## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Comparative Efficacy of Cabozantinib and Ramucirumab After Sorafenib for Patients with

Hepatocellular Carcinoma and Alpha-fetoprotein ≥ 400 ng/mL: A Matching-Adjusted Indirect

Comparison

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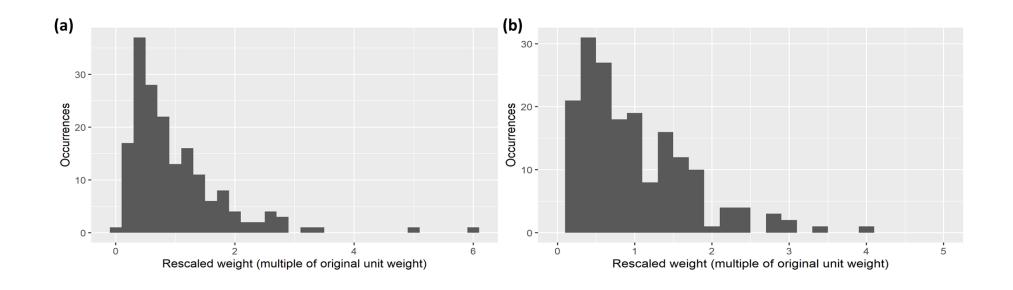
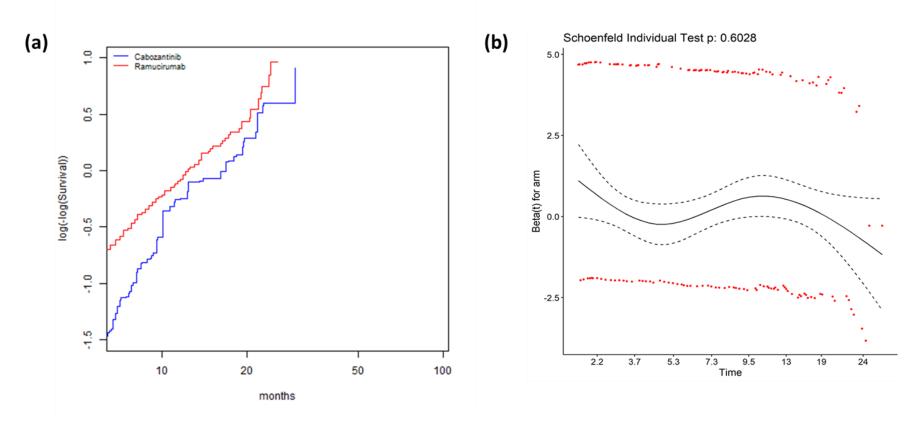


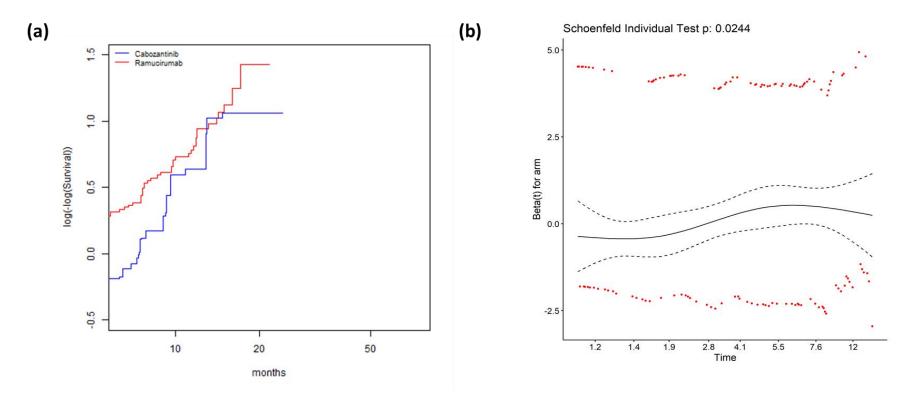
Fig. S1 Histograms of (rescaled) weights applied to the individual patient data from CELESTIAL for (a) the primary analysis and (b) the sensitivity analysis.

The histogram for the primary analysis (a) shows some very large, rescaled weights, with a maximum at 6. For the sensitivity analysis (b), the presence of extreme weights is reduced (the maximum rescaled weight is 4), and the rescaled weights are closer to 1, resulting in an approximate effective sample size for the sensitivity analysis that is very close to the original sample size. Although the sensitivity analysis, therefore, provides greater statistical power and precision than the primary analysis, it does not match patients on some characteristics that are considered to be clinically important effect modifiers (e.g., etiology nonviral, etiology hepatitis B, etiology hepatitis C and Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer stage B)



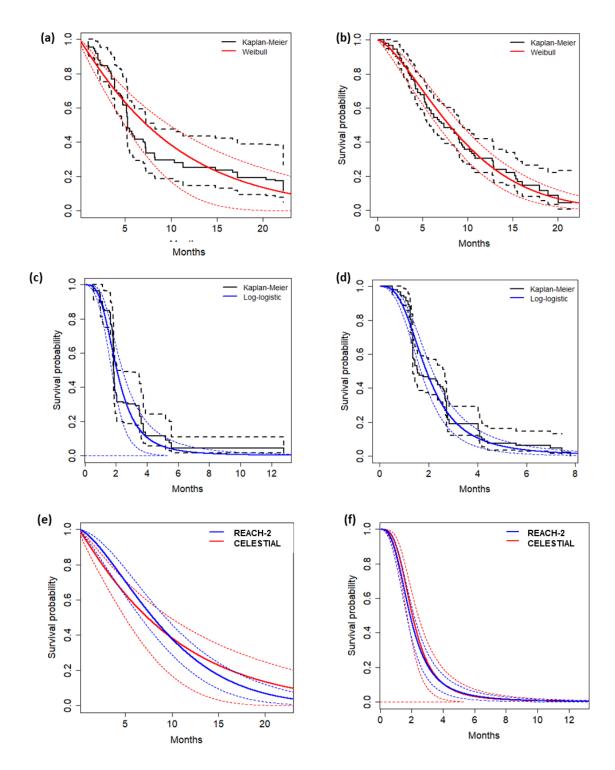
**Fig. S2** Proportional hazards assumption tests (**a**) Log cumulative hazard plot and (**b**) scaled Schoenfeld residuals and Grambsch–Therneau test for OS (primary analysis).

