

Supplementary Table S2. Baseline biochemical and haematological characteristics of the study population.

Variables	Mean \pm SD	Reference ranges
Total of patients	184	
<i>Biochemical parameters</i>		
Albumin (g/dL)	3.4 \pm 0.5	3.5 - 5.5
Alkaline phosphatase (U/L)	198.7 \pm 143.7	20 - 125
C-reactive protein (mg/dL)	12.5 \pm 12.6	< 0.5
Direct bilirubin (mg/dL)	5.4 \pm 2.5	0 - 0.3
Direct bilirubin zenith (mg/dL)	5.7 \pm 2.5	
Total bilirubin (mg/dL)	5.7 \pm 3.8	0.3–1.2
Total bilirubin zenith (mg/dL)	6.7 \pm 5.7	
SGGT (UI)	275.5 \pm 246.3	8-78
SGOT (UI)	1305.8 \pm 1331.1	0 - 35
SGOT zenith (UI)	1616.9 \pm 1693.5	
SGPT (UI)	1630.4 \pm 1658.4	0 - 35
SGPT zenith (UI)	1716.3 \pm 1774.4	
Lactate dehydrogenase (U/L)	530.1 \pm 460.3	60-160
Total cholesterol (mg/dl)	142.8 \pm 62.3	140 - 200
Serum creatinin (mg/L)	0.9 \pm 0.2	0.7-1.3
Urea (U/L)	25.3 \pm 9.8	20 - 50
<i>Haemogram</i>		
Prothrombin time (%)	73.5 \pm 18.8	80 - 120
International Normalized Ratio (INR)	1.2 \pm 0.2	0.8 - 1.2
Red blood cells count (cells/L)	5.0 \pm 0.7	3.6 - 6.0
Hematocrit (%)	43.5 \pm 4.6	35 - 46
Leukocytes count (cells/L)	6.3 \pm 2.5	4 - 11.5
Platelets count (cells/L)	230.6 \pm 83.6	140 - 450

SGGT, serum gamma-glutamyl transferase; SGOT, serum glutamic oxaloacetic transaminase; SGPT, serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase;