

Table 1. General characteristics of patients.

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	<i>p</i> -value
	N = 56	N = 41	N = 153	
Gender, male (%)	44 (78.6%)	33 (80.5%)	113 (73.9%)	0.594
Age (years)	27.3 ± 6.3	29.9 ± 8.2	29.1 ± 6.9	0.147
Duration of IFN (months)	15.3 ± 5.8	17.6 ± 7.3	12.0 ± 6.0	<0.001
Baseline HBsAg (log ₁₀ IU/mL)	3.1 ± 1.3	3.1 ± 1.0	3.9 ± 0.6	<0.001
Baseline HBV DNA (log ₁₀ IU/mL)	5.7 ± 2.2	5.9 ± 1.9	6.2 ± 1.9	0.453
Baseline ALT (U/L)	154.1 ± 143.8	109.1 ± 106.9	169.2 ± 213.4	0.356

IFN, interferon. ALT, alanine aminotransferase. Continuous variables are shown as mean ± SD, categorical variables as n (%). *P*-values <0.05 are shown in bold italics.