

## Supplementary Materials:

# Expression of Cancer Testis Antigens in Tumor-Adjacent Normal Liver is Associated with Post-Resection Recurrence of Hepatocellular Carcinoma

### Materials & Methods

#### *Liver and healthy tissue samples*

##### Cirrhotic and healthy (liver) tissues

Freshly frozen healthy liver tissues (n=21) were obtained during liver transplantation from donor liver grafts at the end of cold ischemic storage. Archived freshly frozen tissue samples of non-cancerous cirrhotic livers (n=35) were retrieved from the tissue bank of the Department of Pathology, Erasmus Medical Center Rotterdam. The non-cancerous cirrhotic liver tissues had been retrieved from patients who underwent liver transplantation for liver cirrhosis in our center between May 2007 and June 2017. The etiology of the cirrhosis was determined by information from medical records, laboratory tests and pathological examination of the explanted livers. Cirrhotic livers with malignancies, diagnosed by pathological examination, were excluded.

RNA isolated from fresh frozen healthy adrenal gland (R1234004-50), artery (HR-810), brain (R1234035-50), colon (R1234090-50), heart (R1234122-50), lung (R1234152-50), muscle (R1234171-50), ovary (HR-406), pancreas (R1234188-50), skin (R1234218-50), small intestine (R1234226-50), stomach (HR-302), testis (R1234260-50), throat (R1234263-10), thymus (HR-702), thyroid (R1234265-50), trachea (R1234160-50), urinary bladder (R1234010-50) and uterus (R1234274-50) tissues were purchased from AMS Biotechnology Ltd, Abingdon, UK. Bone marrow derived from a healthy donor (Department of Hematology, Erasmus MC), healthy kidney tissue obtained from a donor kidney (Department of Internal Medicine, Erasmus MC) and RNA of healthy testis tissues (Department of Pathology, Erasmus MC) were kindly provided. Lymph node and spleen tissues were collected from samples retrieved during liver transplantation in our center in September 2019.

#### *Quantitative real-time PCR*

RNA was isolated using the NucleoSpin® RNA isolation kit of Macherey-Nagel (Dueren, Germany) according to manufacturer's instructions. RNA quality was assessed with NanoDrop 2000 (Thermo Scientific), using 260/230 ratios. Samples with a ratio <2.0 were excluded and if possible RNA was re-isolated. RNA (4 ug) was reverse-transcribed into cDNA using PrimeScript™ RT master Mix (Perfect Real Time, Takara, cat# RR036A), according to the manufacturer's instructions. RT-qPCR was performed using SYBR™ Green PCR Master Mix (ThermoFisher) in a StepOnePlus™ Real-Time PCR System (Applied Biosystems), using 12.5 ng cDNA per reaction, with the following conditions: 50°C for 2 minutes, 95°C for 2 minutes, then 38 cycles of 95°C for 15 seconds, 58-62°C for 15 seconds (according to the T<sub>m</sub> of the primers), 72°C for 1 minute, and then finally for the Melt Curve stage 95°C for 15 seconds, 60°C for 1 minute and a 0.7°C step-wise increase until 95°C was reached. All Ct-values over 35 were considered negative. The level of target gene expression relative to the geometric mean of three control genes (HPRT1, GUSB, PMM1) [1] was calculated by 2<sup>-ΔΔT</sup> method, after which a cut-off of 0.001 was used to define expression. All amplifications were performed in at least two technical repeats. Means of technical replicates were used for analysis. Primers were designed with Primer Blast (NCBI), efficiency was determined by dilution of cDNA and product length was determined by gel electrophoresis.

#### *Immunohistochemistry*

The FFPE blocks of the HCC and TFL tissues were examined by a pathologist (MD) to mark tumor and tumor-free liver tissues. A TMA Grand Master (2.5; 3D Histech) was used to create tissue microarrays (TMA). Three tissue cores of 1 mm were taken of each tissue and placed in a recipient formalin block. Immunohistochemistry (IHC) was performed using an automated, validated and accredited staining system (Ventana Benchmark ULTRA, Ventana Medical Systems, Tucson, AZ, USA) using the optiview universal DAB detection Kit (cat.760-700, Ventana Medical Systems). In brief, following deparaffinization and heat-induced antigen retrieval tissue sections were incubated with each of the primary antibodies according to their optimized incubation time and concentration (**Table S9**). The antibodies were titrated using testis as a positive control tissue and placenta and spleen as negative control tissues. Incubation was followed by hematoxylin II counter stain for 12 minutes and then a blue colouring reagent for 8 minutes according to the manufacturer's instructions (Ventana Medical Systems, Tucson, AZ, USA). The stained TMAs were then scanned using a Nanozoomer (Hamamatsu), and analyzed using NDP.view2 software (Hamamatsu).

**Search query:**

((("cancer testis antigen"[All Fields] OR (((("cancer"[All Fields] OR "neoplas\*"[All Fields]) AND ("testis"[All Fields] OR "testes"[All Fields]) AND ("Antigens, Neoplasm"[Majr] OR "antigen\*"[All Fields] OR "Ags"[All Fields] OR "ag"[All Fields] OR "gene"[All Fields] OR "genes"[All Fields] OR "antigen\*"[All Fields])))) AND (("Carcinoma, Hepatocellular"[Majr] OR "Fibrolamellar hepatocellular carcinoma" [Supplementary Concept] OR "liver cell carcinoma"[All Fields] OR "liver cancer"[All Fields] OR "hepatocellular carcinoma cell line"[All Fields] OR (("liver"[All Fields] OR "hepat\*"[All Fields]) AND ("carcinoma\*"[All Fields] OR "ca"[All Fields] OR "cas"[All Fields] OR "cancer\*"[All Fields])) OR "hepatocarcinom\*"[All Fields])) AND "Humans"[Mesh]

