

SUMMARY OF NEW CONCLUSIONS IN THESIS

Study title: *“Assessment of percutaneous radiofrequency ablation with needles chosen suitably to tumor sizes for hepatocellular carcinoma patients”*

Code: 62720143

Specialized: Internal Gastroenterology

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Summary of new findings of the thesis:

- This is the first study in Vietnam to assess efficacy of radiofrequency ablation (RFA) with needles chosen suitably to tumor size in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) patients. The needles used in the study are Soloist and different types of LeVeenTM 2.0, 3.0, 4.0 and 5.0 needles.

- The study demonstrated that RFA with needles chosen suitably to tumor size is an effective therapy in clinical, lab test and imaging response aspects. After 1 month, the rate of clinical improvement in symptomatic subgroup and the rate of weight gain was 67.8% and 46.2%; AFP level decreased statistically significant; the necrosis rate was 79.3% and response rate according to mRECIST criteria was 96.1%. The cumulative survival rate at 1 year, 2 year and 3 year was 94.6%, 72.3% and 26.9%, respectively with the mean overall survival time being 48.5 months (95% CI: 44.7 - 52.4 months), the mean progression free survival time being 30.9 months (95% CI: 28.7 – 33.0 months). The mean number of ablation times was less than domestic studies with unipolar needle.

- The study proved that RFA with needles chosen suitably to tumor size is a relatively safe therapy with complication rate being 1.7%, side effect rate being 20.5%. There were 16 patients (12.3%) with tumors in difficult locations performed artificial ascites/pleural effusion in combination with RFA had good response with complete necrosis rate being 87.5%.

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