

Supplementary Table 1. Baseline clinical characteristics of patients cured with initial treatment after IPW

Variable	SR group (n=221)	RFA group (n=148)	P-value*	SD
Age (years)			0.756	0.0327
≥ 65	42.253 (19.34)	31.236 (20.64)		
< 65	176.277 (80.66)	120.070 (79.36)		
Sex, male	166.748 (76.3)	104.845 (69.29)	0.133	-0.1580
BMI (kg/m ²)	24.3 \pm 2.9	24.5 \pm 3.1	0.508	0.0697
HTN, presence	76.047 (34.8)	47.730 (31.55)	0.514	-0.0692
DM, presence	48.625 (22.25)	29.689 (19.62)	0.543	-0.0647
Etiology			0.909	0.0462
HBV	171.641 (78.54)	119.971 (79.29)		
HCV	13.346 (6.11)	10.251 (6.77)		
Others, reference	33.543 (15.35)	21.084 (13.93)		
Albumin (g/dL)	4.0 \pm 0.5	4.0 \pm 0.5	0.460	0.0787
Bilirubin (mg/dL)	0.8 \pm 0.4	0.8 \pm 0.4	0.499	-0.0709
PT, INR	1.1 \pm 0.1	1.1 \pm 0.1	0.991	0.0013
AST (mg/dL)	65.2 \pm 86.8	62.9 \pm 53.1	0.771	-0.0321
ALT (mg/dL)	54.3 \pm 79.2	58.2 \pm 46.5	0.583	0.0609
PLT ($\times 10^3$ / μ L)	130.8 \pm 50.3	123.2 \pm 46.3	0.139	-0.1582
LC, presence	125.539 (57.45)	86.807 (57.37)	0.989	-0.0015
AFP (ng/dL)	116.8 \pm 327.9	127.7 \pm 302.7	0.747	0.0344
Tumor size (cm)			0.980	-0.0027
≤ 2	135.656 (62.08)	94.121 (62.21)		
> 2 and ≤ 3	82.874 (37.92)	57.185 (37.79)		
RFS FU duration (months)	49.0 (0.6–152.4)	33.8 (0.4–128.4)	< 0.001	

Values are presented as mean \pm standard deviation, median (range), or number (%).

IPW, inverse probability of treatment weighting; SR, surgical resection; RFA, radiofrequency ablation; SD, standardized difference; BMI, body mass index; HTN, hypertension; DM, diabetes mellitus; HBV, hepatitis B virus; HCV, hepatitis C virus; PT, prothrombin time; INR, international ratio; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; PLT, platelet; LC, liver cirrhosis; AFP, alpha-fetoprotein; RFS, recurrence-free survival; FU, follow-up.

*P-values were calculated using the t-test for continuous variables and the chi-square test for categorical variables.