OS overall survival



**Fig. S3** Proportional hazards assumption tests (a) Log cumulative hazard plot and (b) scaled Schoenfeld residuals and Grambsch–Therneau test for PFS (primary analysis).

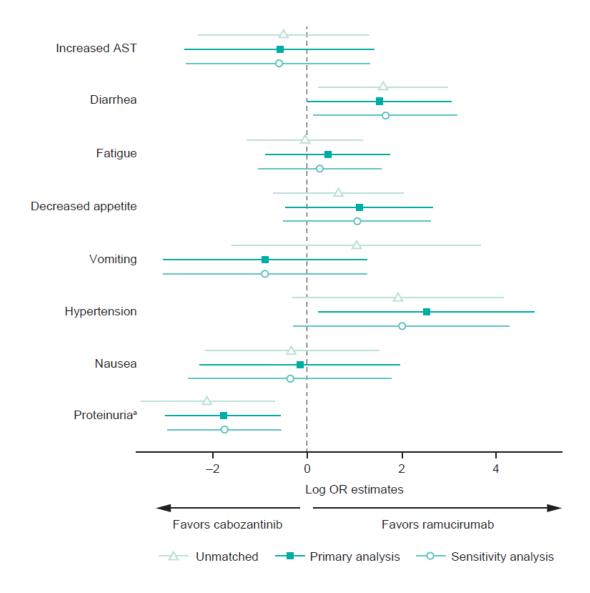
PFS progression-free survival



**Fig. S4** Kaplan–Meier curves for the matching-adjusted and parametric modelling analyses **(a)** CELESTIAL OS **(b)** REACH-2 OS **(c)** CELESTIAL PFS **(d)** REACH-2 PFS and superposition of the CELESTIAL and REACH-2 parametric modelling analysis for **(e)** OS and **(f)** PFS (primary analysis; placebo arms)

Using best-fit models: Log-logistic (OS) and Weibull (PFS). Apparent separation of the CELESTIAL and REACH-2 placebo curves for OS (e) was not significant and reflects uncertainty in the analysis caused by the small patient numbers (CELESTIAL, n = 44; REACH-2, n = 95). The median (95% CI) estimates were not significantly different for the two arms; overall, the REACH-2 placebo curve largely falls within the broad confidence bands around the CELESTIAL placebo curve

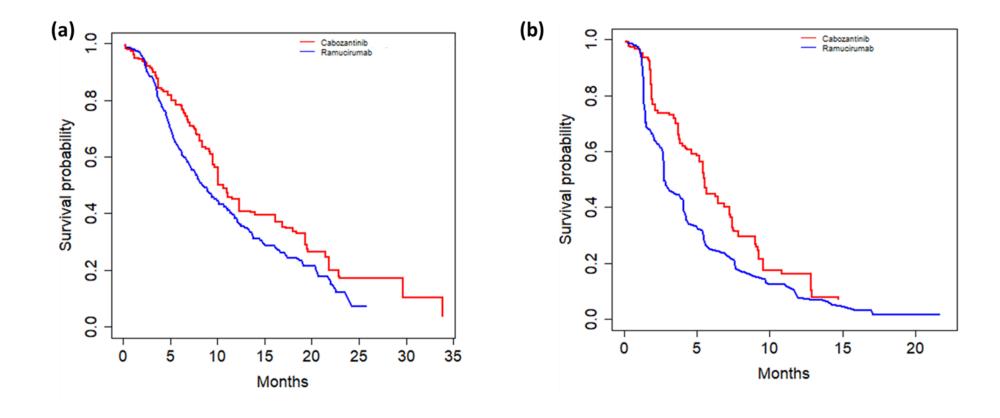
OS overall survival, PFS progression-free survival



**Fig. S5** Forest plot of any grade TRAE log OR (95% CI) estimates for the unmatched and matching-adjusted second-line CELESTIAL populations compared with the REACH-2 population.

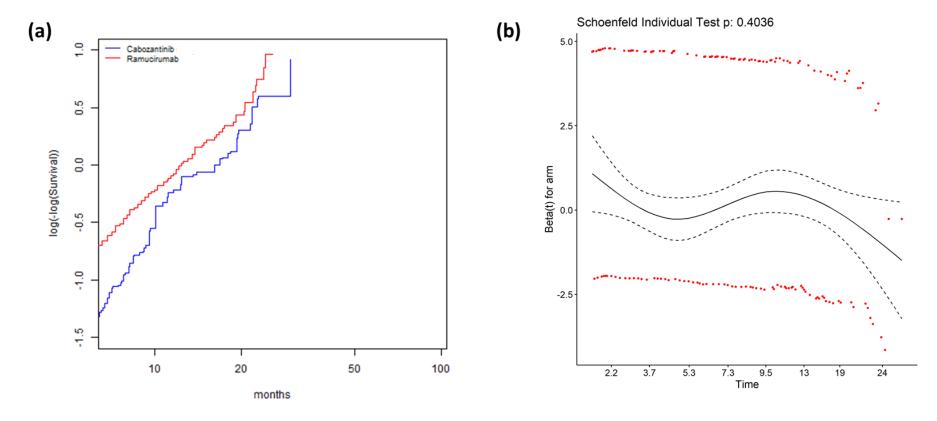
AST aspartate aminotransferase, CI confidence interval, OR odds ratio, TRAE treatment-related adverse event

