Table1

Risk factors for the development of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)

Risk factor	
Age	> 60[29]
Gender	Male[29]
Hepatitis B and C	Worldwide approximately half of cases of HCC are attributed to hepatitis B and a third to hepatitis C[29] Co-infection with HIV further increases risk[30]
Cirrhosis	One third of cirrhotic patients will develop HCC during their lifetime[31]
Alcohol	Alcohol misuse is a risk factor for HCC independent of cirrhosis[29,32]
Metabolic syndrome	Diabetes, obesity and fatty liver[32,33]
Smoking[32,34]	
Haemochromatosis	Up to half of patients with iron overload will develop HCC in their lifetime, although most will be cirrhotic at the time of HCC diagnosis[35]
Toxins	Aflatoxin B,[36] anabolic steroids [37]
Genetic predisposition	BRCA 1/ BRCA 2/ EGF gene [38,39]