

EXTRA-HEPATIC FEEDING ARTERY: AN IMAGING FEATURE PREDICTES PROGNOSIS OF HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA

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Aims:

To identify imaging features that could predict prognosis after curative resection hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)

Methods:

In this retrospective study, 99 patients with HCC were enrolled. Clinical-pathologic and MR imaging findings for predicting early recurrence and overall survival (OS). Important MR imaging features were compared with other findings, and multivariable logistic regression was performed to determine factors associated with the feature. The important MR imaging feature for predicting recurrence-free survival (RFS) and OS were identified by using a Cox proportional hazards model.

Patients who pathologically confirmed HCC between January 2016 and December 2017 (n=614)

Excluded patients:

patients with status of non-HBV infection (n=93)
patients who had antitumor treatment history of HCC before surgery (n=102)
patients who did not undergo preoperative enhanced MRI, within 1 month before surgery (n=63)
patients who had more than one lesion of HCC (n=162)
patients who had history of other malignant tumor, extrahepatic metastasis or gross vascular invasion (n = 90)
Suboptimal image quality of MRI (n = 5)

Finally, 99 Patients were included in this study

Results:

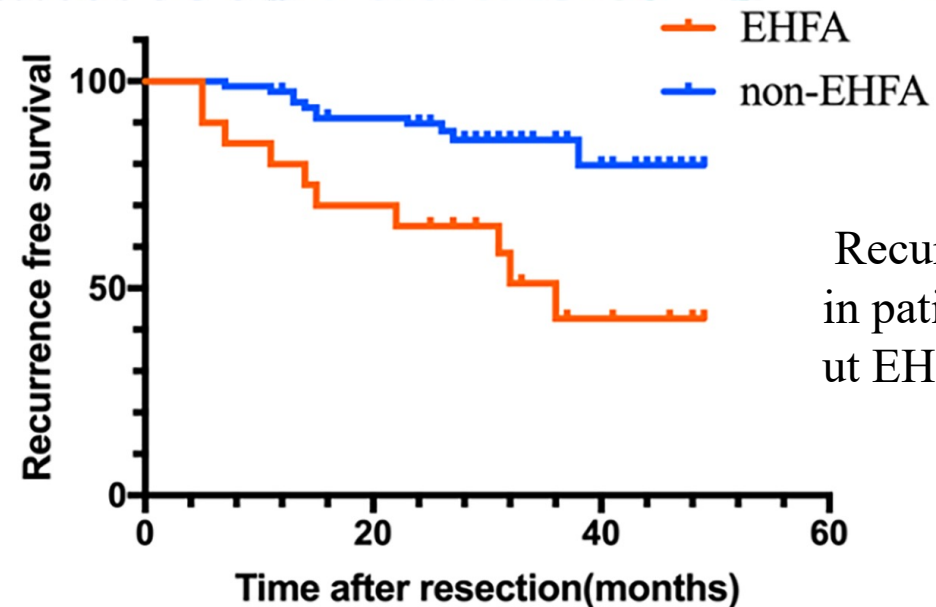
The size, TBIL, extra-hepatic feeding artery (EHFA) were associated with early recurrence, ($P < 0.05$, respectively), and TBIL, EHFA were associated with OS. EHFA was associated with early recurrence and worse OS. HCC with EHFA showed a larger size compared to HCC without EHFA ($P=0.001$), and MVI positive, mosaic showed more common in HCC with EHFA ($P < 0.05$, respectively). MVI ($P = 0.03$) and size ($P = 0.01$) were the independent risk factor for EHFA. HCC with EHFA showed a significantly worse prognosis than those without EHFA.

Cox Survival Analysis of Predictors of Early Recurrence

Parameter	Univariable Analysis		Multivariable Analysis	
	Hazard Ratio	P Value	Hazard Ratio	P Value
Size(cm)	1.55(1.02-2.36)	0.042	1.96(1.10-3.51)	0.023
TBI	0.89(0.79-0.99)	0.035	0.87(0.77-0.98)	0.022
EHFA	0.25(0.09-0.68)	0.007	0.25(0.09-0.72)	0.010