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Unanchored analysis



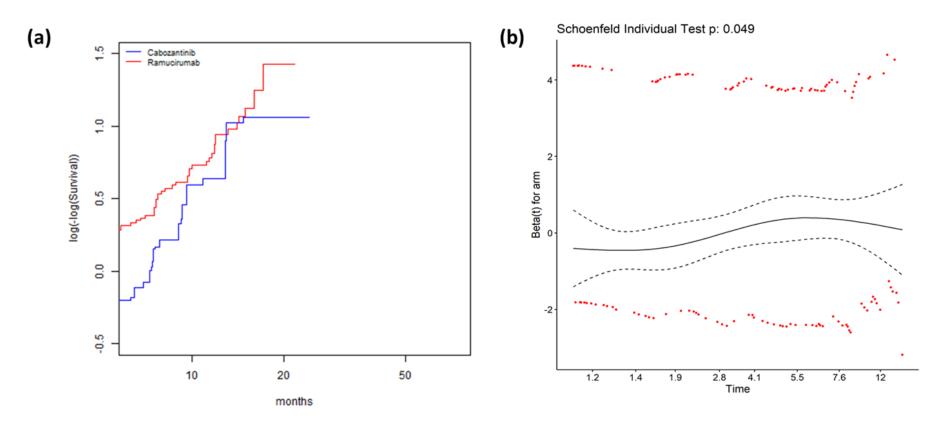
**Fig. S6** Weighted Kaplan–Meier curves for (a) OS and (b) PFS of the matching-adjusted CELESTIAL population and the REACH-2 population (sensitivity analysis).

OS overall survival, PFS progression-free survival



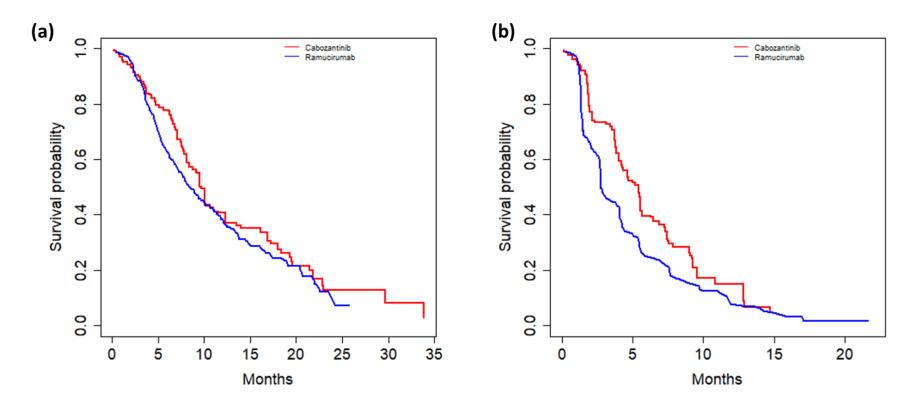
**Fig. S7** Proportional hazards assumption tests (**a**) Log cumulative hazard plot and (**b**) scaled Schoenfeld residuals and Grambsch–Therneau test for OS (sensitivity analysis).

OS overall survival



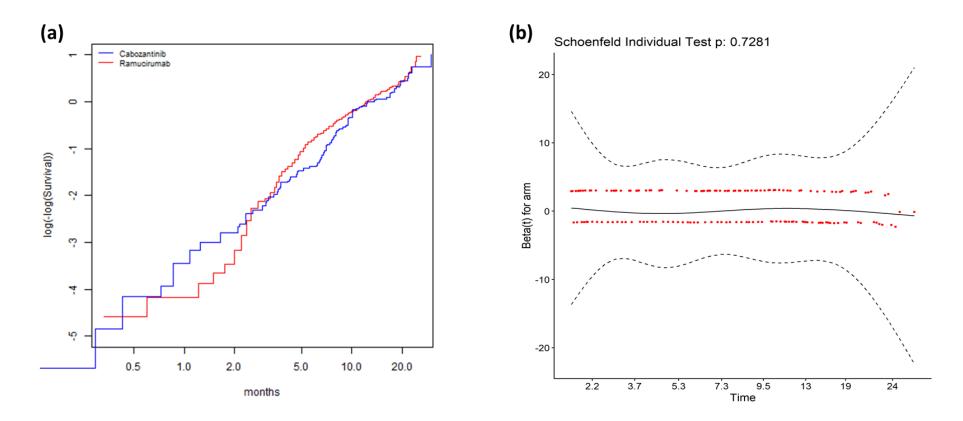
**Fig. S8** Proportional hazards assumption tests (a) Log cumulative hazard plot and (b) scaled Schoenfeld residuals and Grambsch–Therneau test for PFS (sensitivity analysis).

PFS progression-free survival



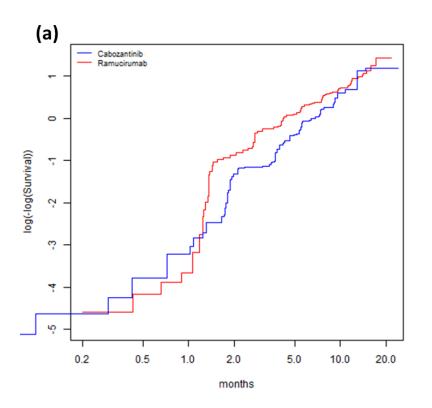
**Fig. S9** Weighted Kaplan—Meier curves for (a) OS and (b) PFS of the matching-adjusted CELESTIAL population and the REACH-2 population (validation analysis).

