

Transplantation for Hepatocellular Carcinoma is there a Tumor size limit?

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The advent of tumor size-based criteria (Milan and UCSF) for transplantation of Hepatocellular carcinomas (HCC) has facilitated access of tumor patients to transplantation. Recent success in transplanting patients with larger tumors (beyond UCSF) necessitates understanding of patient, tumor and biological criteria that determine successful outcome for HCC Transplantation across all size criteria. We analysed 11,928 patients who received OLT from 2002 till 2013 from the UNOS star file. Clinical outcomes were compared by tumor size at

transplant; Milan (N=11555), beyond Milan within UCSF (N=291) & beyond both Milan & UCSF (N=82). Statistical analysis was done to determine factors impacting survival. These data indicate that based on current clinical selection criteria a small number of large tumors can be successfully treated by transplantation, and points to the need to include markers of HCC biologic behavior beyond size and tumor burden to transplant criteria.

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