

Supplemental Box 1 Summary of issues regarding hepatocellular carcinoma cancer stem cells (HCSCs)

One HCSC marker is not specific and must be used in combination with other markers.

HCSCs subpopulations have epigenetic and genetic changes in the initiation, progression and relapse of tumors.

Detection of splice variants of the markers is difficult and is generally not taken into consideration.

Data obtained depends on the subpopulations of HSCs that are analyzed.

It is important to consider the HCSCs subclones inside the tumor and their plasticity.