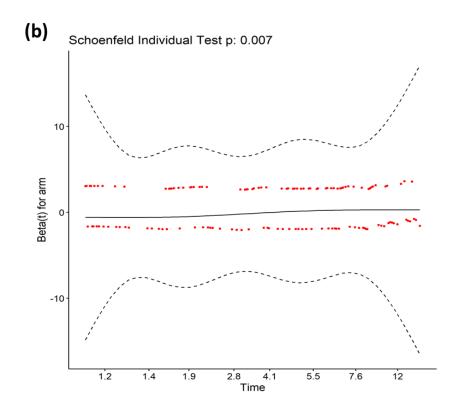
OS overall survival, PFS progression-free survival



**Fig. S10** Proportional hazards assumption tests (a) Log cumulative hazard plot and (b) scaled Schoenfeld residuals and Grambsch–Therneau test for OS (validation analysis).

OS overall survival





**Fig. S11** Proportional hazards assumption tests (a) Log cumulative hazard plot and (b) scaled Schoenfeld residuals and Grambsch–Therneau test for PFS (validation analysis).

PFS progression-free survival

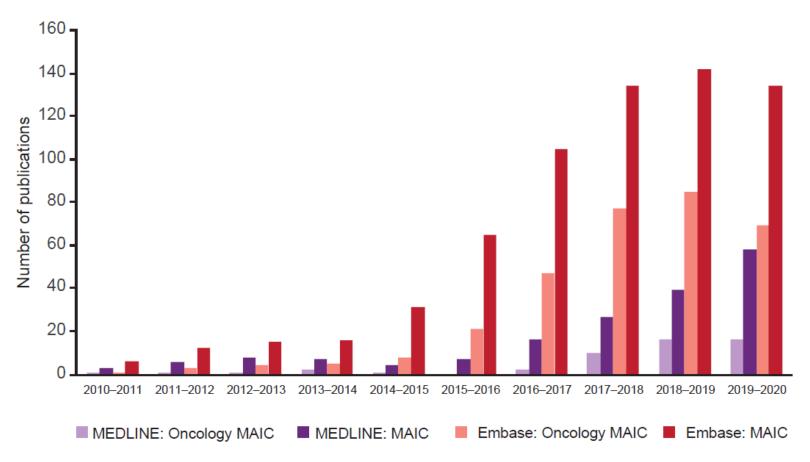


Fig. S12 MAIC and oncology-related MAIC publications listed in MEDLINE and Embase annually between 2010 and 2020 (to December 7, 2020).<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Data are based on systematic review of the MEDLINE/Embase bibliometric databases conducted on December 7, 2020. MAIC publications are defined as those containing the following in the title or abstract (MEDLINE) of as keywords (Embase): ("matching adjusted indirect comparison" OR "matching-adjusted indirect comparison") OR (MAIC and matching\$). Oncology MAIC publications are defined as those containing any of the MAIC publication search terms AND title/abstract terms (MEDLINE) or keyword (Embase) indicative of a cancer-related publication: "cancer" OR "oncology" OR "neoplasm" OR "tumour".

MAIC matching-adjusted indirect comparison

Table S1 Assessment of the design characteristics considered to be relevant for comparability[1, 2]

|  | CELESTIAL                                  | REACH-2                                    |
|--|--|--|
| Study design   | Phase 3 placebo-controlled                 | Phase 3 placebo-controlled                 |
| Randomization  | 2:1 randomized to cabozantinib and placebo | 2:1 randomized to ramucirumab and placebo  |
| Blinding   | Double-blind                               | Double-blind                               |
| Intervention   | Cabozantinib (+ BSC)                       | Ramucirumab (+ BSC)                        |
| Posology   | Oral once daily                            | IV injection on day 1 of each 14-day cycle |
| Main inclusion criteria  |  |  |
| ≥ 18 years of age  | ✓  | ✓  |
| HCC (defined by histology or cytology)   | ✓  | ✓a   |
| Prior sorafenib therapy <sup>b</sup>   | ✓  | ✓  |
| Trial therapy administered as 2L treatment   | X <sup>c</sup>                             | ✓  |
| Child-Pugh score < 7 (Child-Pugh Class A)  | ✓  | ✓  |
| BCLC stage B or C disease  | $X_q$                                      | ✓  |
| Disease not amenable to locoregional therapy or refractory to locoregional therapy | ✓  | ✓  |
| ECOG Performance Status of 0 or 1  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Baseline AFP ≥ 400 mg/mL   | X  | ✓  |
| Key exclusion criteria   |  |  |
| Concurrent malignancy  | ✓e   | ✓  |
| Previous brain metastases  | ✓  | ✓  |
| Hepatic locoregional therapy following prior systemic therapy <sup>f</sup>         | NS   | ✓  |
| Prior immunotherapy  | <b>√</b> g                                 | ✓  |
| Pregnancy  | ✓  | ✓  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Or a diagnosis of cirrhosis and a tumor with classical HCC imaging characteristics

2L second-line, 3L third-line, AFP alpha-fetoprotein, BCLC Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer, BSC best supportive care, ECOG Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, HCC hepatocellular carcinoma, IV intravenous, NS not specified