Pubmed search 04-10-2018

**Table S1.** Patient characteristics of HCC-patients in discovery and validation cohort based on CTA expression in TFL.

Characteristic	Discovery cohort		Validation cohort	
	CTA in TFL- (n=55)	CTA in TFL+ (n=45)	CTA in TFL - (n=63)	CTA in TFL+ (n=26)
<b>Age at surgery (years)</b>				
Mean $\pm$ SD	60.0 $\pm$ 14.3	59.8 $\pm$ 15.0	65.9 $\pm$ 10.7	60.4 $\pm$ 11.0
Median (range)	63 (11-82)	64 (16-80)	67 (34-85)	61 (36-76)
<b>Sex – no. (%)</b>				
Male	36 (65.5)	27 (60)	49 (77.8)	15 (57.7)
Female	19 (34.5)	18 (40)	14 (22.2)	11 (42.3)
<b>Race – no. (%)</b>				
White	47 (85.5)	36 (80)	52 (82.5)	20 (76.9)
African	3 (5.5)	5 (11.1)	4 (6.3)	-
Asian	4 (7.3)	4 (8.9)	5 (7.9)	5 (19.2)
Not reported	1 (1.8)	-	2 (3.2)	1 (3.8)
<b>Etiology – no. (%)</b>				
No known liver disease	14 (25.5)	19 (42.2)	19 (30.2)	7 (26.9)
Alcohol	16 (29.1)	5 (11.1)	11 (17.5)	8 (30.8)
Hepatitis B	8 (14.5)	4 (8.9)	10 (15.9)	3 (11.5)
NASH	5 (9.1)	3 (6.7)	12 (19.0)	4 (15.4)
Hepatitis C + Alcohol	3 (5.5)	5 (11.1)	-	-
Hepatitis B + Alc/HepC/HepD/NASH	2 (3.6)	4 (8.9)	1 (1.6)	1 (3.8)
Hepatitis C	4 (7.3)	2 (4.4)	5 (7.9)	1 (3.8)
Fibrolamellar HCC	2 (3.6)	2 (4.4)	-	-
Hemochromatosis (+ NASH/Alcohol)	1 (1.8)	1 (2.2)	3 (4.8)	1 (3.8)
Autoimmune hepatitis	-	-	-	-
Primary sclerosing cholangitis	-	-	-	1 (3.8)
Other	-	-	2 (3.2)	-
<b>Hepatitis status – no. (%)</b>				
Hepatitis B or C positive	17 (30.9)	15 (33.3)	16 (25.4)	5 (19.2)
Chronic Hepatitis B	10 (18.2)	8 (17.8)	11 (17.5)	4 (15.4)
Chronic Hepatitis C	8 (14.5)	7 (15.6)	5 (7.9)	2 (7.7)
<b>Cirrhosis – no. (%)</b>				
Yes	22 (40)	12 (26.7)	24 (38.1)	10 (38.5)
No	33 (60)	33 (73.3)	39 (61.9)	16 (61.5)
<b>Surgery – no. (%)</b>				
(Extended) Hemi-hepatectomy	30 (54.5)	26 (57.8)	28 (44.4)	14 (53.8)
Partial resection ( $\geq$ 2 segments)	12 (21.8)	8 (17.8)	24 (38.1)	6 (23.1)
Partial resection (1 segment)	11 (20.0)	10 (22.2)	11 (24.4)	6 (23.1)
LTx	2 (3.6)	1 (2.2)	-	-
<b>Tumor differentiation – no. (%)</b>				
Good	8 (14.5)	4 (8.9)	8 (12.7)	3 (11.5)
Moderate	30 (54.5)	22 (48.9)	36 (57.1)	15 (57.7)
Poor	9 (16.4)	9 (20)	14 (22.2)	5 (19.2)
Unknown	8 (14.5)	10 (22.2)	5 (7.9)	3 (11.5)
<b>Vascular invasion – no. (%)</b>				
Yes	23 (41.8)	26 (57.8)	41 (65.1)	18 (69.2)
No	27 (49.1)	15 (33.3)	22 (34.9)	6 (23.1)
Unknown	5 (9.1)	4 (8.9)	-	2 (7.7)
<b>BCLC stage – no. (%)</b>				
0	1 (1.8)	-	4 (6.3)	-
A	36 (65.5)	30 (66.7)	47 (74.6)	22 (84.6)
B	18	15 (33.3)	12 (19.0)	4 (15.4)
<b>Number of lesions – no. (%)</b>				

1	30 (54.5)	26 (57.8)	49 (77.8)	22 (84.6)
>1	25 (45.5)	19 (42.2)	14 (22.2)	4 (15.4)
Median (range)	1 (1-11)	1 (1-10)	1 (1-11)	1 (1-11)
<b>Size of largest lesion (cm)</b>				
Mean $\pm$ SD	6.2 $\pm$ 4.3	9.1 $\pm$ 6.9	7.0 $\pm$ 4.7	8.0 $\pm$ 4.7
Median (range)	5.2 (1.3-24)	7.5 (1-34)	5.7 (0.8-21.0)	7.15 (1.7-16.5)
<b>AFP level before resection (ug/l)</b>				
Mean $\pm$ SD	711 $\pm$ 2384	113360 $\pm$ 519877	1850 $\pm$ 6673	784 $\pm$ 1641
Median (range)	7 (1-10709)	12 (1-3118700)	9 (1-45803)	47 (1-4973)

**Table S2.** Primer sequences and annealing temperatures (Tm) used for RT-qPCR.

Primer	Tm	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer	Product Length
CAGE1	60	TCATCCGAAGTCCATGACCA	GACTCTTCTGGAGTGGTTG	118
CBLL2	62	TTCCACCAGAACAGCACACC	AACGGTTTCCCACTGGATGG	146
CCDC83	60	AGGAGGGCAGGCCTTTTAAATC	TCCATTGTGCTGGTTAGCTATGA	148
CPXCR1	60	CAGCCAGTCATACTATCCTC	CTACAGTCATTAGGAGGCTC	118
CSAG2/3	58	GGAGTGGGCCAACACTATCC	GGCTGTCCGAAGAGAGACTG	123
CT45	62	ATGCACATCACTCCCAGGTG	TTGTTTCCTTGCTGGAGGAGA	147
CT47A1	60	ACCTAGACGCAGCAGAGGT	AACCTGAACACTGTCACATACATCC	141
CTAG1A/B	60	GGCTTCAGGGCTGAATGGA	TGTTGCCGACACAGTGAAC	191
Cxorf48	60	CTGGCAACGTGCCTCTAAAAG	AAGATGGCGAGGCACAACAT	110
DDX53	60	GTTGGTGTGGTCATTGGTTAC	CGCTTTGGCCTTTGCTTTCAT	144
DPPA2	62	CAATCTCCTTCCATCCCAGGGT	ACCAGTGTCAAATCACACTTTCC	118
DUSP21	62	TTGTCAATGCCTCGGTGGAA	CGAGTCACGAGCATCGGTAA	86
FAM46D	60	AGCCTTAACGGATGAAGGAAAA	AAACTCCAGCTAGTGAAACTCC	92
FATE1	62	ATGGAGCTTGGATCTCGGTC	CTCAGCATTCTGGGCTTTGG	155
FBXO39	60	TGATAGATCTCCTGCCACCT	CTCGTCGAGTGACTCATGGTT	83
FMR1NB	60	TCCTGCTGTTCGTGTGCTAC	TCAGCAAAGCTTCCAATGCG	147
FTHL17	60	ATCAACAGCCACATCACGCT	CATTTTGTCTCCGACAGGC	132
GAGE1	60	ACCTGAG- TCATCTTAAAACATGTGA	AGTAAACATGAAGCAGAGTGCC	80
GPC3	60	AACCATGTCTATGCCCAAAGGT	CCAGAGCCTCCAATGCACTC	108
GUSB	58	CAGGTGATGGAAGAAGTGG	GTTGCTCACAAGGTCACAG	171
HORMAD1	60	CAACGAATCTAGCATGTTGTC	CACAATCACCATCCTTAAACC	188
HPRT1	58	GCTATAAATTCTTTGCTGAC- CTGCTG	AATTACTTTTATGTCCCCTGTT- GACTGG	140
LUZP4	60	CTTCGTTTCGGAAGCTAACGC	CTCCGATGGCGATGTCTATGA	217
MAGEA1	60	AGAAGCGAGGTTTCCATTCTGA	GGAATCCTGTCTCTGGGTTG	116
MAGEA2	62	CTCCAGCTTCTCGACTACCATC	GACTCCAGGTCGGGAAACATTC	148
MAGEA3	62	ATCTTCAGCAAAGCTTCCAGT	GGTGGCAAAGATGTACAAGTGG	93
MAGEA4	58	GAGCTTCTGCGTCTGACTCG	TGTCTGCTCAGAACCTTGCTC	85
MAGEA8	60	GGTCGGCTTGAGATCGGCT	CCTCAGCTTGACTGCTACTACTG	150
MAGEA9B	60	GCTTGATACCGGTGGAGGAG	GGTTAGCCTGTCCCGAGAAC	124
MAGEA10	62	GAGATCGGCTGAAGAGAGCG	ACTCTTGTGAGATCCTGCGAC	140
MAGEB1	60	TGAAGTAGTGAGCAGCCAAGA	GCTGGCAGCACCAATAAATGT	172
MAGEB2	58	TCCTGACTCCGCTTTGGAGGC	GCACGGAGCTTACTCTTCTGACC	135

