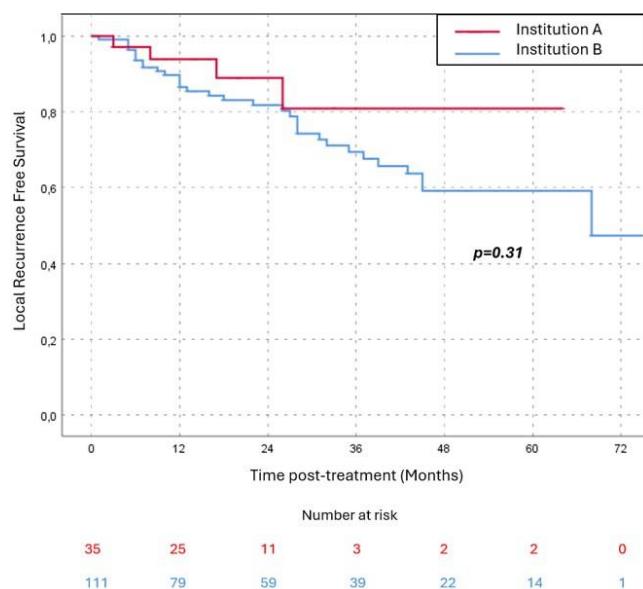


SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL: *Microwave subanalysis per center.* When only considering microwave ablation procedures, baseline analysis comparing the two institutions showed higher rates of viral hepatitis in Institution A and higher rates of dysmetabolic cirrhosis in Institution B ($p=0.01$); larger nodules were treated in Institution B ($p<0.001$). No significant differences in primary efficacy nor LTPFS emerged between the two institutions. Technique efficacy rate at one month was observed in 92.1% tumors treated at Institution A and in 86% at Institution B ($p=0.24$). Cumulative LTP rate was 11.4% in Institution A and in 29.5% at institution B. Cox analysis demonstrated no significant difference in risk of LTP between the two institutions (Mean time to LTP 13.5 vs 20.9 months, HR=1.79, $p=0.28$) as shown in figure S1.



Supplementary Figure 1 Comparison of local recurrence free probability between MWA treatment in institution A and in institution B. Red line represent cumulative local progression-free survival for MWA in institution A (Croix-Rousse Hospital); blue line represents cumulative local progression-free survival for MWA in institution B (Edouard Herriot Hospital). Levels of significance: $p = 0.31$ (Mixed effects cox regression). MWA: Microwave ablation; Mbp-RFA: Multibipolar radiofrequency. Institution A: Croix-Rousse Hospital; Institution B: Edouard Herriot Hospital.

Supplementary Table 1 Per-institution baseline analysis of patients and nodules undergoing microwave ablation

Patients (N = 122)	Institution A (n = 22)	Institution B (n = 100)	P value
Age in years (IQR 25- IQR75)	62.2 (55.75-68.25)	65.6 (60-71)	0.1
Male	17 (77.3%)	81 (81%)	0.77
Cirrhosis	22 (100%)	97 (97%)	0.99
Cirrhosis aetiologies			
Viral hepatitis	13 (59.1%)	21 (21%)	0.01
NASH	6 (27.3%)	38 (38%)	
OH	11 (50%)	56 (56%)	
Other/mixed	20 (16.7%)	39 (16.1%)	
Child Pugh			
Child Pugh A	20 (90.9%)	80 (80%)	0.36
Child Pugh B	2 (9.1%)	20 (20%)	
AFP			
< 10 ng/ml	13 (59.1%)	74 (74%)	0.25
10 – 100 ng/ml	8 (36.4%)	20 (20%)	
> 100 ng/ml	1 (4.5%)	6 (6%)	
Number of nodules treated per patient	1.73	1.35	0.09
Histological proof	11 (50%)	30 (30%)	0.08
Nodules (N = 168)	Institution A (n = 38)	Institution B (n = 130)	P value
Size			
< 20 mm	31 (81.6%)	46 (35.4%)	
20 – 30 mm	7 (18.4%)	57 (43.8%)	< 0.001
≥ 30 mm	0 (0%)	27 (20.8%)	
Tumour near large vessel	9 (23.7%)	15 (11.5%)	0.069
Subcapsular tumour	22 (57.9%)	64 (49.2%)	0.36
Proximity to the gallbladder	1 (2.6%)	3 (2.3%)	0.99
Segmental portal thrombosis	0	0	
Operator experience (months)	243.63 (107-343)	178 (37.75-390.25)	0.38
Guidance modality			

By ultrasound alone	35 (92.1%)	19 (14.6%)	< 0.001
By scanner alone	1 (2.6%)	7 (5.4%)	
Mixed guidance (ultrasound+scanner)	2 (5.3%)	104 (80%)	