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Available as a continuous variable for CELESTIAL and as a dichotomous variable (< 5 months or ≥ 5 months) for REACH-2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>Eligible patients had received no more than two prior therapies (i.e., a mixed 2L and 3L population)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup>Calculable, but not an inclusion criterion

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup>Diagnosis of another malignancy in the 2 years before randomization, except for superficial skin cancers or localized low-grade tumors

fIn the 28 days before randomization

gIn the 2 weeks before randomization

**Table S2** Baseline characteristics of the unadjusted 2L CELESTIAL population with AFP ≥ 400 ng/mL and the REACH-2 population

| Baseline characteristic <sup>a</sup> | 2L population wit | STIAL<br>h AFP ≥ 400 ng/mL<br>178) | REACH-2<br>( <i>N</i> = 292) |               |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--|
|                                      | Cabozantinib      | Placebo                            | Ramucirumab                  | Placebo       |  |
|                                      | (n = 114)         | (n = 64)                           | (n = 197)                    | (n = 95)      |  |
| Age, years, median (IQR)             | 63 (53–69)        | 62 (54–69)                         | 64 (58–73)                   | 64 (56–71)    |  |
| Age ≥ 65 years, %                    | 44                | 39                                 | 48                           | 48            |  |
| Female, %                            | 27                | 13                                 | 22                           | 17            |  |
| Race, %                              |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| Asian                                | 35                | 42                                 | 52                           | 47            |  |
| White                                | 57                | 52                                 | 30                           | 33            |  |
| Other                                | 2                 | 5                                  | 1                            | 2             |  |
| Not reported                         | 6                 | 2                                  | 17                           | 18            |  |
| Region, %                            |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| Asia                                 | 29                | 30                                 | 49                           | 47            |  |
| Rest of world                        | 71                | 70                                 | 51                           | 53            |  |
| ECOG Performance Status, %           |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| 0                                    | 54                | 50                                 | 57                           | 58            |  |
| 1                                    | 46                | 50                                 | 43                           | 42            |  |
| BCLC stage, % <sup>a</sup>           |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| B (intermediate)                     | NR                | NR                                 | 17                           | 21            |  |
| C (advanced)                         | NR                | NR                                 | 83                           | 79            |  |
| Child–Pugh score, %b                 |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| A (5 points)                         | 58                | 55                                 | 62                           | 57            |  |
| A (6 points)                         | 42                | 45                                 | 38                           | 43            |  |
| Duration of prior sorafenib          |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| treatment                            |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| < 5 months, %                        | 50                | 64                                 | 56                           | 60            |  |
| Median (IQR), months                 | 4.8 (2.6–9.0)     | 3.8 (2.1–7.1)                      | 4.1 (2.3-8.4)                | 4.1 (2.8–7.2) |  |
| Baseline HCC disease, % <sup>c</sup> |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| Extrahepatic disease                 | 75                | 78                                 | 72                           | 74            |  |
| Macrovascular invasion               | 26                | 50                                 | 36                           | 35            |  |
| HCC etiology, %                      |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |
| Hepatitis B                          | 44                | 45                                 | 36                           | 38            |  |
| Alcohol use                          | 23                | 17                                 | 24                           | 22            |  |
| Hepatitis C                          | 21                | 25                                 | 24                           | 29            |  |
| Nonalcoholic                         | 11                | 9                                  | 10                           | 4             |  |
| steatohepatitis                      |                   |                                    |                              |               |  |

Potential effect-modifying baseline differences are highlighted in red

2L second-line, AFP alpha-fetoprotein, BCLC Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer, CRF case report form, ECOG Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, HCC hepatocellular carcinoma, IQR interquartile range, NR not reported

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>All percentages are subject to rounding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Measured at study entry.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Per CRF

Table S3 AIC/BIC for parametric models fitted to the OS data

| Model (OS)           | C                 | Cabozantinib      |      | R       | amucirumal | )    | Sum  |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------|---------|------------|------|------|
|                      | AIC<br>(weighted) | BIC<br>(weighted) | Rank | AIC     | BIC        | Rank | Rank |
| Primary analysis     |                   |                   |      |         |            |      |      |
| Exponential          | 593.72            | 596.45            | 5    | 1037.13 | 1040.41    | 6    | 11   |
| Weibull <sup>a</sup> | 582.72            | 588.19            | 1    | 1023.65 | 1030.22    | 4    | 5    |
| Gompertz             | 585.00            | 590.47            | 3/2  | 1033.08 | 1039.65    | 5    | 8/7  |
| Log-logistic         | 588.34            | 593.81            | 4    | 1017.24 | 1023.81    | 1    | 5    |
| Log-normal           | 596.98            | 602.46            | 6    | 1018.72 | 1025.29    | 3    | 9    |
| Gen gamma            | 584.70            | 592.91            | 2/3  | 1018.59 | 1028.44    | 2    | 4/5  |
| Sensitivity analysis |                   |                   |      |         |            |      |      |
| Exponential          | 612.36            | 615.09            | 4    | 1037.13 | 1040.41    | 6    | 10   |
| Weibull <sup>a</sup> | 604.72            | 610.19            | 1    | 1023.65 | 1030.22    | 4    | 5    |
| Gompertz             | 605.02            | 610.49            | 2    | 1033.08 | 1039.65    | 5    | 7    |
| Log-logistic         | 612.70            | 618.17            | 5    | 1017.24 | 1023.81    | 1    | 6    |
| Log-normal           | 622.30            | 627.77            | 6    | 1018.72 | 1025.29    | 3    | 9    |
| Gen gamma            | 606.35            | 614.56            | 3    | 1018.59 | 1028.44    | 2    | 5    |
| Validation analysis  |                   |                   |      |         |            |      |      |
| Exponential          | 573.47            | 576.21            | 5    | 1037.13 | 1040.41    | 6    | 11   |
| Weibull <sup>a</sup> | 564.89            | 570.36            | 1    | 1023.65 | 1030.22    | 4    | 5    |
| Gompertz             | 567.51            | 572.98            | 3/2  | 1033.08 | 1039.65    | 5    | 8/7  |
| log-logistic         | 570.01            | 575.49            | 4    | 1017.24 | 1023.81    | 1    | 5    |
| log-normal           | 577.36            | 582.84            | 6    | 1018.72 | 1025.29    | 3    | 9    |
| Gen gamma            | 566.89            | 575.1             | 2/3  | 1018.59 | 1028.44    | 2    | 4/5  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Selected as best-fit model

