

Table 2 Mean homocysteine (Hcy) and vitamin levels in healthy people with normal and raised homocysteine by geographical region of Tunisia

Variable	Normohomocysteinaemia <sup>a</sup>			Hyperhomocysteinaemia <sup>b</sup>			P-value
	North (n = 278)	Centre (n = 88)	South (n = 40)	North (n = 83)	Tunis (n = 40)	South (n = 12)	
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	
Hcy ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )	12.4 (4.9)	12.4 (6.9)	12.6 (4.9)	18.5 (3.9)	19.7 (6.5)	18.8 (2.6)	< 0.03 <sup>d</sup> ; 0.004 <sup>e</sup>
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub> (pg/mL)	260.6 (97.5)	242.5 (105.2)	293.2 (170.6)	242.1 (90.2)	260.4 (87.1)	214.0 (72.2)	> 0.05
Folates (ng/mL)	4.53 (2.03)	4.45 (1.82)	5.19 (3.12)	4.22 (1.86)	5.40 (5.91)	4.05 (1.49)	> 0.05

<sup>a</sup>Hcy  $\leq 15 \mu\text{mol/L}$ ; <sup>b</sup>Hcy  $> 15 \mu\text{mol/L}$ .

<sup>c</sup>Tunis versus centre; <sup>d</sup>Tunis versus centre; <sup>e</sup>Tunis versus south.

SD = standard deviation.