Table 6

Risk factors for the development of hepatocellular carcinoma

Age	> 60[48]
Sex	Male sex[48]
Chronic viral hepatitis (B and C)	Worldwide approximately half of cases of HCC are attributed to hepatitis B and a third to hepatitis C[48] Co-infection with HIV further increases the risk of HCC[49]
Cirrhosis	One third of cirrhotic patients will develop HCC during their lifetime[50]
Alcohol	Excessive alcohol consumption is a risk factor for HCC independent of cirrhosis[48,51]
Metabolic syndrome	Diabetes, obesity and fatty liver[51,52]
Smoking	Smoking[51,53]
Haemochromatosis	Up to half of patients with untreated iron overload will develop HCC in their lifetime, although most patients will be non-cirrhotic at diagnosis[54]
Toxins	Aflatoxin B,[55] anabolic steroids[56]
Genetic predisposition	BRCA1/BRCA2/EGF gene[57,58]