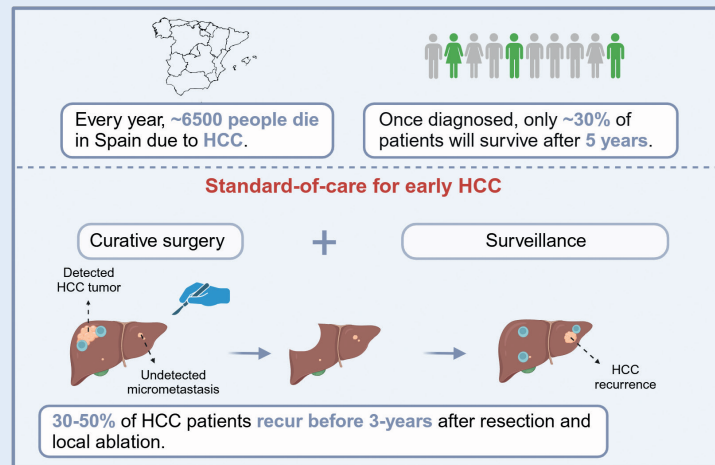
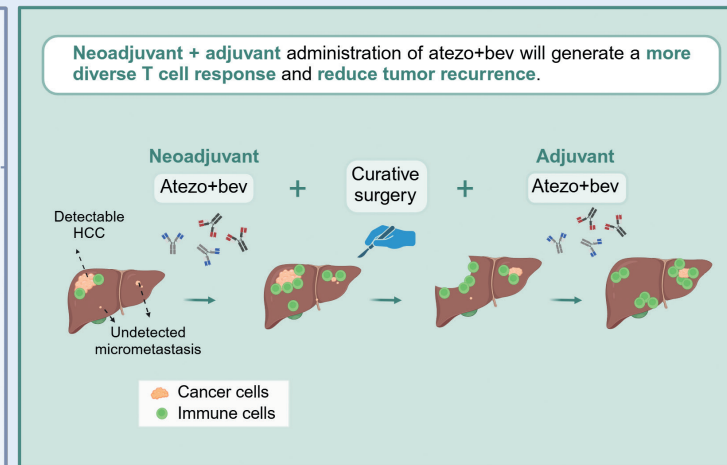


