

**Table S2.** Association between the clinicopathological characteristics of HCC patients and the circulating levels of TERRA in HCC patients

|                              | Number of patients | High TERRA levels<br>Ct $\leq$ 22.81 | Low TERRA levels<br>Ct $>$ 22.81 | P-value |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| <b>Gender</b>                |                    |                                      |                                  |         |
| Male                         | 21                 | 10                                   | 11                               | 0.593   |
| Female                       | 4                  | 3                                    | 1                                |         |
| <b>Age<sup>#</sup></b>       |                    |                                      |                                  |         |
| $\leq$ 73 years              | 12                 | 7                                    | 5                                | 0.434   |
| $>$ 73 years                 | 13                 | 5                                    | 8                                |         |
| <b>Grading</b>               |                    |                                      |                                  |         |
| G1 – G2                      | 16                 | 9                                    | 7                                | 0.688   |
| G2/G3-G3                     | 9                  | 4                                    | 5                                |         |
| <b>Hepatitis B infection</b> |                    |                                      |                                  |         |
| Positive                     | 3                  | 1                                    | 2                                | 0.593   |
| Negative                     | 22                 | 12                                   | 10                               |         |
| <b>Hepatitis C infection</b> |                    |                                      |                                  |         |
| Positive                     | 14                 | 8                                    | 6                                | 0.999   |
| Negative                     | 11                 | 6                                    | 5                                |         |
| <b>Cirrhosis</b>             |                    |                                      |                                  |         |
| Yes                          | 13                 | 7                                    | 6                                | 0.999   |
| No                           | 11                 | 6                                    | 5                                |         |

<sup>#</sup> The median value of years was used as cutoff point.

The associations between the clinicopathological characteristics of HCC patients and the circulating levels of TERRA were calculated using Fisher's exact test.