

DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY OF PIVKA-II IN DETECTING HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA AMONG AFP-NORMAL PATIENTS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS

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Poster

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A meta-analysis of four studies involving 146 AFP-normal patients demonstrates that PIVKA-II achieves 80% sensitivity and 90% specificity for detecting hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with normal AFP levels, who represent 30–50% of HCC cases.

KEY POINTS

- PIVKA-II showed pooled sensitivity of 80% and specificity of 90% with an AUC of 0.9376 for any-stage HCC detection in AFP-normal patients
- For early-stage HCC in AFP-normal patients, PIVKA-II demonstrated 79% sensitivity, 82% specificity, and an AUC of 0.888
- AFP screening alone may miss 35% to 59% of HCC cases, and current ultrasonography with or without AFP has 63% sensitivity and 84% specificity
- The authors conclude that PIVKA-II demonstrates superior performance compared to AFP and suggest it should be considered for routine screening in AFP-normal patients
- This work is relevant for clinicians managing patients at risk for hepatocellular carcinoma, particularly those with normal AFP levels

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