

**Table 1: Baseline Patient Characteristics**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Total (n=70)</b>
<b>Age (years)</b>	48.5 ± 9.6
<b>Male (n,%)</b>	40, 57%
<b>BMI</b>	24.3 ± 4.2
<b>Genotype 1 (n,%)</b>	47, 67%
<b>Genotype 2 (n,%)</b>	5, 7%
<b>Genotype 3 (n,%)</b>	18, 26%
<b>Log Viral Load IU/ml (range)</b>	6.21( 3.84 - 8.20)
<b>Hb (g/dl)</b>	15.2 ± 1.4
<b>WCC (10<sup>9</sup>/L)</b>	6.4 ± 1.7
<b>PLT (10<sup>9</sup>/L)</b>	210 ± 62
<b>ALT (IU/L)</b>	117 ± 10
<b>Bilirubin (µmol/L)</b>	12.7 ± 7.5
<b>Albumin (g/L)</b>	47.7 ± 7.6
<b>PT (seconds)</b>	12.1 ± 1.2
<b>AFP (ng/ml)</b>	8.2 ± 11.7
<b>PEG 50 + Placebo (n,%)</b>	21 (30%)
<b>PEG 50 + Silymarin (n,%)</b>	18 (26%)
<b>PEG 100 + Placebo (n,%)</b>	10 (14%)
<b>PEG 100 + Silymarin (n,%)</b>	21 (30%)

Data are presented as mean ± s.d. unless described otherwise

**Table 2. The distribution of fibrosis stages prior to and at the end of the study period**

<b>Ishak Fibrosis Stage</b>	<b>Pre-Study</b>	<b>Post-Study</b>
	<b>n (%)</b>	<b>n (%)</b>
<b>F0</b>	5 (7)	3 (4)
<b>F1</b>	18 (26)	20 (29)
<b>F2</b>	9 (13)	8 (11)
<b>F3</b>	10 (14)	17 (24)
<b>F4</b>	10 (14)	7 (10)
<b>F5</b>	14 (20)	7 (10)
<b>F6</b>	4 (6)	8 (11)
<b>ELF (range)</b>	7.67-12.47	6.53-13.59

**Table 3. Mean Ishak fibrosis stage, Ishak inflammatory grade, serum marker scores and ALT observed at months 0, 12, and 24 of all patients and after stratifying patients by those with an end of therapy increase and decrease in inflammatory grade**

	All patients (n=70)			End of therapy Ishak grade reduced (n=34)			End of therapy Ishak grade unchanged or increased (n=36)		
	Month 0	Month 12	Month 24	Month 0	Month 12	Month 24	Month 0	Month 12	Month 24
<b>Mean ALT</b>	117.1	98.1	89.9*	122.9	86.4*	78.4*	111.6	109.3	100.8
Standard Deviation	100.9	69.0	59.8	115.8	65.2	59.7	85.8	71.6	58.7
<b>Mean Ishak Inflammatory Grade</b>	3.6		3.2	4.4		2.3*	2.8		4.1*
Standard Deviation	1.9		2.0	1.9		1.4	1.6		2.2
<b>Mean Ishak Fibrosis Stage</b>	2.9		2.8	2.9		2.4	2.8		3.3
Standard Deviation	1.8		1.8	1.7		1.6	1.9		1.8
<b>Mean ELF</b>	9.32	9.91*	9.52	9.28	9.61*	9.29	9.36	10.20*	9.75*
Standard Deviation	1.10	1.19	1.26	1.01	1.16	1.30	1.18	1.14	1.21
<b>Mean HA</b>	69.2	124.3*	95.6	65.2	105.2*	77.2	73.1	142.3*	112.9
Standard Deviation	88.2	144.3	141.8	64.7	125.4	120.3	106.6	159.7	159.2
<b>Mean TIMP-1</b>	738.7	743.1	749.6	732.9	715.9	757.3	744.1	768.8	742.2
Standard Deviation	215.5	196.1	226.3	215.2	141.4	203.0	218.6	235.7	249.0
<b>Mean PIIINP</b>	10.69	12.16*	10.50	9.71	10.24	9.04	11.63	13.98*	11.89
Standard Deviation	5.35	6.43	5.53	4.53	4.91	4.46	5.94	7.20	6.12

