TARGET-HCC is an ongoing longitudinal, observational cohort of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). Treatment within the first six months of diagnosis was evaluated for the prevalence of systemic therapeutic options including tyrosine kinase inhibitors and immune checkpoint inhibitors. Recently, there has been an expansion of systemic therapeutic options including tyrosine kinase inhibitors and immune checkpoint inhibitors for HCC. This study evaluated the prevalence of treatment within the first six months of diagnosis according to BCLC stage among patients enrolled in TARGET-HCC.

### Methods

- **Population**: TARGET-HCC is an ongoing longitudinal, observational cohort of patients with HCC managed according to local practice standards at 55 academic and community sites (including hepatology and oncology clinics) in the US and Europe.
- **Participation**: Clinicians provided redacted medical records (structured biospecimen repository for biomarker validation and translational research) to select sites. Patients also contributed blood samples to a biospecimen repository for biomarker validation and translational research.
- **Stage**: HCC was staged at diagnosis using the Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer (BCLC) staging system.
- **Study Population**: This study included 1,027 patients with a diagnosis of HCC enrolled in TARGET-HCC between January 9, 2017 to January 28, 2019. Patients with HCC diagnosed within three years of enrollment were included.

### Results

#### Treatment according to BCLC stage at diagnosis

- **Stage A**: 42.5% of patients with BCLC stage 0 received some type of local therapy within six months of diagnosis.
- **Stage B**: 48.4% of patients with BCLC stage B received some type of locoregional therapy within six months of diagnosis.
- **Stage C**: Patients with BCLC stage C were more than twice as likely to receive any systemic therapy compared to all other stages.
- **Stage D**: 47% of patients with BCLC stage C/D received some type of locoregional therapy within six months of diagnosis.

#### CONCLUSIONS

- **47% of patients with BCLC stage C/D received some type of locoregional therapy within 6 months of diagnosis.**
- **Ablation was most common (42.5%) among patients with BCLC stage 0 whereas TACE was more frequent therapy (37.6%) for patients with BCLC-A stage HCC**.
- **TACE was most common (48.4%) among patients with BCLC stage B.**
- **Patients with BCLC stage C were more than twice as likely to receive any systemic therapy compared to all other stages.**
- **The rate of locoregional therapy within 6 months of diagnosis was higher than expected in patients with advanced stages of HCC and inconsistent with current practice guidelines.**

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