AIC Akaike Information Criterion, BIC Bayesian Information Criterion, OS overall survival

Table S4 AIC/BIC for parametric models fitted to the PFS data

| Model (PFS)               | С                  | abozantinib       |      | F      | tamuciruma | b    | Sum  |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------|--------|------------|------|------|
|                           | AIC<br>( weighted) | BIC<br>(weighted) | Rank | AIC    | BIC        | Rank | Rank |
| Primary analysis          |                    |                   |      |        |            |      |      |
| Exponential               | 497.05             | 499.79            | 5    | 903.03 | 906.31     | 5    | 10   |
| Weibull                   | 489.85             | 495.32            | 3    | 897.73 | 904.30     | 4    | 7    |
| Gompertz                  | 497.46             | 502.94            | 6    | 904.95 | 911.52     | 6    | 12   |
| Log-logistic <sup>a</sup> | 485.79             | 491.26            | 1    | 873.45 | 880.01     | 3    | 4    |
| Log-normal                | 491.99             | 497.46            | 4    | 868.57 | 875.13     | 1    | 5    |
| Gen gamma                 | 488.60             | 496.80            | 2    | 869.76 | 879.61     | 2    | 4    |
| Sensitivity analysis      |                    |                   |      |        |            |      |      |
| Exponential               | 514.68             | 517.42            | 5    | 903.03 | 906.31     | 5    | 10   |
| Weibull                   | 509.57             | 515.05            | 3    | 897.73 | 904.30     | 4    | 7    |
| Gompertz                  | 515.75             | 521.23            | 6    | 904.95 | 911.52     | 6    | 12   |
| Log-logistic <sup>a</sup> | 506.61             | 512.08            | 1    | 873.45 | 880.01     | 3    | 4    |
| Log-normal                | 513.94             | 519.41            | 4    | 868.57 | 875.13     | 1    | 5    |
| Gen gamma                 | 509.02             | 517.22            | 2    | 869.76 | 879.61     | 2    | 4    |
| Validation analysis       |                    |                   |      |        |            |      |      |
| Exponential               | 483.49             | 486.23            | 6    | 903.03 | 906.31     | 5    | 11   |
| Weibull                   | 476.69             | 482.16            | 2    | 897.73 | 904.3      | 4    | 6    |
| Gompertz                  | 483.18             | 488.66            | 5    | 904.95 | 911.52     | 6    | 11   |
| log-logistic <sup>a</sup> | 475.97             | 481.45            | 1    | 873.45 | 880.01     | 3    | 4    |
| log-normal                | 482.69             | 488.17            | 4    | 868.57 | 875.13     | 1    | 5    |
| Gen gamma                 | 477                | 485.21            | 3    | 869.76 | 879.61     | 2    | 5    |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Selected as best-fit model

AIC Akaike Information Criterion, BIC Bayesian Information Criterion, PFS progression-free survival

Table S5 Median and mean with 95% CI survival times for the modeled matching-adjusted CELESTIAL and REACH-2 placebo curves

|   |                              | Weighted K      | Parametric modeling analysis |                 |                               |                            |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | Overall survival Progression |                 | Progression                  | -free survival  | Overall survival <sup>a</sup> | Progression-free survivalb |
| Placebo population  | Mean (95% CI)                | Median (95% CI) | Mean (95% CI)                | Median (95% CI) | Mean (95% CI)                 | Median (95% CI)            |
| Ramucirumab ( <i>N</i> = 95)  | 8.6 (7.3–9.8)                | 7.4 (5.8–9.4)   | 2.6 (2.1–3.2)                | 1.6 (1.4–2.6)   | 8.0 (6.6–9.3)                 | 1.9 (1.7–2.2)              |
| Matching-adjusted cabozantinib (primary analysis) (ESS = 44)                  | 6.2 (4.7–7.6)                | 5.3 (4.8–8.2)   | 2.3 (1.8–2.7)                | 1.9 (1.8–2.1)   | 7.5 (5.3–9.7)                 | 2.1 (1.7–2.3)              |
| Matching-adjusted cabozantinib (sensitivity analysis) (ESS = 46)              | 6.2 (4.7–7.6)                | 5.3 (4.8–7.3)   | 2.3 (1.8–2.7)                | 1.9 (1.9–2.0)   | 7.4 (4.9–9.8)                 | 2.1 (1.7–2.4)              |
| Unmatched cabozantinib (2L population with AFP $\geq$ 400 ng/mL) ( $n = 64$ ) | 7.6 (5.5–9.6)                | 5.2 (4.3–7.0)   | 2.7 (1.9–3.6)                | 1.9 (1.8–1.9)   | NE                            | NE                         |
| Full (2L and 3L) cabozantinib CELESTIAL (N = 237)                             | 9.4 (8.3–10.6)               | 8.0 (6.9–9.7)   | 4.7 (3.7–5.6)                | 1.9 (1.9–2.0)   | NE                            | NE                         |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Log-logistic model selected as best-fit model for the matching-adjusted CELESTIAL placebo OS curve