MAGEB3	60	CTACCCAAACCTCTTCTCAGCC	AGACCCTGGATCCTCCCTCTA	144
MAGEB6	62	ACCCTTGTCAAGCAAGCTAGG	GATCACAACCAGGAGCGACA	99
MAGEC1	62	GGCCATCTTGGGAGTCTGAA	TGGAGCACCTTGAAGACTGG	106
MAGEC2	62	GGAGTCAAGGCCTGTTGGAT	GGGAGGCATGACGACTTCTT	84
PAGE1	62	GGCTGAAGTTGTGAAATATGGGT	CTGCAGATGCTCCCTCATCC	177
PAGE5	62	TGATGTCAGGGAGGGGACTC	TGGTTTCAGTCTTCATTGTCTTGG	105
PASD1	62	TGCAGAGGTTGAGCAGTATGG	GGATTACCTCAGGCTCACC	153
PLAC1	60	ACACAGCAAGTTCCTTCTTCC	GAGGATTTCTTCTTCTGGCAGC	118
PMM1	58	CGAGTTCTCCGAACCTGGAC	CTGTTTTAGGGCTTCCAC	86
RNF17	60	GGACAATGCAGTGGTCCAAAG	AGGAGACCAAGAGAATCGAA	137
SAGE1	58	CCTTAGCTGACTCTGGTGCTC	GACTCGTTTGAAGTGGAGAAGC	150
SLCO6A1	62	TGGCCTTGGGTGTAAGCTATG	ATCCAACAACGTCCTGTGTG	136
SPANXA	62	ATGATGCCGAGACCCCAAC	GTGGTCATTACAGCAGTTCCTCT	144
SPANXC	60	CGCTACAGGAGGAACGTGAA	ATTCTCCTCCTCCATTGG	100
SPANXN3	62	ACCAGAATCATGGAACAGCCAA	TGTTTGGTACCTCTTGCATCTC	106
SYCP1	62	CTATCTGTGGACATCTGCCAA	TTGGTTTTGTTGGTGTCTTCAC	80
TEKT5	62	GGTCCATGACAACGTGGAGA	TGCTGAGCATCCCGGTTATC	126
TFDP3	60	TTGGAGGTGTGTTACGACG	CTGAGATCCACCGAGCTTG	113
TPPP2	60	GCAAAGTCAAGGCCAAGAACG	CTGGACTCTCCCTTTGAAGC	99
TSPY	62	ACAAGATTGCTGAGTCCCCTG	TCAACAACCTGGGAGTCCCCT	149
ZCCHC13	62	TGCTACAACGTGGGAGAAGC	TGACGATCACAGTCACGAGC	122

**Table S3.** Results of the literature search and overview of included articles.

Study	Gene(s)	Population	Detection method	Outcome
Wei Y, et al. Int J Oncol. 2018 [2]	MAGEA9	HCC patients (n=90; China)	IHC	IHC: 40/90 (44%) MAGEA9+
Jiao Y, et al. PLoS One. 2017 [3]	TFDP3	HCC cell line (HepG2) and normal human hepatocyte cell line (L-02) and HCC patients (China)	RT-qPCR and IHC	mRNA and IHC: HepG2 and L02 are both TFDP3+, expression is higher in HepG2. Also protein expression in HCC patients.
Liu, et al. Cancer Lett. 2017 [4]	CTCFL	HCC cell lines (HepG2, SMMC-7721, Huh7, HCCLM3, PLC/PRF/5), normal human hepatocyte cell lines (L-02 and WRL68) and HCC patients (n=25; China)	RT-qPCR and IHC	RT-qPCR: all cell lines positive, expression higher in HCC cell lines than normal human hepatocyte cell lines IHC: 18/25 (72%) CTCFL <sup>high</sup> and 7/25 (28%) CTCFL <sup>low</sup>
Xie, et al. Drug target. 2017 [5]	TTK	Review	n.a.	Liu, Oncotarget 2015: 118/152 (77.63%) of HCC patients mRNA TTK+ – China
Charoentong, et al. Cell Rep. 2017 [6]	BRDT, CAGE1, CCDC83, CPXCR1, CSAG2, CT45A1, DDX53, DPPA2,	The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA); including 363 HCC patients	RNA sequencing	Aforementioned genes are all correlated with CD4 and/or CD8 T cells in HCC



<b>Deng, et al. Hepatology. 2014 [13]</b>	DUSP21, CT45, ZCCHC13, MAGEA9, MAGEB6, PIHD3, PNMA5, MPC1L, IL13RA1	HCC patients (n=24; China?)	RT-PCR	8/24 (33.3%) DUSP21+, 7/24 (29.2%) CT45+, 4/24 (16.7%) ZCCHC13+, 3/24 (12.5%) MAGEA9+, 3/24 (12.5%) MAGEB6+, 4/24 (16.7%) PIHD3+, 6/24 (25%) PNMA5+, 6/24 (25%) MPC1L+, 1/24 (4.2%) IL13RA1+
<b>Xia, et al. Int J Clin Exp Pathol. 2013 [14]</b>	SP17, MAGEC1, NY-ESO-1	HCC patients (n=45; China)	IHC	16/45 (35.6%) MAGEC1+, 7/45 (15.6%) NY-ESO-1+, 36/45 (80%) SP17+
<b>Zhou, et al. Oncol Rep. 2013 [15]</b>	FAM9C	HCC cell lines (SSMC-7721, QGY-7703, BEL-7404, BEL-7405, YY-8103, Huh7) and HCC patients (n=46; China)	RT-qPCR and IHC	RT-qPCR: 25/46 HCC patients have upregulation of FAM9C in T compared to TFL Cell lines: 2/6 FAM9C+ IHC showed nuclear staining (T>TFL)
<b>Chen, et al. Genet Test Mol Bi-omarkers. 2013 [16]</b>	CTCFL	HCC cell lines (SMMC-7721, BEL-7402, Huh7, HepG2) and HCC patients (n=105; China)	RT-PCR, IHC and WB	Cell lines: 3/4 CTCFL+ (RT-PCR and WB) HCC patients: 58/105 (55.2%) CTCFL+ (IHC)
<b>Song, et al. Oncol Rep. 2012 [17]</b>	AKAP3, CTp11	HCC cell lines (SNU-354, SNU-398, SNU-423, SNU-449, HepG2) and HCC patients (n= 10; Korea)	RT-PCR	5/10 (50%) AKAP3+, 1/9 (11.1%) CTp11+
<b>Li, et al. Bull Cancer. 2012 [18] – no full text</b>	CABYR-c	HCC patients (n=20; China)	RT-PCR and WB	Both mRNA and protein expression are significantly higher in HCC compared to TFL
<b>Yoon, et al. Tohoku J Exp Med. 2011 [19]</b>	RNF17	HCC patients (n=28; Korea), CCA patients (n=5) and combined HCC-CCA (n=8) – Korea	RT-qPCR	4/28 (14.3%) HCC RNF17+, 1/5 (20%) CCA RNF17+, 2/8 (25%) combined HCC/CCA RNF17+. No expression in TFL.
<b>Tseng, et al. Oncol Rep. 2011 [20]</b>	CABYR-a/b, CABYR-c/d, CABYR-e	HCC cell lines (HepG2, Huh7) and HCC patients (n=16; Taiwan)	RT-PCR and WB	Cell lines: 2/2 expressed CABYR-a/b and CABYR-c/d HCC patients: 7/16 (43.8%) CABYR-a/b+, 14/16 (87.5%) CABYR-c/d+, 0/16 (0%) CABYR-e+
<b>Wang, et al. Oncol Rep. 2009 [21]</b>	NY-ESO-1, CTAG2, SSX1	HCC patients (n=64; China)	RT-PCR	19/64 (29.7%) NY-ESO-1+, 29/64 (45.3%) CTAG2+, 24/64 (37.5%) SSX1+
<b>Riener, et al. Int J Cancer. 2009 [22]</b>	MAGEA4, MAGEC1, MAGEC2, GAGE, NY-ESO-1	HCC patients (n=146; Switzerland), CCA (n=50), GBC (n=32)	IHC	HCC: 0/146 (0%) MAGEA4+, 17/146 (12%) MAGEC1+, 50/146 (34%) MAGEC2+, 16/146 (11%) GAGE+, 3/146 (2%) NY-ESO-1+. No expression in CCA. GBC: 4/32 (13%) MAGEC2+, 1/32 (3%) GAGE+, 1 (3%) NY-ESO-1+, 0/32 MAGEC1/MAGEA4+
<b>Lu, et al. Chin Med J. 2007 [23]</b>	NY-ESO-1, SSX1	HCC patients (n=36; China)	RT-PCR	4/36 (11.1%) NY-ESO-1+, 22/36 (61.1%) SSX1+