\*significant difference from month 0 ( $p$ -value <0.05)

**Table 4. Performance of ‘ELF’ regression model ( $ELF_0 + \Delta ELF_{0-12}$ ) at predicting a change of ELF score ( $\Delta ELF_{0-24}$ ) at the end of the study period**

<b>Evolution of ELF (n v n)</b>	<b>AUROC</b>	<b>95% Confidence interval</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b><i>P-value</i></b>
<b><math>\Delta ELF_{0-24}</math>: Decrease of ELF Score by <math>\geq 1.5</math> points (7 v 63)</b>	0.85	0.70-0.99	0.074	0.003
<b><math>\Delta ELF_{0-24}</math>: Decrease of ELF Score by <math>\geq 1</math> point (9 v 61)</b>	0.80	0.69-0.81	0.065	0.029
<b><math>\Delta ELF_{0-24}</math>: Decrease of ELF Score by <math>\geq 0.5</math> points (18 v 52)</b>	0.82	0.72-0.91	0.054	<0.001
<b><math>\Delta ELF_{0-24}</math>: Increase of ELF Score by <math>\geq 0.5</math> points (29 v 41)</b>	0.81	0.69-0.91	0.055	<0.001
<b><math>\Delta ELF_{0-24}</math>: Increase of ELF Score by <math>\geq 1</math> point (14 v 56)</b>	0.82	0.71-0.93	0.057	<0.001
<b><math>\Delta ELF_{0-24}</math>: Increase of ELF Score by <math>\geq 1.5</math> points (7 v 67)</b>	0.85	0.70-0.99	0.074	0.003

**Table 5: Performance of ‘histologic’ regression model ( $Ishak_0 + ELF_0 + \Delta ELF_0$ ) in predicting both histologic fibrosis evolution ( $\Delta Ishak_{0-24}$ ) and the histologic stage ( $Ishak_{24}$ ) at the end of the study period.**

<b>Evolution of Histology</b> (n Vs. n)	<b>AUROC</b>	<b>95% Confidence interval</b>	<b>Standard Error</b>	<b>P-value</b>
<b>Ishak<sub>0-24</sub>:</b> <b>Decrease Ishak score <math>\geq 3</math></b> <b>Stages (4 Vs. 66)</b>	0.83	0.56-1.00	0.136	0.028
<b>Ishak<sub>0-24</sub>:</b> <b>Decrease Ishak score <math>\geq 2</math></b> <b>Stages (11 Vs. 59)</b>	0.84	0.72-0.97	0.065	<0.001
<b>Ishak<sub>0-24</sub>:</b> <b>Decrease Ishak score <math>\geq 1</math></b> <b>Stages (21 Vs. 49)</b>	0.81	0.70-0.91	0.054	<0.001
<b>Ishak<sub>0-24</sub>:</b> <b>Increase Ishak Score <math>\geq 1</math></b> <b>Stages (24 Vs. 46)</b>	0.86	0.76-0.95	0.050	<0.001
<b>Ishak<sub>0-24</sub>:</b> <b>Increase Ishak Score <math>\geq 2</math></b> <b>Stages (8 Vs. 62)</b>	0.91	0.84-0.98	0.037	<0.001
<b>Ishak<sub>0-24</sub>:</b> <b>Increase Ishak Score <math>\geq 3</math></b> <b>Stages (3 Vs. 67)</b>	0.88	0.75-1.00	0.063	0.029
<b>Ishak<sub>24</sub> :</b> <b>F0-1 Vs. F2-6 (23 Vs. 47)</b>	0.88	0.79-0.98	0.049	<0.001
<b>Ishak<sub>24</sub>:</b> <b>F0-2 Vs. F3-6 (31 Vs. 39)</b>	0.88	0.80-0.96	0.041	<0.001
<b>Ishak<sub>24</sub>:</b> <b>F0-3 Vs. F4-6 (48 Vs. 22)</b>	0.91	0.84-0.97	0.035	<0.001
<b>Ishak<sub>24</sub>:</b> <b>F0-4 Vs. F5-6 (55 Vs. 15)</b>	0.92	0.84-0.98	0.041	<0.001