# ASPIRE-AECC (2024-2030) Rationale and Objectives

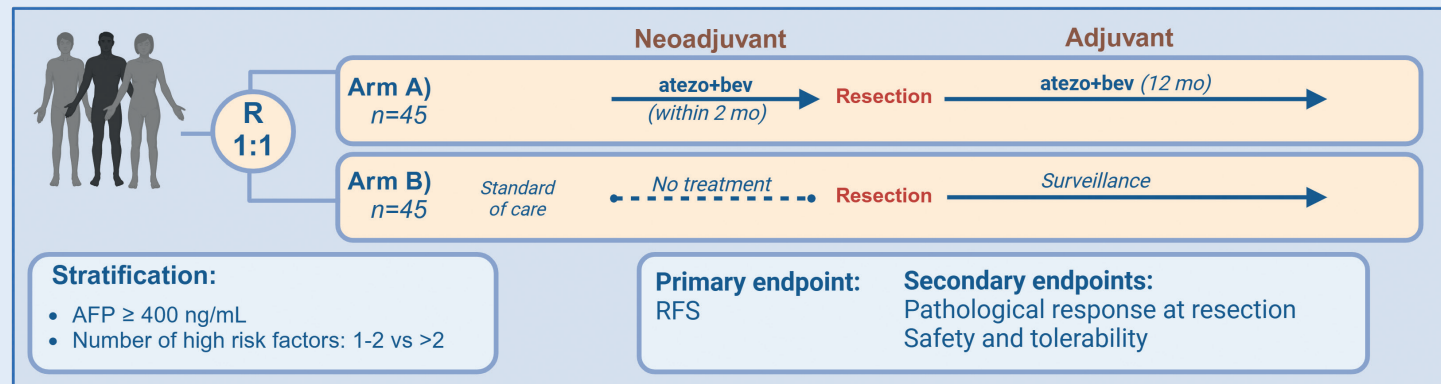
## State-of-the-art



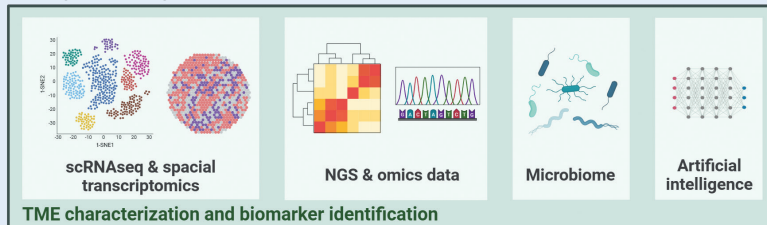
## Rationale



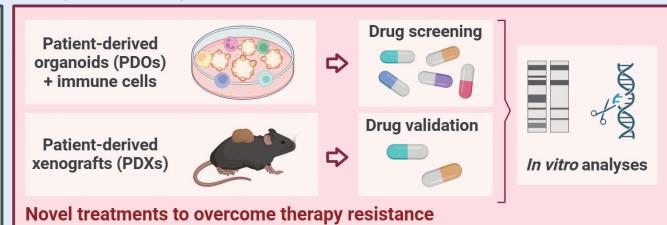
**Aim 1 - Phase II Clinical Study:** to assess the efficacy & safety of atezo+bev in the neoadjuvant/adjuvant setting in resectable high-risk HCC (AECC-HCC-trial).



**Aim 2 - Molecular Study:** To define the molecular determinants of recurrence in HCC-high-risk patients and to develop reliable tools predicting response to neoadjuvant + adjuvant atezo+bev alone.