Wu, et al. Life Sci. 2006 [24]	SSX2, SSX5	HCC patients (n=36; China)	RT-PCR	13/36 (36.1%) SSX2, 17/36 (47.2%) SSX5
Watanabe, et al. Cancer Sci. 2005 [25]	IGSF11	HCC cell line (Alexander, Huh7, HepG2, SNU475)	RT-PCR	HCC cell lines: 3/4 IGSF11+
Yin, et al. Br J Cancer. 2005 [26]	TSPY	HCC cell lines (hep-hcc-1, hep-hcc-2, hep-hcc-HLE, Hep3B, COS7) and HCC patients (n=57; China)	RT-PCR	20/57 (35%) TSPY+
Shi, et al. Br J Cancer. 2005 [27]	DDX53	HCC patients (n=33; China)	RT-PCR	13/33 (39.4%) DDX53+
Peng, et al. Cancer Lett. 2005 [28]	MAGEA1, MAGEA3, MAGEA4, MAGEA10, SSX1, SSX2, SSX4, SSX5, NY-ESO-1, MAGEB1, MAGEB2, MAGEC1, MAGEC2, SYCP1	HCC patients (n=73; China)	RT-PCR	51/73 (69.9%) MAGEA1+, 35/73 (47.9%) MAGEA3+, 6/30 (20%) MAGEA4+, 11/30 (36.7%) MAGEA10+, 29/43 (67.4%) SSX1+, 26/73 (35.6%) SSX2+, 21/43 (48.8%) SSX4+, 13/43 (30.2%) SSX5+, 31/73 (42.5%) NY-ESO-1+, 13/25 (52%) MAGEB1+, 15/25 (60%) MAGEB2+, 12/25 (48%) MAGEC1+, 17/25 (68%) MAGEC2+, 10/30 (33.3%) SYCP1+
Sato, et al. Int J Oncol. 2005 [29] – no full text	NY-ESO-1, CTAG2	HCC patients – Japan	RT-PCR and IHC	IHC: 3/10 (30%) NY-ESO-1+ - all 10 samples expressed NY-ESO-1 mRNA 1/6 (16.7%) CTAG2+ - all 6 samples expressed CTAG2 mRNA
Yang, et al. Lab Invest. 2005 [30]	FATE	HCC patients (n=35; China)	RT-PCR and IHC	RT-PCR: 10/15 (66%) FATE+ IHC: 7/35 (20%) FATE+
Dong, et al. Biochem Cell Biol. 2004 [31] – no full text	FATE	HCC patients (China)	RT-PCR	25% of HCC samples FATE+
Dong, et al. Br J Cancer. 2004 [32]	ZNF165	HCC patients (n=42; China)	RT-PCR	22/42 (52%) ZNF165+
Zhao, et al. World J Gastroenterol. 2004 [33]	MAGEA1, MAGEC2, SSX1, SPANXC	HCC patients (n=105; China)	RT-PCR	79/105 (75.2%) MAGEA1+, 59/105 (56.2%) MAGEC2+, 76/105 (72.4%) SSX1+, 66/105 (62.9%) SPANXC+
Li, et al. Lab Invest. 2003 [34] – no full text	MAGEC2	HCC patients (n=70; China)	IHC	26/70 (37.1%) MAGEC2+
Dong, et al. Br J Cancer. 2003 [35]	FATE, TPTE	HCC patients (n=62; China)	RT-PCR	41/62 (66%) FATE1+, 24/62 (39%) TPTE+
Luo, et al. Cancer Immun. 2002 [36]	MAGEA1, MAGEA3, MAGEA4, GAGE, NY-ESO-1, SSX1, SSX2, SSX4, SYCP1, LUZP4	HCC patients (n=21; China)	RT-PCR	4/21 (19%) MAGEA1+, 5/21 (24%) MAGEA3+, 1/21 (4.8%) MAGEA4+, 8/21 (38%) GAGE+, 0/21 (0%) NY-ESO-1+, 8/21 (38%) SSX1+, 2/21 (9.5%) SSX2+, 2/21



				(9.5%) SSX4+, 6/21 (29%) SYCP1+, 4/21 (19%) LUZP4+
Wang, et al. J Immunol. 2002 [37]	MAGEC2, TFDP3	HCC patients (n=20; China)	RT-PCR	14/20 (70%) MAGEC2+, 5/17 (29.4%) TFDP3+
de Wit, et al. Int J Cancer. 2002 [38]	DSCR8	HCC cell lines (Hep3B, HepG2, PLC/RPF/5, Huh7)	RT-PCR	1/4 cell lines DSCR8+
Ono, et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2001 [39]	ACRBP	HCC patients (n=5; Japan)	RT-PCR	2/5 (40%) ACRBP+
Chen, et al. Cancer Lett. 2001 [40]	SSX1, SSX2, SSX4, SSX5, SYCP1, NY-ESO-1	HCC patients (n=30; Taiwan)	RT-PCR	24/30 (80%) SSX1+, 14/30 (46.7%) SSX2+, 22/30 (73.3%) SSX4+, 10/30 (33.3%) SSX5+, 2/30 (6.7%) SYCP1+, 11/30 (36.7%) NY-ESO-1+

**Table S4.** Frequency table of healthy liver tissues (n=21) expressing mRNA of the CTAs. Colors correlate to the percentage of positive healthy liver tissues.

	mRNA+ healthy liver (%)		mRNA+ healthy liver (%)
CAGE1	0.0	MAGEA10	0.0
CBLL2	42.9	MAGEB1	19.0
CCDC83	0.0	MAGEB2	0.0
CPXCR1	0.0	MAGEB3	28.6
CSAG2/3	85.7	MAGEB6	28.6
CT45	14.3	MAGEC1	4.8
CT47A1	0.0	MAGEC2	0.0
Cxorf48	0.0	NYESO1	0.0
DDX53	47.6	PAGE1	0.0
DPPA2	0.0	PAGE5	100.0
DUSP21	23.8	PASD1	0.0
FAM46D	0.0	PLAC1	0.0
FATE1	33.3	RNF17	4.8
FBXO39	100.0	SAGE1	0.0
FMR1NB	0.0	SLCO6A1	0.0
FTHL17	42.9	SPANXA	66.7
GAGE1	23.8	SPANXC	38.1
HORMAD1	100.0	SPANXN3	0.0
LUZP4	0.0	SYCP1	47.6
MAGEA1	0.0	TEKT5	100.0
MAGEA2	23.8	TFDP3	33.3
MAGEA3	14.3	TPPP2	100.0
MAGEA4	0.0	TSPY	0.0
MAGEA8	0.0	ZCCHC13	38.1
MAGEA9	0.0		

