**Supplementary Table 1. Baseline demographics and disease characteristics (intention-to-treat analysis)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Placebo group (*n=*80)** | **YGJ group (*n=*80)** | ***p-*value** |
| Age, years | 54.1±9.63 | 52.5±9.91 | 0.295 |
| Male, *n* (%) | 53 (66.3) | 59 (73.8) | 0.301 |
| BMI (kg/m2) | 22.790±3.057 | 23.250±3.896 | 0.413 |
| History of hepatitis B (months) | 76.0 (11.0, 191.0) | 96.0 (15.0, 221.0) | 0.678 |
| History of liver cirrhosis (months) | 8.0 (1.0, 45.0) | 25.0 (2.0, 97.0) | 0.030 |
| Antiviral duration (months) | 1.0 (0, 156) | 5.5 (0, 216) | 0.176 |
| Antiviral drugs, *n* (%) |  |  |  |
|  ETV | 54 (67.5) | 50 (62.5) | 0.785 |
|  TDF | 14 (17.5) | 17 (21.3) |  |
|  Others | 12 (15.0) | 13 (16.3) |  |
| First treatment with antiviral drugs, *n* (%) | 31 (43.1) | 23 (30.3) | 0.106 |
| HBeAg positivity, *n* (%) | 22 (43.1) | 25 (55.6) | 0.225 |
| HBV-DNA (log10 IU/ml) | 2.5±2.5 | 2.0±2.4 | 0.239 |
| HBV-DNA (positive) | 33 (41.3) | 32 (40.0) | 0.872 |
| herbal decoction pieces, *n* (%) | 29 (39.7) | 16 (21.9) | 0.020 |
| Chinese patent drug, *n* (%) | 46 (63.0) | 33 (45.2) | 0.031 |
| Diabetes mellitus, *n* (%) | 16 (22.9) | 19 (26.0) | 0.659 |
| Hypertension, *n* (%） | 10 (23.8) | 9 (21.4) | 0.794 |
| Esophageal varices, *n* (%) | 36 (45.0) | 41 (51.2) | 0.429 |
| Previous variceal bleeding, *n* (%) | 15 (18.8) | 22 (27.5) | 0.189 |
| SBP, *n* (%) | 44 (55.0) | 37 (46.3) | 0.268 |
| **Standard medical therapy** |  |  |  |
| Diuretics, *n* (%) | 56 (70.0) | 53 (66.3) | 0.611 |
| Human albumin, *n* (%) | 45 (56.3) | 40 (50.0) | 0.428 |
| Lactulose, *n* (%) | 13 (16.3) | 10 (12.5) | 0.499 |
| Beta blockers, *n* (%) | 16 (20.0) | 13 (16.3) | 0.538 |
| CTP score  | 8.7±1.72 | 8.5±1.73 | 0.437 |
| CTP class, *n* (%) |  |  |  |
|  A  | 3 (3.8) \* | 5 (6.3) \* | 0.547 |
|  B | 54 (67.5) | 54 (67.5) |  |
|  C | 23 (28.8) | 21 (26.3) |  |
| PT (s) | 17.52±3.021 | 16.88±2.783 | 0.167 |
| Bilirubin (μmol/L) | 49.142±29.684 | 49.105±40.731 | 0.995 |
| Albumin (g/L)  | 30.003±5.036 | 31.117±6.333 | 0.220 |
| Creatinine (μmol/L) | 70.605±22.766 | 71.062±23.723 | 0.904 |
| Ascites, *n* (%) |  |  |  |
|  None | 28 (35.0) | 25 (31.3) | 0.443 |
|  Mild | 27 (33.8) | 25 (31.3) |  |
|  Moderate to severe | 25 (31.3) | 30 (37.5) |  |
| Hepatic encephalopathy, n (%)  |  |  |  |
|  None | 76 (95.0) | 75 (93.8) | 0.630 |
|  1-2 stage | 3 (3.8) | 3 (3.8) |  |
|  3-4 stage | 1 (1.3) | 2 (2.5) |  |
| \*CTP score at time of eligibility determination was ≥7. BMI, body mass index; CTP, Child-Turcotte-Pugh; PT, prothrombin time; SBP, spontaneous bacterial peritonitis. |