


Is the use of microwave ablation more effective and/or safe than radiofrequency ablation in the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma?

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QUESTION: Is the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma more effective and/or safe with the use of microwave ablation than with radiofrequency ablation?¹

Answer: There are no differences between the use of microwave ablation in comparison with radiofrequency ablation in the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma lesions ≤ 5.0 cm regarding the outcomes: local recurrence, mortality, complications, and

progression of the disease. This means that it is not known whether the efficacy or safety is greater or SMALLER than those of the treatment already in use (radiofrequency). The quality of the evidence is very low.

REFERENCE

1. Anzai A, Utinom A, Katayama H, Spir I, Lemos M, Nery M, Anhesini M, Tiezzi O, Spir P, Otani P, Bernardo W - Is the use of microwave ablation more effective and/or safe than radiofrequency ablation in the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma? - REV ASSOC MED BRAS 2020; 66(4): 392-399