**Table S5.** Expression of excluded CTAs in HCC patients and in cirrhotic liver tissues without malignancy.

	mRNA-positive HCC (%) <sup>1</sup>	mean in mRNA+ HCC (range) <sup>2</sup>	Relative expression HCC (compared to testis) <sup>3</sup>	mRNA-positive TFL (%) <sup>4</sup>	mean in mRNA+ TFL (range) <sup>5</sup>	Relative expression TFL (compared to testis) <sup>6</sup>	mRNA-positive cirrhotic tissue <sup>7</sup>
CCDC83	0.00			0.00			0
CPXCR1	2.02	0.001 (0.001-0.001)	0.00378	0.00			0
Cxorf48	8.25	0.157 (0.002-0.991)	1.839	2.04	0.012 (0.001-0.023)	0.139	2.9
DPPA2	1.03	0.135 (0.135-0.135)	1.204	0.00			0
FAM46D	5.15	0.003 (0.002-0.004)	0.058	0.00			2.9
FMR1NB	6.19	0.031 (0.002-0.124)	0.022	1.02	0.088 (0.088-0.088)	0.062	0
LUZP4	6.19	0.106 (0.001-0.49)	0.242	1.02	0.279 (0.279-0.279)	0.636	0
MAGEA4	6.19	0.803 (0.001-2.559)	28.036	0.00			0
MAGEA8	3.09	0.014 (0.004-0.022)	5.115	0.00			0
PASD1	2.02	0.017 (0.007-0.026)	0.007	2.00	0.02 (0.019-0.021)	0.009	0
PLAC1	4.12	0.014 (0.001-0.041)	0.146	0.00			0
RNF17	21.65	0.053 (0.001-0.507)	0.04570	13.27	0.023 (0.002-0.134)	0.01964	5.7
SAGE1	4.12	0.086 (0.008-0.15)	0.505	3.06	0.19 (0.006-0.543)	1.117	0
SPANXN3	1.01	0.004 (0.004-0.004)	52.644	3.00	0.002 (0.001-0.003)	27.174	0.0

<sup>1</sup>Percentage of hepatocellular carcinomas (HCC) expressing mRNA of the excluded CTAs – meaning a Ct-value <35 and relative expression > 0.001 (n=100); <sup>2</sup>Mean relative expression (relative to the geometric mean of the 3 household genes- GUSB, HPRT1, PMM1) level in HCCs expressing the CTA and range; <sup>3</sup>Mean relative expression of the CTA in HCC expressing the CTA, relative to the relative mean expression in 3 testis tissues; <sup>4</sup>Percentage of paired tumor-free liver tissues (TFL) expressing mRNA of the excluded CTAs (n=100); <sup>5</sup>Mean relative expression level in TFLs expressing the CTA and range; <sup>6</sup>Mean relative expression of the CTA in TFL expressing the CTA, relative to the relative mean expression in 3 testis tissues; <sup>7</sup>Percentage of non-cancerous cirrhotic liver tissues expressing the CTA (n=35)

**Table S6.** Patient characteristics of HCC-patients included in protein expression analysis.

Characteristic	HCC patients (n=76)
<b>Age at surgery (years)</b>	
Mean ± SD	60.4 ± 14.4
Median (range)	64 (16-82)
<b>Sex – no. (%)</b>	
Male	47 (61.8)
Female	29 (38.2)
<b>Race – no. (%)</b>	
White	64 (84.2)
African	6 (7.9)
Asian	5 (6.6)
Not reported	1 (1.3)
<b>Etiology – no. (%)</b>	
No known liver disease	21 (27.6)
Alcohol	17 (22.4)
Hepatitis B	9 (11.8)
NASH	8 (10.5)
Hepatitis C + Alcohol	6 (7.9)
Hepatitis B + Alc/HepC/HepD/NASH	6 (7.9)
Hepatitis C	5 (6.6)
Fibrolamellar HCC	3 (4.0)

Hemochromatosis + NASH	1 (1.3)
Autoimmune hepatitis	-
Primary sclerosing cholangitis	-
<b>Hepatitis status – no. (%)</b>	
Hepatitis B or C positive	26 (34.2)
Chronic Hepatitis B	15 (19.7)
Chronic Hepatitis C	12 (15.8)
<b>Cirrhosis – no. (%)</b>	
Yes	23 (30.3)
No	53 (69.7)
<b>Tumor differentiation – no. (%)</b>	
Good	8 (10.5)
Moderate	41 (54.0)
Poor	14 (18.4)
Unknown	13 (17.1)
<b>Vascular invasion – no. (%)</b>	
Yes	40 (52.6)
No	29 (38.2)
Unknown	7 (9.2)
<b>Number of lesions – no. (%)</b>	
1	40 (52.6)
>1	36 (47.4)
Median (range)	1 (1-11)
<b>Size of largest lesion (cm)</b>	
Mean ± SD	7.4 ± 5.2
Median (range)	6.1 (1-24)
<b>AFP level before resection (ug/l)</b>	
Mean ± SD	64965 ± 401956
Median (range)	9.5 (2-3118700)

**Table S7.** Cox regression analysis of HCC recurrence and HCC-specific survival based on CTA protein expression in TFL.

Variable	Early recurrence				HCC-specific survival			
	Univariate analysis		Multivariate analysis		Univariate analysis		Multivariate analysis	
	HR (95% CI)	p-value	HR (95% CI)	p-value	HR (95% CI)	p-value	HR (95% CI)	p-value
≥1 CTA in TFL	1.9 (0.9-3.9)	0.092	2.5 (1.2-5.2)	0.02	2.6 (1.1-6.1)	0.03	3.8 (1.5-9.6)	0.004
Number of CTAs in TFL (numeric)	1.9 (0.98-3.7)	0.058			2.7 (1.2-6)	0.012		
>2 tumors	4.7 (2-11)	0.00029	3.7 (1.5-8.9)	0.004	2.6 (0.9-7.2)	0.066		
Chronic viral hepatitis	3.4 (1.6-7.1)	0.0011	2.8 (1.3-6.2)	0.01	3.1 (1.3-7.3)	0.01	4.4 (1.8-11.1)	0.001
Vascular invasion	1.6 (0.73-3.7)	0.23			1.3 (0.5-3.1)	0.57		
Tumor > 5 cm	1.1 (0.49-2.3)	0.89			1.7 (0.7-4.5)	0.26		
AFP > 400 ug/l	1.9 (0.84-4.3)	0.12			2.2 (0.9-5.6)	0.083		

Abbreviations: HR, hazard ratio; CI, confidence interval; CTA, cancer-testis antigen; TFL, tumor-free liver; AFP , al-  
phafetoprotein

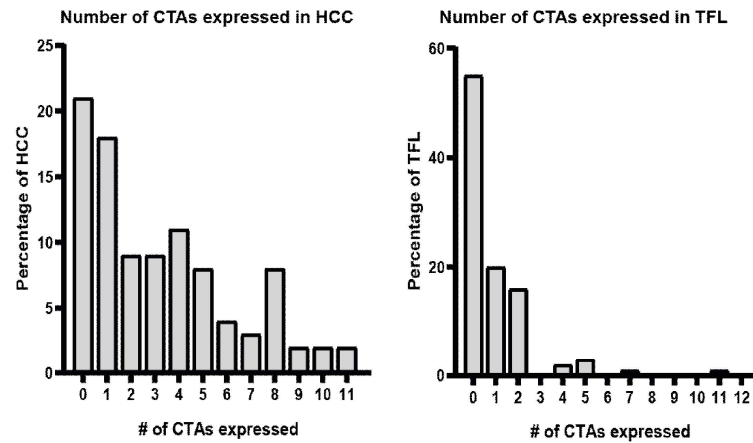
**Table S8.** Cox regression analysis of HCC recurrence and HCC-specific survival based on CTA mRNA expression in HCC tumors.

