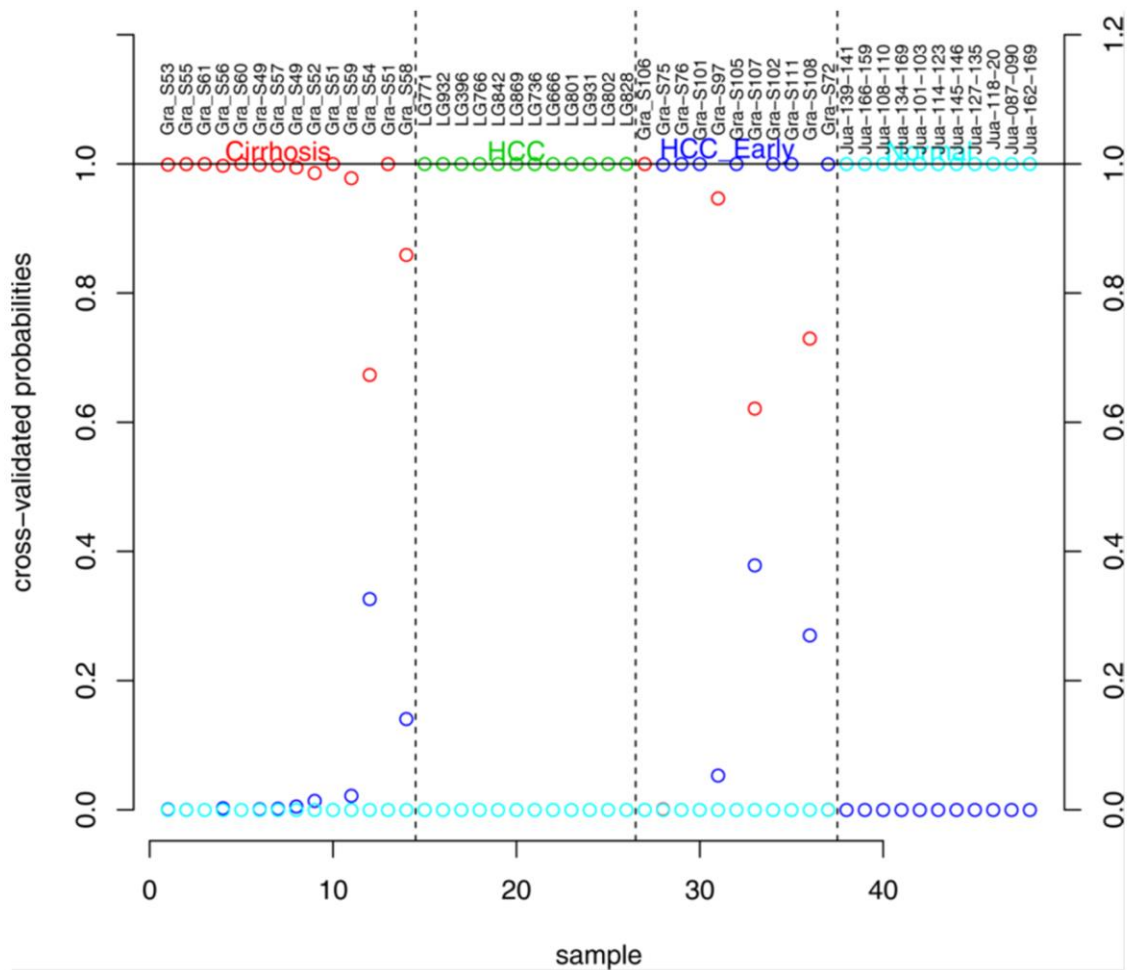
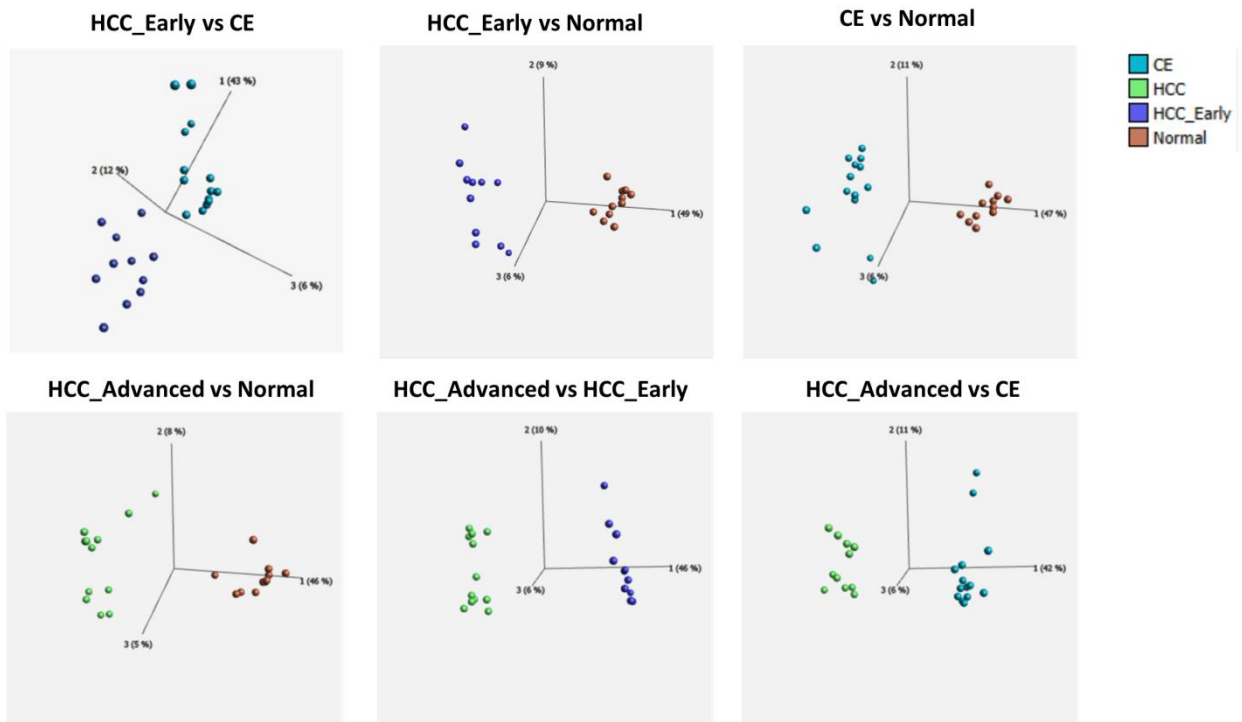


