

Table 1: The study population (146 consecutive chronic hepatitis C patients, regularly followed-up at two tertiary hospitals) according to their fibrosis stage.

| Fibrosis stage | Number | % |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| F1-F2 | 81 | 41.5 |
| F3-F4 | 72 | 36.9 |
| F4D | 27 | 13.8 |
| HCC-LT | 15 | 7.7 |
| Total | 195 | 100.0 |