Variable	HCC recurrence		HCC survival	
	Univariate analysis		Univariate analysis	
	HR (95% CI)	p-value	HR (95% CI)	p-value
≥1 CTA in tumor	1.8 (0.86-3.6)	0.12	1 (0.41-2.6)	0.94
≥2 CTAs in tumor	1.1 (0.65-1.9)	0.67	0.86 (0.39-1.9)	0.7
≥3 CTAs in tumor	1.1 (0.62-1.8)	0.85	0.74 (0.34-1.6)	0.47
Number of CTAs in tumor (numeric)	1 (0.96-1.1)	0.29	1 (0.87-1.1)	1
>1 tumor	1.2 (0.68-2)	0.56	1.1 (0.49-2.4)	0.83
>2 tumors	2.6 (1.3-4.9)	<b>0.0042</b>	1.8 (0.69-4.9)	0.22
Cirrhosis	1.6 (0.89-2.8)	0.12	1.5 (0.66-3.4)	0.33
Chronic viral hepatitis	2.3 (1.3-4)	<b>0.0031</b>	3.3 (1.5-7.2)	<b>0.0032</b>
Vascular invasion	1.3 (0.72-2.3)	0.41	2.2 (0.96-4.9)	0.063
Tumor > 5 cm	1.3 (0.74-2.3)	0.37	2.3 (0.9-5.7)	0.081
AFP > 200 ug/l	1.9 (1-3.4)	<b>0.034</b>	2.7 (1.2-6)	<b>0.013</b>
AFP > 400 ug/l	2.4 (1.3-4.5)	<b>0.0051</b>	3.3 (1.5-7.3)	<b>0.0038</b>

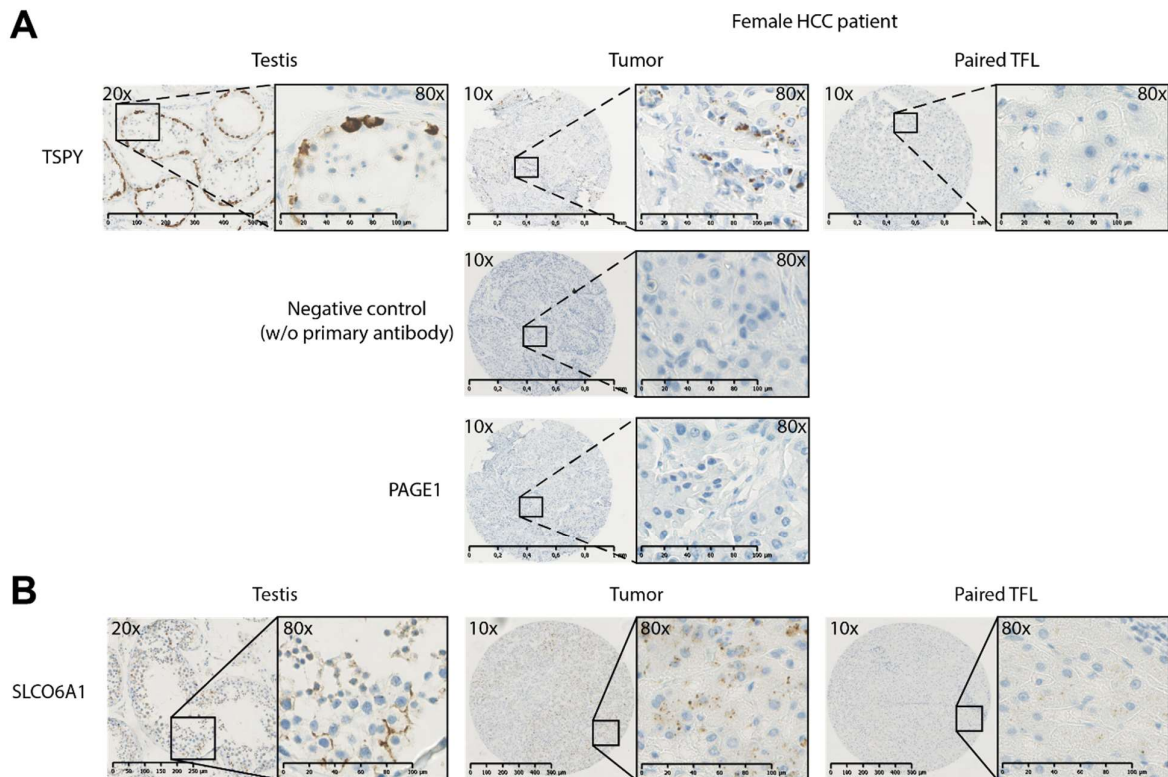
Abbreviations: HR, hazard ratio; CI, confidence interval; CTA, cancer-testis antigen; AFP, alphafetoprotein

**Table S9.** Antibodies used for immunohistochemistry.

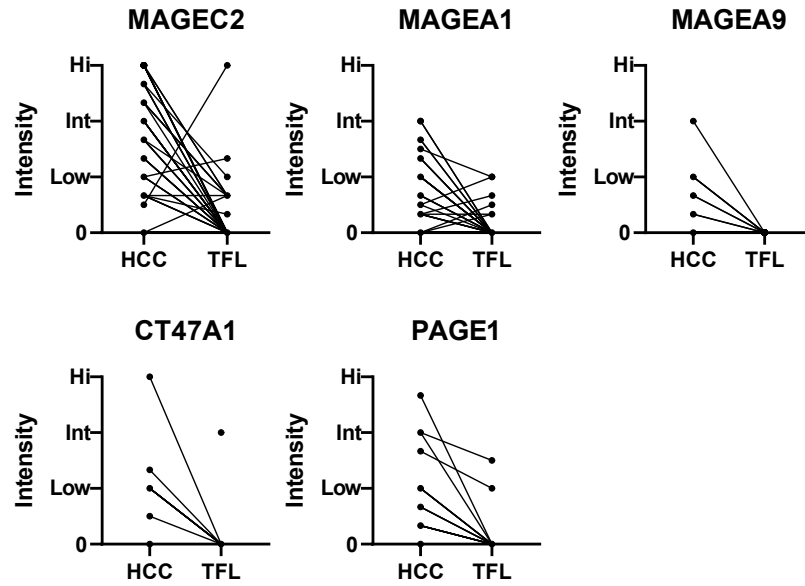
Antibody	Host Species	Dilution	Company	Clone	Lot number	Procedure	Ab incubation at 37°C
PAGE1	Rabbit	1:1000	Sigma-Aldrich	Polyclonal	R04065	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
TSPY	Rabbit	1:200	Sigma-Aldrich	Polyclonal	R59337	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
MAGEA9	Mouse	1:50	Prof. Y. Fradet, Québec, Canada [41]	14A11	N/A	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
MAGEC2	Rabbit	1:500	Sigma-Aldrich	Polyclonal	A115364	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
CT47A1	Rabbit	1:8000	Sigma-Aldrich	Polyclonal	R39285	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
MAGEA1	Mouse	1:50	Santa Cruz	MA454	B0507	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
MAGEB2	Rabbit	1:500	Sigma-Aldrich	Polyclonal	R109336	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
SLCO6A1	Rabbit	1:200	Sigma-Aldrich	Polyclonal	R72094	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes
MAGEC1	Mouse	1:3200	Santa Cruz	CT7-33	A1807	Optiview CC1 32'	32 minutes