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Weibull model selected as best-fit model for the matching-adjusted CELESTIAL placebo PFS curve

<sup>2</sup>L second-line, AFP alpha-fetoprotein, CI confidence interval; ESS effective sample size; KM Kaplan–Meier, NE not evaluated

**Table S6** Baseline matching characteristics used in the MAIC, before and after matching (sensitivity analysis)<sup>a</sup>

| Baseline characteristic                                       | C<br>2L population             | REACH-2 population             |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|   | Unmatched<br>( <i>N</i> = 105) | Matching-adjusted<br>(N = 119) | Published<br>( <i>N</i> = 292) |
| Age < 65 years, %   | 57.87                          | 51.71                          | 51.71                          |
| Female, %   | 21.91                          | 20.21                          | 20.21                          |
| Mean duration of prior sorafenib treatment < 5 months, months | 44.94                          | 57.19                          | 57.19                          |
| Extrahepatic disease, %                                       | 76.40                          | 72.26                          | 72.26                          |
| Macrovascular invasion, %                                     | 34.83                          | 35.27                          | 35.27                          |
| AFP, median log <sub>10</sub> (AFP) <sup>b</sup>              | 3.94                           | 3.00                           | 3.53                           |
| ALBI grade 1, %   | 34.83                          | 48.97                          | 48.97                          |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Matching variables selected as potential effect modifiers by statistical modeling

2L second-line, AFP alpha-fetoprotein, ALBI albumin—bilirubin, IQR interquartile range, MAIC matching-adjusted indirect comparison

 $<sup>^{\</sup>text{b}}$ Reported as median of  $\log_{10}(\text{AFP})$ , given the magnitude of difference in median (IQR) AFP for the pre-matched CELESTIAL and REACH-2 populations

Table S7 Median and mean survival times with 95% CI for parametrically modeled matching-adjusted cabozantinib and ramucirumab curves

|  | Overall           | Overall survival   |                 | -free survival  |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Treatment  | Mean (95% CI)     | Median (95% CI)    | Mean (95% CI)   | Median (95% CI) |
| Ramucirumab  | 11.6 (10.2, 13.0) | 9.70 (8.5, 10.9)   | 4.9 (4.3, 5.58) | 4.0 (3.4, 4.5)  |
| Matching-adjusted cabozantinib (primary analysis)              | 14.5 (12.1, 17.5) | 11.57 (9.1, 14.1)  | 6.9 (5.9, 8.0)  | 5.8 (4.4, 7.2)  |
| Matching-adjusted cabozantinib (sensitivity analysis)          | 14.3 (12.0, 17.1) | 11.35 (8.9, 13.9)  | 6.9 (5.9, 7.9)  | 5.7 (4.3, 7.1)  |
| Unmatched cabozantinib<br>(2L population with AFP ≥ 400 ng/mL) | 11.5 (9.7, 13.5)  | 9.30 (7.6, 11.0)   | 5.7 (4.8, 6.8)  | 4.6 (3.8, 5.4)  |
| Unmatched cabozantinib (2L population)                         | 22.4 (18.1, 28.7) | 11.27 (10.0, 12.7) | 7.0 (6.2, 7.9)  | 5.2 (4.6, 5.8)  |
| Full (2L and 3L) cabozantinib CELESTIAL                        | 20.4 (17.1, 25.1) | 10.46 (9.4, 11.5)  | 7.4 (6.5, 8.5)  | 4.6 (4.2, 5.0)  |

Median 95% CIs are computed by estimated median of fitted values  $\pm$  1.96  $\times$  estimated median SE

2L second-line, 3L third-line, AFP alpha-fetoprotein, CI confidence interval, SE standard error

**Table S8** Log OR (95% CI) and p values for TRAEs reported in at least 5% of patients in any arm of the CELESTIAL or REACH-2 trials (sensitivity analysis)

| TRAE                       | Unmatched a          | nalysis  | Matched-adjus        | sted analysis |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|---------------|
| IKAL                       | Log OR (95% CI)      | p value  | Log OR (95% CI)      | p value       |
| Any grade                  |                      |          |                      |               |
| Increased AST              | -0.50 (-2.32, 1.32)  | 0.6019   | -0.61 (-2.56, 1.33)  | 0.5476        |
| Diarrhea                   | 1.61 (0.23, 2.99)    | 0.0220   | 1.65 (-0.13, 3.18)   | 0.0329        |
| Fatigue                    | -0.05 (-1.29, 1.18)  | 0.9377   | 0.25 (-1.06, 1.56)   | 0.7167        |
| Decreased appetite         | 0.66 (-0.72, 2.05)   | 0.3519   | 1.06 (-0.51, 2.63)   | 0.1878        |
| Vomiting                   | 1.05 (-1.58, 3.69)   | 0.4430   | -0.9 (-3.06, 1.27)   | 0.4247        |
| Hypertension               | 1.92 (-0.33, 4.16)   | 0.0942   | 1.99 (-0.29, 4.27)   | 0.0874        |
| Nausea                     | -0.33 (-2.17, 1.52)  | 0.7413   | -0.36 (-2.50, 1.78)  | 0.7535        |
| Proteinuria <sup>a</sup>   | -2.11 (-3.52, -0.70) | 0.0034   | -1.76 (-2.96, -0.55) | 0.0045        |
| Grade 3/4                  |                      |          |                      |               |
| Increased AST <sup>a</sup> | 2.28 (1.02, 3.55)    | 0.0004   | 1.64 (0.3, 2.98)     | 0.0161        |
| Fatigue <sup>a</sup>       | 2.24 (0.70, 3.77)    | 0.0044   | 2.64 (1.15, 4.14)    | 0.0006        |
| Hypertension               | 16.34 (14.73, 17.94) | < 0.0010 | 16.68 (15.03, 18.33) | < 0.0010      |
| Leading to discontinu      | uation               |          |                      |               |
| Any TRAE                   | 0.40 (-1.57, 2.36)   | 0.7509   | 1.05 (-0.96, 3.06)   | 0.3110        |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Unanchored analysis because no AEs occurred in at least one of the placebo arms of the trials

