

Table 1 Clinical characteristics of the study groups

Clinical characteristic	Normal non-pregnant controls (n = 20)	Normal pregnant controls (n = 20)	Mild pre-eclampsia (n = 20)	Severe pre-eclampsia (n = 24)	P-value
Age [Mean (SD)] (years)	24.70 (4.45)	25.20 (3.64)	26.40 (6.03)	25.29 (4.22)	0.92
Gestational age at sampling [Mean (SD)] (weeks)	–	38.45 (1.85)	37.45 (1.54)	37.21 (2.36)	0.13
Systolic blood pressure [Mean (SD)] (mm/Hg)	110.50 (9.72)	109.75 (9.10)	150.25 (8.96)	188.96 (21.37)	< 0.001*
Diastolic blood pressure [Mean (SD)] (mm/Hg)	76.50 (3.28)	74.75 (8.96)	100.50 (8.26)	120.00 (10.11)	< 0.001*
Proteinuria [No. (%)]	–	–			
1+			–	–	< 0.001*
2+			16 (80%)	–	
3+			3 (15%)	6 (25%)	
4+			1 (5%)	18 (75%)	

SD = standard deviation.

**P < 0.05 was significant.*