
II	13	23	
III	10	26	0.042
DNA-PKcs			
Positive	16	37	
Negative	14	12	
Not available	14	42	

Chi-square test, Fisher's exact test, and Mann-Whitney *U* test, median (IQR).

AFP; alpha-fetoprotein, PIVKA-II; protein induced by Vitamin K antagonist II,

HB; hepatitis B, HCV; hepatitis C virus,

TNM; tumor-node-metastasis

DNA-PKcs; DNA-dependent protein kinase catalytic subunit