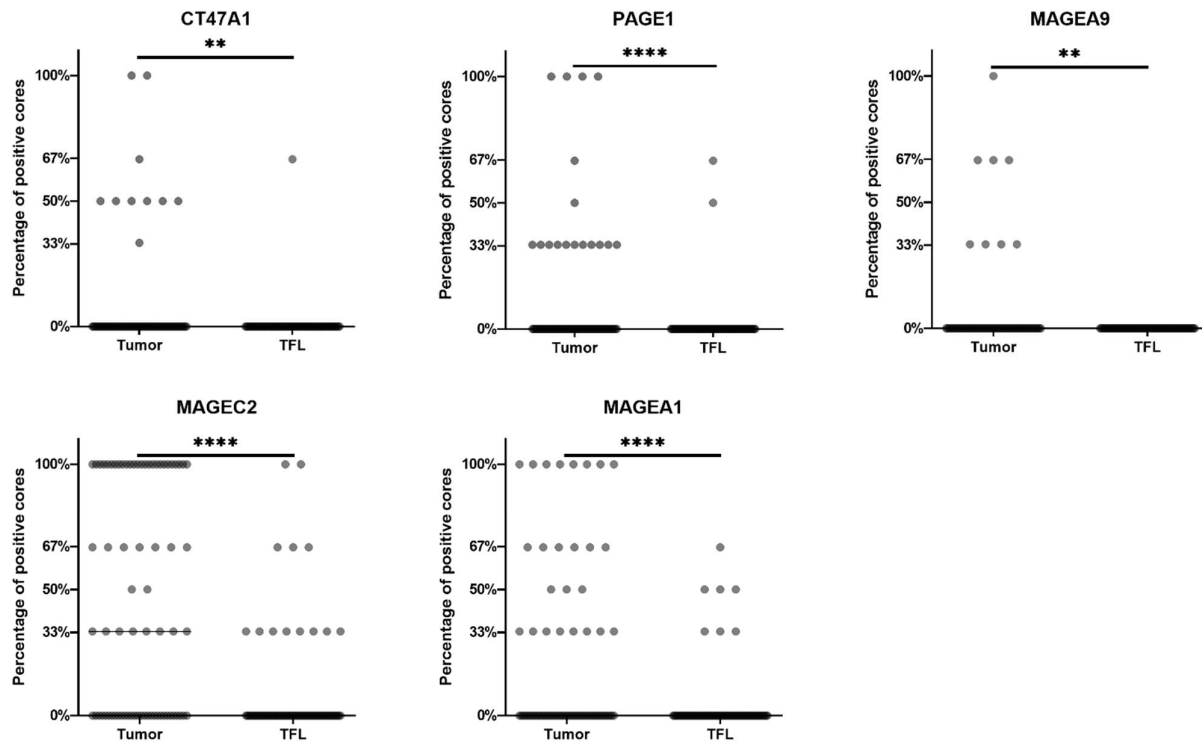
**Figure S1.** Number of CTAs co-expressed in HCC tumors and TFL, based on mRNA expression.



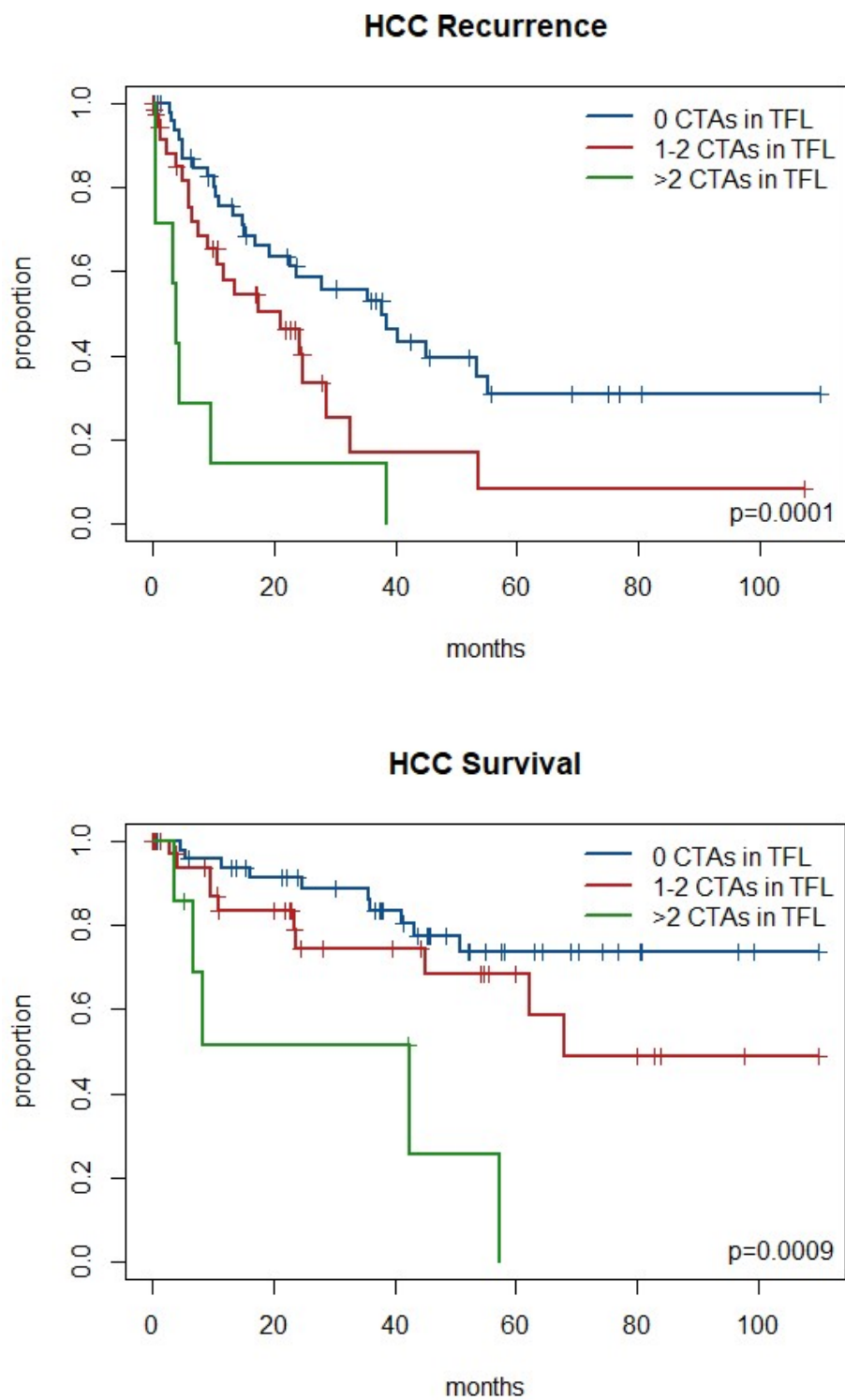
**Figure S2.** TSPY expression in female HCC tumors and SLCO6A1 expression. **A.** TSPY protein expression was determined by IHC. TSPY is expressed in spermatogonia of normal testis, as expected [42]. However, TSPY protein expression was also found in two female HCC patients, of which one example is shown above. The staining is absent in the negative control and in the PAGE1 stained core. TSPY is encoded by the y-chromosome, expression in women is thus biologically impossible. **B.** Representative example of immunohistochemical stains of SLCO6A1 in testis, a positive HCC tumor tissue and the paired TFL tissue.