AST aspartate aminotransferase, CI confidence interval, OR odds ratio, TRAE treatment-related adverse event

**Table S9** Baseline matching characteristics used in the MAIC, before and after matching (validation analysis)<sup>a</sup>

| Baseline characteristics              | CELE               | STIAL             | REACH-2    |  |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------|--|
|                                       | 2L population with | h AFP ≥ 400 ng/mL | population |  |
|                                       | Unmatched          | Matching-         | Unmatched  |  |
|                                       | (N = 202)          | adjusted          | (N = 292)  |  |
|                                       |                    | (N = 128)         |            |  |
| Age under 65 years, %                 | 57.87              | 51.71             | 51.71      |  |
| Female, %                             | 21.91              | 20.21             | 20.21      |  |
| Duration of prior sorafenib treatment | 44.94              |                   | 57.19      |  |
| < 5 months, % <sup>b</sup>            |                    | 57.19             |            |  |
| Extrahepatic disease, %               | 76.40              | 72.26             | 72.26      |  |
| Macrovascular invasion, %             | 34.83              | 35.27             | 35.27      |  |
| Etiology, %                           |                    |                   |            |  |
| Hepatitis B                           | 44.38              | 36.64             | 36.64      |  |
| Hepatitis C                           | 22.47              | 26.03             | 26.03      |  |
| Nonviral <sup>c</sup>                 | 30.34              | 31.51             | 31.51      |  |
| ALBI grade 1, %                       | 34.83              | 48.97             | 48.97      |  |
| BCLC stage B, %                       | 8.99               | 18.49             | 18.49      |  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Matching variables selected as potential effect modifiers by expert clinical panel

<sup>c</sup>HCC of nonviral etiology was not recorded directly in the REACH-2 trial. Estimate is derived from the sum of patients with etiology of alcohol use plus nonalcoholic steatohepatitis fatty liver, using the total REACH-2 population size as the denominator. There might be overlap in patients between these two etiology categories

2L second-line, AFP alpha-fetoprotein, ALBI, albumin–bilirubin, BCLC Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer, HCC hepatocellular carcinoma, IQR interquartile range, MAIC matching-adjusted indirect comparison

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Categorization of prior sorafenib treatment use in (and published for) the REACH-2 trial

**Table S10** Log OR (95% CI) and p values for TRAEs reported in at least 5% of patients in any arm of CELESTIAL or REACH-2 (cabozantinib vs ramucirumab) for the primary and validation matching-adjusted analyses

| TRAE                       | Primary matched-adjusted analysis |          | Validation matched-a | djusted analysis |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|------------------|
| -                          | Log OR (95% CI)                   | p value  | Log OR (95% CI)      | p value          |
| Any grade                  |                                   |          |                      |                  |
| Increased AST              | -0.58 (-2.59, 1.42)               | 0.5799   | -0.37 (-2.23, 1.49)  | 0.7089           |
| Diarrhea                   | 1.53 (0.00, 3.05)                 | 0.0499   | 1.41 (-0.09, 2.91)   | 0.0658           |
| Fatigue                    | 0.44 (-0.89, 1.76)                | 0.5288   | 0.03 (-1.27, 1.33)   | 0.9690           |
| Decreased appetite         | 1.10 (-0.46, 2.66)                | 0.1691   | 0.94 (-0.5, 2.38)    | 0.2023           |
| Vomiting                   | -0.90 (-3.06, 1.27)               | 0.4247   | -0.9 (-3.06, 1.27)   | 0.4247           |
| Hypertension               | 2.52 (0.23, 4.81)                 | 0.0305   | 2.76 (0.5, 5.02)     | 0.0168           |
| Nausea                     | -0.15 (-2.27, 1.97)               | 0.8968   | 0.13 (-1.76, 2.02)   | 0.9046           |
| Proteinuria <sup>a</sup>   | -1.78 (-2.99, -0.56)              | 0.0043   | -2.21 (-3.68, -0.74) | 0.0033           |
| Grade 3/4                  |                                   |          |                      |                  |
| Increased AST <sup>a</sup> | 1.79 (0.47, 3.11)                 | 0.0078   | 2.08 (0.79, 3.36)    | 0.0016           |
| Fatigue <sup>a</sup>       | 2.72 (1.23, 4.22)                 | 0.0004   | 2.55 (1.04, 4.05)    | 0.0010           |
| Hypertension               | 16.92 (15.20, 18.65)              | < 0.0010 | 16.81 (15.16, 18.46) | < 0.0010         |
| Leading to discontinu      | ıation                            |          |                      |                  |
| Any TRAE                   | 1.16 (-0.89, 3.20)                | 0.2709   | 1.29 (-0.72, 3.30)   | 0.2086           |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Unanchored analysis because no AEs occurred in at least one of the placebo arms of the trials

AST aspartate aminotransferase, CI confidence interval, OR odds ratio, TRAE treatment-related adverse event

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