

Table 6. Assessment of study methods for potential sources of bias in randomized trials of TACE in patients with early-stage hepatocellular carcinoma

Author, Year, Geographic setting, Years of enrollment	Sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants, personnel and outcome assessor	Incomplete outcome data	Selective outcome reporting	Other sources of bias	Summary assessment: Risk of Bias
Groupe d'Etude et de Traitement du Carcinome Hepatocellulaire, 1995 ⁵³ France, Belgium, Canada	Yes, randomized	Yes, centralized telephone center	Can't answer, no mention of blinding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Low
Lo, 2002 ⁵⁵ China	Unclear	No – sealed, but not necessarily opaque envelopes, not centralized	Can't answer, blinding not discussed	Yes, ITT. Censored patients lost to F/U	Yes	Yes	Unclear
Pelletier, 1990 ⁵⁴ France	Unclear	Probably yes, randomization and assignment done centrally at one center	Can't answer, no mention of blinding of radiologists and others that could have been blinded	can't answer, No mention of loss to follow-up	Yes	Yes	Unclear