

**Supplementary Table 1 Southwest Oncology Group toxicity coding score**

<b>Southwest Oncology Group Toxicity Coding</b>					
	<b>Grade</b>				
<b>Category</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Pain</b>	None	Requiring non-narcotics	Requiring oral narcotics	Requiring parenteral narcotics	Uncontrollable
<b>Nausea</b>	None	Able to eat reasonable intake	Intake significantly decreased, but can eat	No significant intake	-
<b>Vomiting</b>	None	One episode in 24 h	2-5 episodes in 24 h	6-10 episodes in 24 h	> 10 episodes in 24 h or requiring parenteral support
<b>Fever</b>	None	37.1-38.0°C	38.1-40.0°C	> 40.0°C	> 104.0 °F for more than 24 h or accompanied by hypotension

Supplementary Table 2 Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events in dexamethasone and placebo groups

Adverse events	Dexamethasone ( <i>n</i> = 49)		Placebo ( <i>n</i> = 51)		<i>P</i> value
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	
<b>Elevated AST grade</b>					0.26
1	23	46.9	15	29.4	
2	13	26.5	14	27.5	
3	12	24.5	20	39.2	
4	1	2.0	2	3.9	
<b>Elevated ALT grade</b>					0.53
1	34	69.4	30	58.8	
2	6	12.2	9	17.6	
3	9	18.4	12	23.5	
<b>Elevated TB grade</b>					0.54
1	41	83.7	42	82.4	
2	7	14.3	9	17.6	
<b>Elevated FPG grade</b>					0.38
1-2	38	77.6	43	84.3	
3-4	11	22.4	8	15.7	

*P* value from Chi-Square test, Fisher's Exact Test, Independent t-test and Mann-Whitney *U*-test, \*Significant at the 0.05 level.

ALT: Alanine aminotransferase; AST: Aspartate aminotransferase; TB: Total bilirubin; FPG: Fasting plasma glucose.

**Supplementary Table 3 Univariate analysis of factors associated with the development of postembolization syndrome from baseline characteristic**

	Positive PES ( <i>n</i> = 54)		Negative PES ( <i>n</i> = 46)		<i>P</i> value
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	
Sex					0.529
Male	46	85.2	37	80.4	
Female	8	14.8	9	19.6	
Age (year)					
Mean ± SD.	60.89	±10.45	62.24	±11.38	0.675
Median (min-max)	61.0	(38-81)	62.5	(37-84)	
Size					0.002*
≤3 cm	9	16.7	21	45.7	
>3 cm	45	83.3	25	54.3	
Mean ± SD.	6.67	±4.22	5.25	±4.23	0.028
Median (min-max)	5.45	(0.4-18)	3.45	(1.4-18.3)	
Etiology					0.235
Hepatitis B	28	51.9	16	34.8	
Hepatitis C	13	24.1	18	39.1	

	Positive PES		Negative PES		P value
	(n = 54)		(n = 46)		
	n	%	n	%	
Cryptogenic	9	16.7	5	10.9	
Alcoholic cirrhosis	3	5.6	5	10.9	
NASH	0		1	2.2	
BCLC staging					0.302
A	8	14.8	10	21.7	
B	44	81.5	36	78.3	
ECOG Performance status					0.957
0	10	18.5	7	15.2	
1	41	75.9	37	80.4	
2	2	3.7	2	4.3	
Childs Pugh class					0.159
A	49	90.7	37	80.4	
B	5	9.3	9	19.6	
Initial AFP					0.056
<400 ng/ml	40	74.1	41	89.1	
≥400 ng/ml	14	25.9	5	10.9	

	Positive PES ( <i>n</i> = 54)		Negative PES ( <i>n</i> = 46)		<i>P</i> value
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	
Number of TACE					0.512
1	34	63.0	26	56.5	
>1	20	37.0	20	43.5	
Embolization agent					0.832
Lipiodol plus doxorubicin	17	31.5	16	34.8	
Lipiodol plus mitomycin C	37	68.5	30	65.2	
Level of embolization					0.184
Right branch	40	74.1	26	56.5	
Left branch	9	16.7	10	21.7	
Main trunk	5	9.3	9	19.6	
Diabetes Mellitus					0.060
Diabetes Mellitus	17	31.5	23	50.0	
none	37	68.5	23	50.0	

*P* value from Chi-Square test, Fisher's Exact Test, Independent t-test and Mann-Whitney *U*-test, \*Significant at the 0.05 level.

PES: Post embolization syndrome; NASH: Non-alcoholic steatohepatitis; BCLC: Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer; ECOG: Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; AFP: Alpha-fetoprotein; TACE: Transarterial chemoembolization.

**Supplementary Table 4 Univariate analysis of factors associated with the development of postembolization syndrome from initial laboratory result**

	Positive PES ( <i>n</i> = 54)			Negative PES ( <i>n</i> = 46)			<i>P</i> value
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	
White blood cell	54	5720.37	1985.64	46	5400.65	2030.93	0.349
Total bilirubin	54	0.82	0.59	46	0.82	0.51	0.663
Prothrombin time	54	14.40	12.88	46	12.78	1.34	0.817
Serum Albumin	54	3.74	0.53	46	3.73	0.50	0.914
Creatinine	54	0.87	0.26	46	0.86	0.26	0.580
Serum AST	54	76.04	57.69	46	66.30	37.45	0.942
Serum ALT	54	57.38	48.23	46	60.67	64.52	0.931

*P* value from Chi-Square test, Fisher's Exact Test, Independent t-test and Mann-Whitney *U*-test, \* Significant at the 0.05 level.

PES: Post embolization syndrome; ALT: Alanine aminotransferase; AST: Aspartate aminotransferase.