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Evaluation of FIB-4 and APRI in predicting the prognosis of heptocellular carcinoma patients after hepatic resection

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Introduction: For the APRI and FIB-4 index, which are one of the non-invasive methods of examining the degree of liver fibrosis, our paper aims to examine the implications for predicting the prognosis in hepatocellular carcinoma patients undergoing hepatectomy.

Methods: Between 2006 and 2013, total 973 patients were underwent hepatic resection due to hepatocellular carcinoma and 871 patients were enrolled in our study after adjusting exclusion criteria. Statistics were performed by calculating the optimal cut off values for the recurrence free survival and overall survival of each group which are categorized by etiology and multivariate analysis were performed for evaluating the performance of index.

Results: Among the causes of HCC patients, HBV (n=629, 72%) was the most common, and men were dominant in all groups. In each group divided by etiology, the area under the receiver operating characteristics of APRI and FIB-4 for recurrence free survival and overall survival were relatively higher in HCV patients than in other groups. After setting the cut-off value through the Youden index, univariate analysis and multivariate analysis for RFS and OS of all groups were performed, and the results of APRI values for RFS in each group were statistically significant (HBV: OR= 1.849, p-value=0.001; HCV: OR=6,548, p-value=0.010; Alcohol: OR=3.393, p-value=0.004)

Conclusions: The significance of this study is that these simple laboratory findings are meaningful in revealing the prognosis of HCC patients, which can be predicted accurately only after the pathologic staging after surgery.

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