Cox Survival Analysis of Predictors of Overall Survival

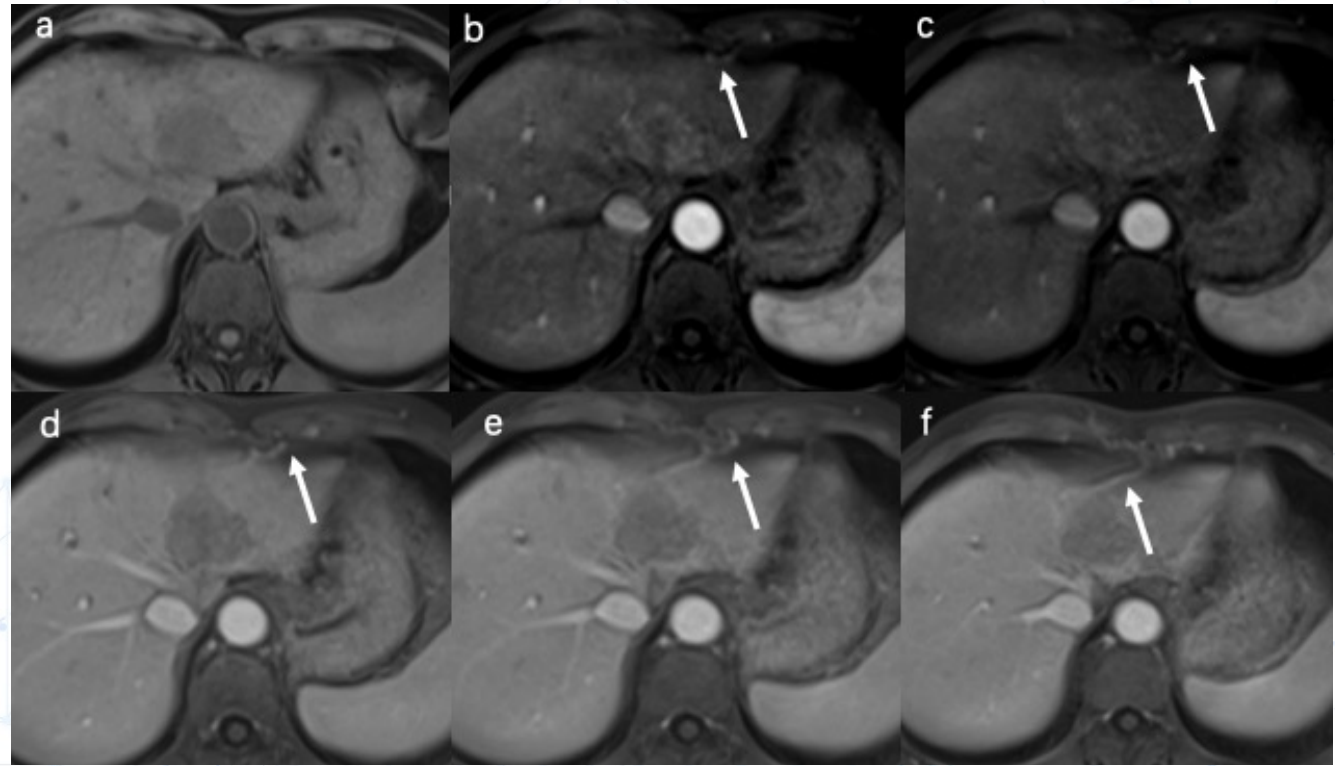
Parameter	Univariable Analysis		Multivariable Analysis	
	Hazard Ratio	P Value	Hazard Ratio	P Value
TBIL	1.11(1.04-1.19)	0.004	1.10(1.02-1.19)	0.010
EHFA	0.15(0.03-0.82)	0.028	0.16(0.03-0.92)	0.039



Recurrence-free survival in patients with and without EHFA

Conclusions:

EHFA was associated with early recurrence, HCC with EHFA showed a significantly worse prognosis than those without EHFA



Images show a 3.9-cm mass with extrahepatic feeding artery (EHFA) in left lobe of liver in a 59-year-old male patient with Microvascular invasion hepatocellular carcinoma (MVI-HCC). Lesion (arrow head) shows non-rim arterial phase hyperenhancement and mosaic architecture. Contrast enhanced (a-b) arterial phase, portal venous phase (c-f) MR images demonstrate the mass with EHFA (arrow). Local tumor recurrence occurred 7 months after curative resection.