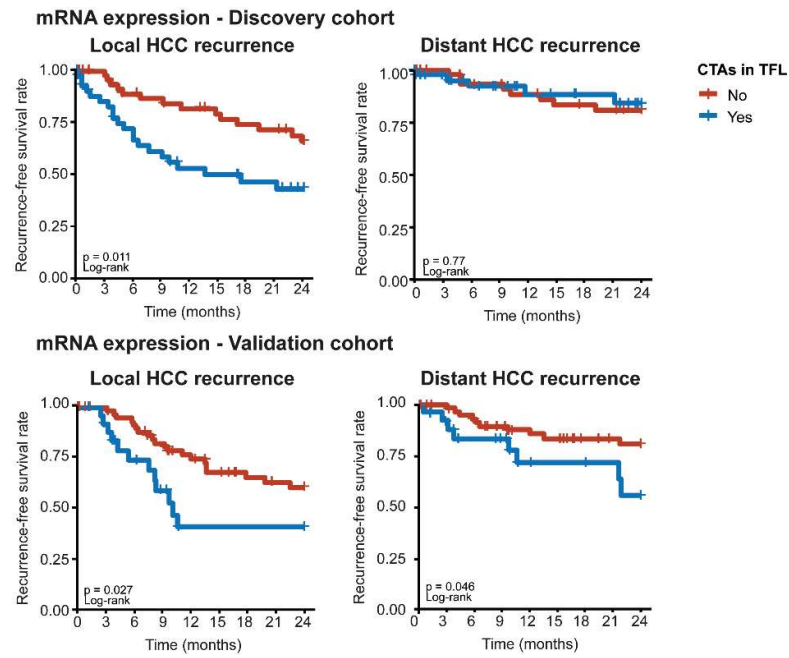
**Figure S3.** Protein expression of CTAs in HCC tumors paired tumor free liver. TMAs of tumor and TFL tissues were immunohistochemically stained to study the protein expression of aforementioned CTAs. The average intensity scores of three different tissue cores is depicted.



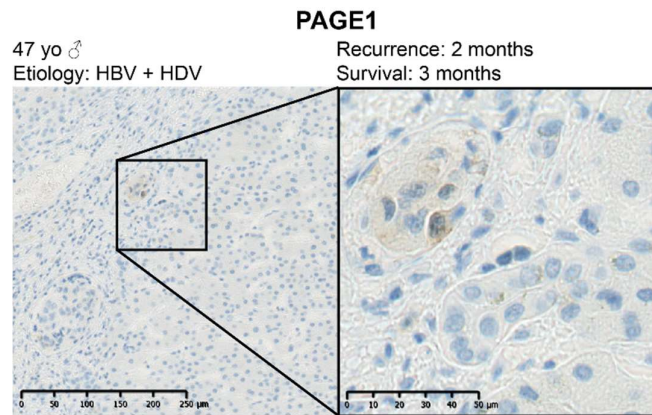
**Figure S4.** Proteins are focally expressed in most tumors. Protein expression was determined on TMAs, which had 3 cores of each tumor and TFL. The graphs display the percentage of cores containing protein-expressing cells (a score  $\geq 1A$ ). Most tumors and TFL express the proteins focally, illustrated by not all cores being positive. Wilcoxon signed-rank test. \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , \*\*\*\*  $P < 0.0001$ .



**Figure S5.** HCC recurrence and HCC-specific survival by number of CTAs expressed in the discovery cohort (based on mRNA expression) in TFL. Log-rank test.

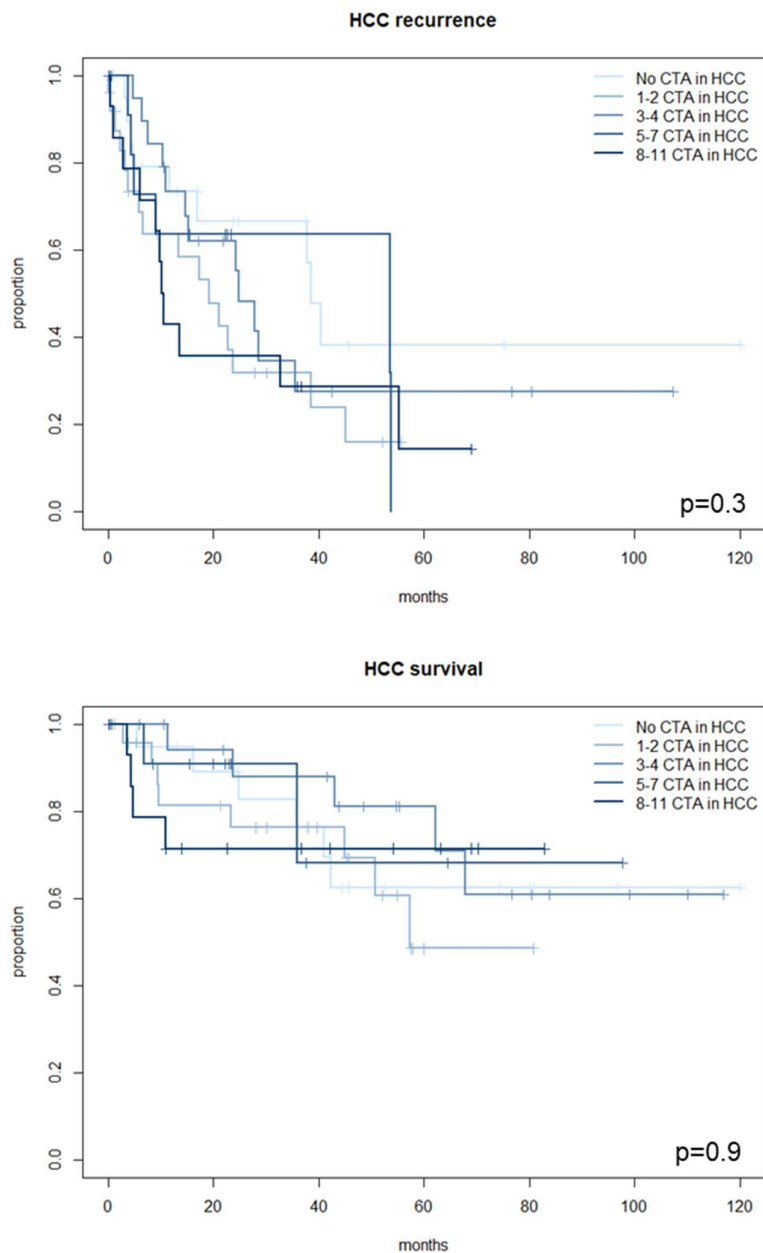


**Figure S6.** Local and distant HCC recurrence by expression of CTAs in TFL in the discovery and validation cohort. Log-rank test.



**Figure S7.** PAGE1 expressing tumor nodule in TFL. Example of IHC staining of PAGE1 protein expression in an intravascular tumor nodule in TFL, and accompanying patient data.





**Figure S8.** HCC recurrence and HCC-specific survival by CTA mRNA-expression in tumor tissue in the discovery cohort. Log-rank test.

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