

Region 9 HCC Downstaging Protocol:
Revised 6.15.12

Patients meeting the following criteria will receive 22 points and be eligible for upgrades (requiring a narrative) every 3 months as long as they remain in criteria.

Entry Criteria (prior to downstaging: patients cannot be downstaged into San Francisco criteria)

- * No vascular invasion on CT or MRI imaging
- * 1 lesion: >5 but ≤ 8 cm
- * 2 or 3 lesions:
 - None >5 cm AND
 - Total diameter of all lesions ≤ 8 cm
- * 4 or 5 lesions
 - None >3 cm, with a total tumor burden of ≤ 8 cm
- * A resection or biopsy specimen macro-vascular invasion the patient is not eligible for tumor points.
- * Candidates will undergo CT or MRI imaging 1 month after downstaging (TACE, ablation, Y90, RT, etc) to assess response to the procedure
- * Candidates will undergo repeat CT or MRI imaging at three months after downstaging and every 3 months thereafter.
- * Exception points will not be granted until ≥ 3 months after downstaging procedure with imaging studies which demonstrate that tumor burden is stable and within Milan (UNOS) criteria. Ablation sites without evidence of viable tumor are not considered to contain tumor.
- * Candidates who decompensate acutely secondary to any downstaging procedure are not eligible for tumor points unless they meet above criteria.
- * Chest CT scan and bone scan should be negative at the time of petitioning for HCC exception status.