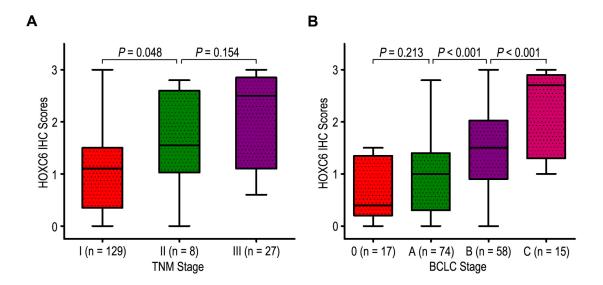
## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Table S1. Correlation of HOXC6 protein expression with clinicopathological parameters.

Characteristics	No. of	HOXC6 expression (%)		
	patients	Low	High	- P-value
Gender				
Female	21	10 (47.6%)	11 (52.4%)	0.900
Male	143	66 (46.2%)	77 (53.8%)	
Age (years)				
≤ 50	89	36 (40.4%)	53 (59.6%)	0.099
> 50	75	40 (53.3%)	35 (46.7%)	
AFP (ng/ml)				
$\leq$ 400	96	51 (53.1%)	45 (46.9%)	0.038
> 400	68	25 (36.8%)	43 (63.2%)	
HBsAg				
Negative	11	5 (45.5%)	6 (54.5%)	0.951
Positive	153	71 (46.4%)	82 (53.6%)	
GGT (U/l)		` ,	` '	
≤ 50	90	47 (52.2%)	43 (47.8%)	0.096
> 50	74	29 (39.2%)	45 (60.8%)	
Liver cirrhosis	, -	- (	- (2000)	
No	36	22 (61.1%)	14 (38.9%)	0.044
Yes	128	54 (42.2%)	74 (57.8%)	0.011
Tumor size (cm)	120	0 . ( .2.2 / 0)	7 . (67.670)	
≤ 5	96	55 (57.3%)	41 (42.7%)	0.001
> 5 > 5	68	21 (30.9%)	47 (69.1%)	0.001
Tumor number	00	21 (30.570)	17 (05.170)	
Single	151	71 (47.0%)	80 (53.0%)	0.553
Multiple	131	5 (38.5%)	8 (61.5%)	0.555
Satellite nodule	13	3 (30.370)	0 (01.570)	
No	142	70 (49.3%)	72 (50.7%)	0.054
Yes	22	6 (27.3%)	16 (72.7%)	0.034
Tumor margin	22	0 (21.3/0)	10 (72.770)	
< 2	102	48 (47.1%)	54 (52.9%)	0.813
< 2 ≥ 2	62	28 (45.2%)	34 (54.8%)	0.013
Z Tumor differentiation	02	40 (43.470)	34 (34.070)	
	116	51 (16 60/)	62 (52 40/)	0.022
I-II III-IV	48	54 (46.6%)	62 (53.4%)	0.933
	40	22 (45.8%)	26 (54.2%)	
Vascular invasion	120	60 (40 60/)	70 (50 40/)	0.046
No Voc	139	69 (49.6%)	70 (50.4%)	0.046
Yes	25	7 (28.0%)	18 (72.0%)	
TNM stage	120	(5 (50 40/)	(4 (40 (0/)	0.067
I	129	65 (50.4%)	64 (49.6%)	0.067
II	8	4 (50.0%)	4 (50.0%)	
III	27	7 (25.9%)	20 (74.1%)	
BCLC stage	. <u> </u>	0 (50 00/)	0 (4= 100)	
0	17	9 (52.9%)	8 (47.1%)	0.005
A	74	44 (59.5%)	30 (40.5%)	
В	58	20 (34.5%)	38 (65.5%)	
C	15	3 (20.0%)	12 (80.0%)	

**Table S2. Patient characteristics.** 

Variable	No. of patients (%)	
No. of patients	164 (100)	
Age: Median [range], y	46 [13-77]	
Gender		
Female	21 (12.8)	
Male	143 (87.2)	
HBsAg		
Negative	11 (6.7)	
Positive	153 (93.3)	
AFP: Median [range], ng/mL	142.4 [0.6-121000]	
GGT: Median [range], U/l	42.6 [4.5-610.5]	
Tumor size: Median [range], cm	4.0 [1.0-18.0]	
Liver cirrhosis	. ,	
No	36 (22.0)	
Yes	128 (78.0)	
Tumor number	- ( )	
Single	151 (92.1)	
Multiple	13 (7.9)	
Tumor margin	- ()	
< 2	102 (62.2)	
$\geq 2$	62 (37.8)	
Satellite nodule	,	
No	142 (86.6)	
Yes	22 (13.4)	
Tumor differentiation	,	
I	7 (4.3)	
II	109 (66.5)	
III	42 (25.6)	
IV	6 (3.6)	
Vascular invasion		
No	139 (87.8)	
Yes	25 (12.2)	
TNM stage		
I	129 (78.7)	
II	8 (4.9)	
III	27 (16.4)	
BCLC stage	` '	
0	17 (10.4)	
A	74 (45.1)	
В	58 (35.4)	
C	15 (9.1)	



**Figure S1. Comparsion of HOXC6 expression by TNM stage and BCLC stage.** HOXC6 expression is gradually increased as tumors progress in TNM stage (A) and BCLC stage (B). Statistical analysis was performed by Student's *t*-test.