

**Table 1 Biochemical tests and viral load in patients with chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection with pruritus, evident skin manifestations other than pruritus and without skin manifestations**

Test	HCV patients with pruritus (n = 33)	HCV patients with evident skin manifestations other than pruritus (n = 38)	HCV patients without skin manifestations (n = 84)	P-value
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	
Serum bilirubin (mg/dL)	0.94 (0.44)	1.18 (0.73)	1.14 (0.66)	0.76
ALT (IU/L)	52.91 (45.64)	51.58 (26.05)	53.80 (38.51)	0.98
AST (IU/L)	64.64 (41.4)	74.54 (41.57)	59.32 (34.84)	0.45
Serum albumin (g/dL)	3.86 (0.62)	3.71 (0.65)	3.85 (0.66)	0.87
Prothrombin concentration <sup>a</sup> (%)	72.25 (16.56)	69.17 (25.70)	83.75 (14.12)	0.09
Viral load <sup>b</sup> (copies/mL)	217.5 (77.5)	368.6 (342.7)	295.9 (230.5)	0.46

<sup>a</sup>As a percentage of prothrombin time compared to pooled plasma from healthy controls.

<sup>b</sup>Viral load was only established for 115 patients.

SD = standard deviation; ALT = alanine transaminase; AST = aspartate aminotransferase.