**Table S9. Comparison of clinical characteristics between HCC patients and normal control population**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Characteristics | HCC Group | Normal control group | P-value |
| (n=80) | (n=120) |
| Gender (male/female) | 54/26 | 83/37 | 0.804 |
| Age (years) | 49.95±6.11 | 49.63±11.64 | 0.822 |
| Smoking history (%) | 40 (50.00) | 42 (35.00) | 0.052 |
| History of alcohol consumption (%) | 29 (36.25) | 38 (31.67) | 0.501 |
| miR-215-5p expression | 0.466±0.200 | 1.008±0.127 | <0.001\* |
| ZEB2 expression | 2.191±0.620 | 0.997±0.162 | <0.001\* |

Note: The measurement data were expressed as mean ± standard deviation, unpaired t-test was used between two groups, chi-square test was used for counting data, and *P* < 0.05 indicated a significant difference between the two groups.