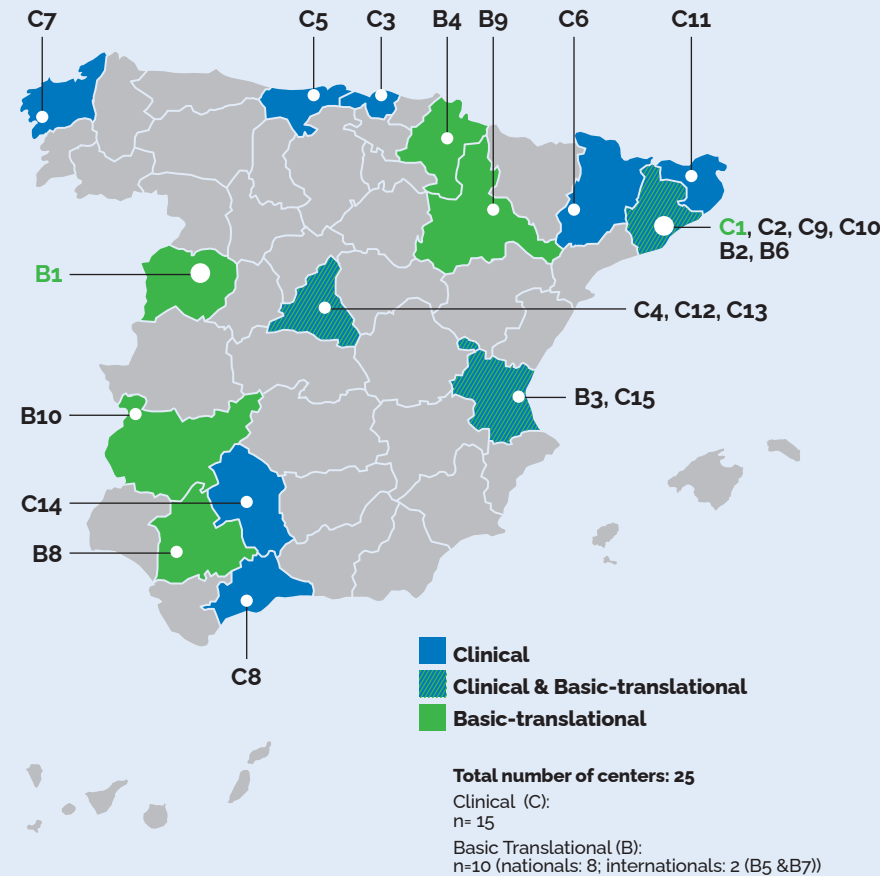


**Aim 3 - Experimental Study:** To develop cutting-edge experimental models to explore treatment resistance mechanisms and identify therapeutic strategies to overcome them.



# ASPIRE-AECC (2024-2030) Consortium, Institutions & Partners

Fig. 1. ASPIRE Consortium Institutions.



**Clinical**  
**Clinical & Basic-translational**  
**Basic-translational**

Total number of centers: 25  
Clinical (C): n=15  
Basic Translational (B): n=10 (nationals: 8; internationals: 2 (B5 & B7))

## Coordinators

**Josep M. Llovet.** IDIBAPS-HCB (referred as C1 in pgs. 29-30), Barcelona  
**Xosé R. Bustelo.** CIC (B1), Salamanca

## Steering Committee Clinicians

**Beatriz Mínguez.** Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron / VHIR (C2), Barcelona  
**Mikel Gastaca.** Hospital Universitario de Cruces (C3), Vizcaya  
**Ana M<sup>a</sup> Matilla.** Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón (C4), Madrid  
**Carlos Lopez.** Hospital Universitario Marqués de Valdecilla (C5), Santander  
**Manel Juan.** IDIBAPS-HCB (C1), Barcelona  
**Alejandro Forner.** IDIBAPS-HCB (C1), Barcelona  
**Robert Montal.** IRB Lleida (C6), Lleida

## Basic-translational

**Manel Esteller.** Institut de Recerca contra la Leucèmia Josep Carreras (B2), Barcelona  
**María J Vicent.** Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (B3), Valencia  
**Matías Ávila.** CIMA, Universidad de Navarra (B4), Navarra  
**Roser Pinyol.** FRCB-IDIBAPS-HCB (C1), Barcelona

## Clinical Team

(in alphabetical order of Institutions, except for centres of the Steering Committee)

**Ramón Charco.** Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron (C2), Barcelona  
**Alberto Muñoz.** Hospital Universitario de Cruces (C3), Vizcaya  
**Arturo Colón.** Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón (C4), Madrid  
**Juan Carlos Rodríguez-SanJuan.** Hospital Universitario Marqués de Valdecilla (C5), Santander  
**Javier Castroagudín.** Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago de Compostela (C7), A Coruña  
**Evaristo Varo.** Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Santiago de Compostela (C7), A Coruña  
**Raúl Andrade.** Hospital Vithas Málaga (C8), Málaga  
**Mariona Calvo.** Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge / IDIBELL (C9), Barcelona  
**Emilio Ramos.** Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge / IDIBELL (C9), Barcelona  
**María Bermúdez-Ramos.** Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol (C10), Barcelona  
**Esteban Cugat.** Hospital Universitari Germans Trias i Pujol (C10), Barcelona  
**Marga Sala.** Hospital Universitari Josep Trueta / IDIBGI (C11), Girona  
**Santiago López-Ben.** Hospital Universitari Josep Trueta / IDIBGI (C11), Girona  
**Montiel Jiménez.** Hospital Universitario Fundación Jiménez Díaz (C12), Madrid