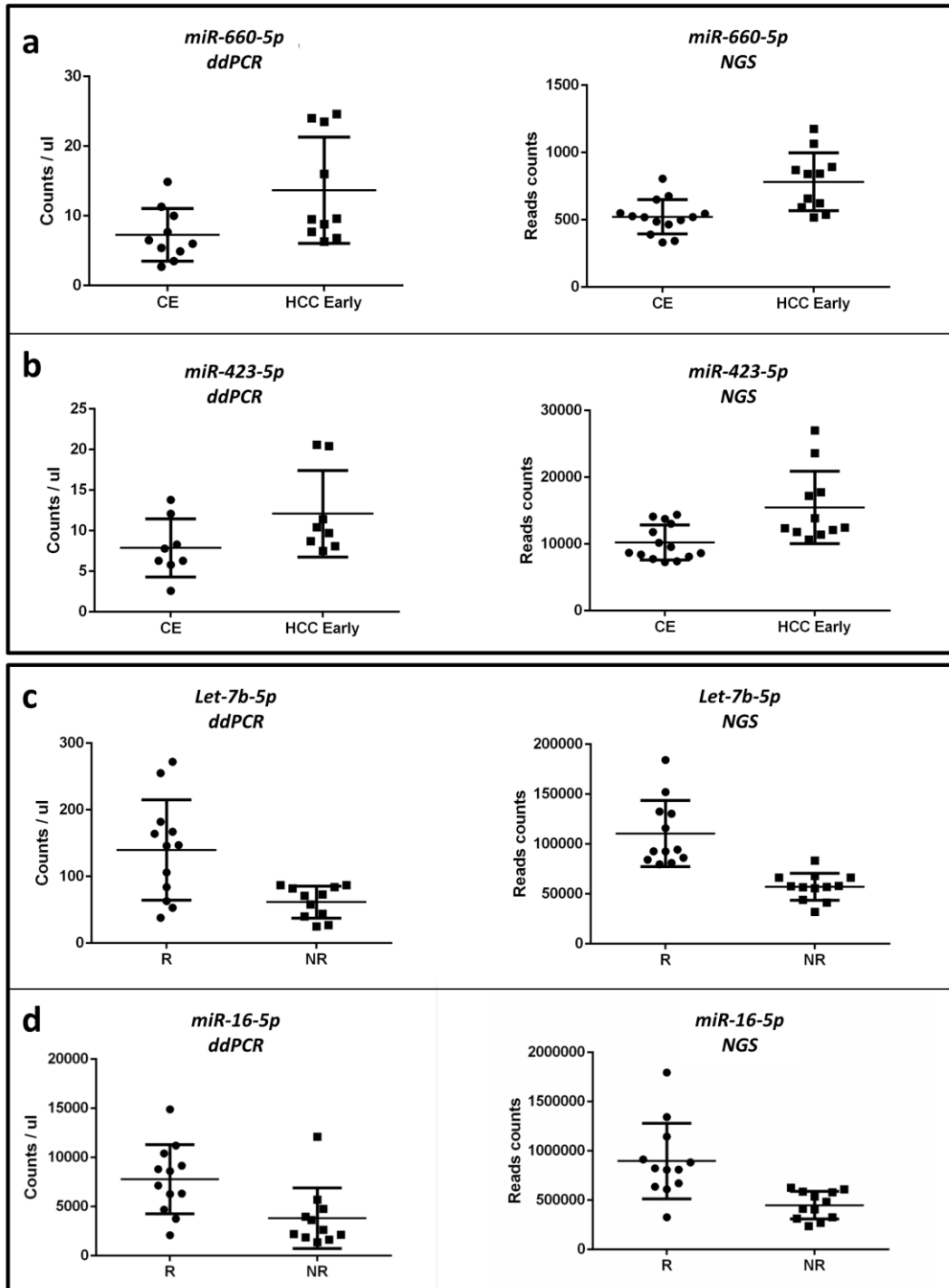
SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES



Supplementary Figure 1. Classification of phases of human HCC by PAM analysis. PAM analysis of circulating miRNAs identified the probability of each sample to belong to each of the classes of samples. Samples were from healthy individuals (NORMAL, n=11) and patients with cirrhosis (n=14), early HCC (n=11) or advanced HCC (HCC, n=12).



Supplementary Figure 2. PCA diagrams based on miRNA signatures reported in Supplementary Tables 2 to 7. They show the ability to discriminate every class of patients affected by HCC_Advanced (HCC), HCC_Early (HCC_Early), cirrhosis (CE) and healthy individuals (Normal) from each of the others.



Supplementary Figure 3. Confirmation of NGS data by droplet digital PCR analyses. The ddPCR-based analysis of exemplifying miRNAs shows the same differential levels in the serum of patients with cirrhosis compared to early HCC (a, b) or in patients with different response to sorafenib (c, d), thus confirming the trend using this different method. CE: cirrhosis; R: sorafenib responder; NR: non-responder to sorafenib.