safety of TACE combined with microwave ablation (MWA) versus TACE combined with cryoablution (CRA) in treating unresectable HCC.

Methods From January 2011 to December 2018, 108 patients diagnosed with unresectable HCC were divided into either the TACE-MWA group (n = 48) or TACE-CRA group (n = 60). Overall survival (OS) and time to progression (TTP) were compared between the two groups. Complications were observed. Kaplan-Meier survival curves were constructed and compared using the log-rank test.

Results Baseline characteristics of the two groups were basically balanced. The median OS was 20.9 months (95% CI 14.3–27.6 months) in the TACE-MWA group and 13.0 months (95% CI 8.8–17.1 months) in the TACE-CRA group (P = .096). The median TTP was 8.8 months (95% CI 4.3–13.4 months) in the TACE-MWA group and 9.3 months (95% CI 7.1–11.5 months) in the TACE-CRA group (P = .675) (figure 1). The overall incidence rate of ablation-related complications was lower in the TACE-MWA group than in the TACE-CRA group (66.7% vs. 88.3%, P = .006). Multivariate analysis showed that the presence of portal vein tumor thrombus (PVTT) and the maximum diameter of the intrahepatic tumor were significant prognostic factors for OS and TTP.

Conclusions The efficacy of TACE-MWA and TACE-CRA in the treatment of unresectable HCC was comparable. TACE-MWA was more promising because of a lower complication rate, especially with regard to thrombocytopenia. Further prospective randomized controlled trials are required to validate our findings.

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**THREE-DAY POSTOPERATIVE ANTIMICROBIAL PROPHYLAXIS CAN REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF POSTOPERATIVE INFECTION IN PRIMARY HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA: A MULTICENTER RETROSPECTIVE STUDY**

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**SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF LAPAROSCOPIC MICROWAVE ABLATION AND PORTAL VEIN LIGATION FOR STAGED HEPATECTOMY (LAPS) IN PATIENTS WITH HBV-RELATED HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA**

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**Background** Postoperative infection in primary hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) may cause bad consequences, even affect overall survival. But the evidence of using postoperative antimicrobial prophylaxis (AMP) in HCC was not sufficient enough. We aimed to explore the relationship between postoperative AMP and infection after hepatectomy.

**Methods** We retrospectively collected 1648 HCC patients who underwent hepatectomy from three tertiary hospitals. The incidences of postoperative infection, including surgical site infection (SSI) and remote site infection (RI) were recorded and calculated. Univariable and multivariable Cox regression analyses were performed to explore risk factors of postoperative infection. Inverse probability of treatment weighting (IPTW) analysis was also performed to reduce the selection bias.

**Results** The overall infection rate was 9.7% (160/1648), including 8.1% of SSI and 2.3% of RI. Multivariable analysis revealed that the duration of postoperative AMP was negatively related to the incidence of postoperative infection significantly (OR 1.39, 95 per cent c.i. 1.28 to 1.52; P < 0.01), and 3-day regimen seemed to be the shortest duration of postoperative AMP to gain the lowest incidence of postoperative infection. In the subgroup analysis between patients received 0-day and 3-day postoperative AMP, using postoperative AMP for 3 days was an independent protective factor of infection (OR 0.04, 95 per cent c.i. 0.01 to 0.29; P < 0.01). IPTW analysis showed consistent results with those of previous analysis (P = 0.01).

**Conclusions** Postoperative AMP is necessary for HCC patients to prevent postoperative infection. Using antibiotics based on the experience of surgeons for 3 days after surgery might be proper.

(Figure 1)