**Ángela Lamarca.** Hospital Universitario Fundación Jiménez Díaz (C12), Madrid  
**José Luis Lledó.** Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal (C13), Madrid  
**Javier Nuño.** Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal (C13), Madrid  
**Manuel Rodríguez-Perálvarez.** Hospital Universitario Reina Sofía / IMIBIC (C14), Córdoba  
**Marina Berenguer.** Hospital Universitario y Politécnico La Fe / IISLAFE (C15), Valencia  
**Eva Montalvá-Orón.** Hospital Universitario y Politécnico La Fe / IISLAFE (C15), Valencia

## Basic/Translational Research Team

(ordered according to WPs)

**Daniel Benitez.** FRCB-IDIBAPS-HCB (C1), Madrid  
**Jessica Zucman-Rossi.** Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM) (B5), France  
**Toni Gabaldón.** Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB) (B6), Barcelona  
**Georg Zeller.** Leiden University Medical Center (B7), Netherlands  
**Joaquín Dopazo.** Fundación Progreso y Salud (B8), Sevilla  
**Carmen Berasain.** CIMA, Universidad de Navarra (B4), Navarra  
**Maite Fernández-Barrena.** CIMA, Universidad de Navarra (B4), Navarra  
**José M. García-Aznar.** Instituto de Investigación en Ingeniería de Aragón / Universidad de Zaragoza (UNIZAR) (B9), Zaragoza  
**Elena García-Gareta.** Instituto de Investigación en Ingeniería de Aragón / Universidad de Zaragoza (UNIZAR) (B9), Zaragoza  
**Javier González-Rico.** Universidad de Extremadura / UNEX (B10), Badajoz

## External Advisory Board

**Richard Finn.** Professor of Clinical Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, US  
**Helen Reeves.** Professor of Liver Cancer, Northern Institute for Cancer Research, Newcastle, UK  
**Yarchoan.** Associate Professor of Oncology at Johns Hopkins Cancer Center, US  
**Scott Friedman.** Director of Institute for Liver Research, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, US  
**Augusto Villanueva.** Associate Professor, Liver Cancer Program, Tisch Cancer Institute, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, US  
**Meritxell Huch.** Scientific Director of Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, Germany

**Neoadjuvant and adjuvant therapies to improve survival of HCC: ASPIRE project**

**AGENDA**

15:30-15:40

**Overview ASPIRE Project**

Chair: Josep M. Llovet

15:40-16:20

**Session 1: Presentation and Discussion of the Clinical Trial (Aim #1)**

Chair: Josep M. Llovet

Speaker: Ezequiel Mauro

Participants: Members of the Executive Committee (Beatriz Minguéz, Robert Montal, Alejandro Forner, Ana Matilla)

- Rationale
- Study design and endpoints
- Selection criteria
- Analysis plan
- Schedule of Activities
- Framework agreement between the centers

16:20-16:35

Coffee break

16:35-17:45

**Session 2: Translational Research**

Chair: Xosé R. Bustelo

16:35- 17:10

**Molecular and Biomarkers Study (Aim #2)**

Manel Esteller

scRNA-seq and spatial transcriptomics

Toni Gabaldón

Microbiome analysis

Joaquín Dopazo

Artificial intelligence applications

17:10-17:45

**Experimental Models and Drug Screening (Aim #3)**

José M. García Aznar

Organoids in microfluidics platforms

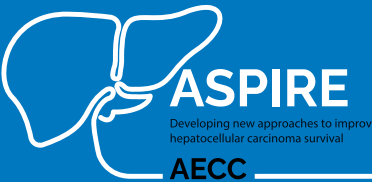
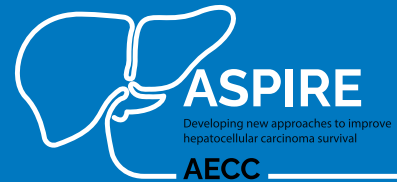
María Vicent

Drug screening methodologies

Carme Berasain

Organoids and PDX models

**Building the future of HCC research**



**ASPIRE-AECC**

Neoadjuvant-adjuvant immunotherapy to improve survival in hepatocellular carcinoma

**Building the future of HCC research**

