

# STUDY OF TREATMENT AND ANTIANGIOGENESIS OF HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA

 ${\it Essay} \\ {\it Submitted for partial fulfillment of Master degree in Internal Medicine} \\$ 

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## **List of Abbreviations**

Abbreviation	Title		
a FGF	Acidic fibroblast growth factor.		
AF	Aflatoxin.		
AFP	Alpha feto protein		
AFU	Alpha 1- flucosidase.		
AASLD	American Association for the Study of Liver Disease.		
AJCC	American Joint Committee on Cancer		
Ang pl3	Angiopoietin like 3		
BCLC	Barcelona Clinical Liver Cancer.		
bFGF	basic fibroblast growth factor.		
bm-JIS	Biomaker –combined Japanese integrated scoring		
	system.		
В	Bevacizumab.		
CLT	Cadaveric liver transplantation.		
CLIP	Cancer of the Liver Italian Program.		
CP	Child Pugh		
CUPI	China University Prognostic Index.		
CLD	Chronic liver disease.		
CT	Computerised tomography.		
CECT	Contrased enhanced helical computerized tomography.		
CEUS	Contrast enhanced ultrasound.		
DCP	Des gamma carboxyprothrombin.		
DEB	Doxorubicin-eluding beads.		
ECOG	Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group.		
ECM	Endothelial cell membrane.		
EC	Endothelial cell.		
EGFR	Epidermal growth factor receptor.		
E	Erlotinib.		
EASL	European Association for the Study of Liver Disease.		
FDA	Food and Drug Administration.		
FNAC	Fine needle aspiration cytology.		
GPC3	Glypican 3.		
HBV	Hepatitis B virus.		
HCV	Hepatitis C virus.		
HSCs	Hepatic stellate cells.		
HCC	Hepatocellular carcinoma.		
HGF	Hepatocyte growth factor.		
HIF-1alpha	Hypoxia inducible factor-1 alpha		

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Abbreviation	Title	
HREs	Hypoxia responsive elements.	
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus.	
IC	Immuocomplexes.	
IGF-2	Insulin growth factor 2.	
IL2	Interleukin2.	
INR	International normalization ratio.	
JIS	Japanese Integrated Score.	
LSECs	Liver sinusoidal endothelial cells.	
LT	Liver Transplantation.	
LDLT	Living donor liver transplantation.	
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging.	
MNL	Maximum normal limit.	
MWA	Microwave ablation.	
MDCT	Multi detector helical computerized tomography.	
MPCT	Multi phasic helical computerized tomography.	
NO	Nitric oxide.	
NAFLD	Non- alcoholic fatty liver disease.	
NASH	Non-alcoholic steato-hepatitis.	
OLT	Orthotopic liver transplantation.	
OS	Overall survival.	
PAT	Parenteral anti schistosomal therapy.	
PR	Partial response.	
PEI	Percutaneous ethanol injection.	
PST	Performance status test.	
PDGFR	Platelat derived growth factor receptor.	
PD	Progressive disease.	
PFS	Progression free survival.	
RFA	Radiofrequency ablation.	
Raf /MEK/ERK	Raf /mitigen activated protein kinase/extracellular	
	signal regulated kinase.	
RCTs	Randomised controlled trials.	
RECIST	Response evaluation criteria in solid tumors.	
RNA	Ribonucleic acid.	
Sf	Sorafenib.	
SHARP	Sorafenib HCC Assessement Randomised Protocol.	
SCCA	Squamous cell carcinoma antigen.	
SD	Stable disease.	
TTP	Time to time progression.	
TGF	Transforming growth factor.	
TGFbeta1	Transforming growth factor beta 1.	

Abbreviation	Title		
TACE	Transarterial chemoembolisation.		
Tx	Treatment.		
TNF	Tumor necrosis factor.		
TNM	Tumor –Node –Metastasis.		
UNOS	United Network for organ sharing.		
UCSF	University of California San Francisco.		
US	Ultrasonography.		
ULN	Upper limit of normal.		
VE-Cadh	Vascular endothelial cadheren.		
VEGF	Vascular endothelial growth factor.		
VEGFR	Vascular endothelial growth factor receptor.		
VE-PTP	Vascular endothelial phosphatase.		
WHO	World health organization.		
Y90	Yttrium-90		





# Introduction and Aim of the Work

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is a primary malignancy of liver cells. It is the fifth most common cancer in the world accounting for an estimated half million deaths annually (*Zhu et al.*, 2008).

Therapies for HCC have remarkably developed during the last decades and prognosis of HCC patients has subsequently much improved (*Seki et al.*, 2007).

Surgical resection remains the treatment of choice for patients with a single lesion and well preserved liver function with a 5 year survival rates of at least 50-70% (*Kothary et al.*, 2007).

Non-Surgical treatment include: Ablative therapy (*Ryder*, 2003), Trasarterial Chemoembolisation (*Jelic*, 2009), Yttrium-90 labelled Microspheres (*Sangro et al.*, 2009) and Chemotherapy (*Abou-Alfa*, 2007).

Liver transplantation is considered the only curative treatment. It offers the benefit of eradicating the tumor and treating the underlying disease (*Ryder*, 2003).

#### **Antiangiogenic therapy for HCC:**

HCC is a highly vascular tumor and requires angiogenesis to grow beyond a few millimeters in size. Angiogenesis is evident in early stage liver carcinoma and correlates with disease progression. The primary stimulus for tumor angiogenesis is vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), an endogenous cytokine that induces capillary endothelial cell proliferation, migration and survival, and the induction of bone marrow derived endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) to the new vasculature. Other angiogenic factors, such as platelet-derived growth

#### Introduction and Aim of the Work &

factor (PDGF) and basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF), are also expressed in HCC (Zhu et al., 2008).

The inherent vascularity of HCC makes it a logical target for antiangiogenic therapy. **Sorafenib** (Nexavar) and **sunitinib** (Sutent) are orally administered small molecule tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) that bind competitively to the intracellular receptor domains for VEGF, PDGF, and other angiogenic growth factors. Based on positive phase 3 trial results, sorafenib is now approved for advanced, unresectable HCC in U.S and Europe. Phase 2 data of sunitinib in advanced HCC have recently been presented. **Bevacizumab** (Avastin), a humanized monoclonal antibody that binds circulating VEGF, is also in phase 2 trials for advanced HCC (*Abou -Alfa et al.*, 2007).

## **AIM OF WORK**

The aim of work is to review an essay of recent modalities of treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma including interventional and antiangiogenic medications.





# **Review of Literature**