

THE EFFECT OF SARCOPENIA AT THE TIME OF DIAGNOSIS ON MORTALITY IN HEPATOCELLULAR CANCER PATIENTS

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UEG Week Copenhagen 2023

Poster

Hepatobiliary

October 15, 2023

A retrospective study of 101 HCC patients found that CT-derived measures of visceral adiposity and intramuscular adipose tissue content were independently associated with mortality, suggesting sarcopenia indicators predict outcomes beyond Child-Pugh score.

KEY POINTS

- In 87 HCC patients analyzed for mortality, admission Visceral-Subcutaneous Fat Ratio (VSR) and Intramuscular Adipose Tissue Content Ratio (IMAC) calculated from CT were associated with mortality independently of Child-Pugh Score ($p=0.017$ and $p=0.048$, respectively).
- The study cohort had a median age of 61.4 years, 76.2% were male, 62% had Child-Pugh A cirrhosis, and the 12-month transplant-free survival rate was 78.2%.
- Both IMAC and VSR showed positive correlations with patient age ($R=0.337$, $p=0.045$ and $R=0.223$, $p=0.045$, respectively).
- The authors conclude that sarcopenia is an important indicator for predicting mortality and morbidity in HCC patients independent of Child-Pugh Score, though they note that larger studies and combined radiological-clinical sarcopenia assessment are needed.

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