**Table 1. Characteristics of the patients with chronic D hepatitis (n = 34)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Value** |
| Age, years, Me [Q1; Q3] | 45 [39; 48] |
| Male gender, n (%) | 19 (56) |
| Mean duration of HDV infection, years, Me [Q1; Q3] | 16 [12; 20] |
| HDV RNA, lg copies/mL, M ± SD | 6.1 ± 1.2 |
| HBV DNA positive, n (%) | 1 (3) |
| ALT, U/L, M ± SD | 102 ± 49 |
| Normal ALT activity (below 40 U/L), n (%) | 6 (18) |
| White blood cell count, 109/L, M ± SD | 5.7 ± 2.9 |
| Platelet count, 109/L, M ± SD | 152 ± 95 |

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; HDV, hepatitis D virus; М, mean; Me, median;  
Q, quartile; SD, standard deviation

**Table 2. Virological and biochemical response, decrease of liver density by elastometry in the patients with chronic D hepatitis during treatment with pegylated interferon alpha and at 48 weeks after end of therapy**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **At baseline** | **At week 24 of treatment** | **At week 48 of treatment** | **At week 48 after the end of therapy** |
| HDV RNA undetectable, n (%) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Virological response (decrease in HDV RNA ≥ 2 lg), n (%) | – | 26 (76) | 11 (32) | 5 (15) |
| Normal ALT activity, n (%)\* | 6 (18) | 10 (29)  p = 0.4497 | 7 (21)  p = 1.000 | 1 (3)  p = 0.1306 |
| Liver density, kPa, М ± SD\*\* | 16.4 ± 5.6 | 14,8 ± 6,4  р = 0.0002 | 10,6 ± 4,3  р < 0.0001 | ND |

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; HDV, hepatitis D virus; М, mean; ND, no data; SD, standard deviation

\* P values for comparison with baseline, paired Student t test

\*\* P values for comparison with baseline, McNemar test

**Table 3. Virological and biochemical response in the patients with chronic hepatitis D at 48 weeks of treatment with pegylated interferon alpha and at 48 weeks after the end of therapy, depending on dose modification**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Patient groups** | | **P value** |
| No dose modification of Peg-IFN-α (n = 18) | Dose of Peg-IFN-α decreased or withdrawn (n = 16) |
| Mean HDV RNA levels at week 48 on treatment, lg copies/mL, М ± SD | 5.8 ± 1.3 | 5.1 ± 0.9 | 0.085 |
| Mean HDV RNA levels at week 48 after the end of therapy, lg copies/mL, М ± SD | 5.8 ± 0.6 | 5.6 ± 0.9 | 0.154 |
| Mean ALT activity at week 48 on treatment, U/L, М ± SD | 63.8 ± 24.2 | 54.5 ± 24.1 | 0.246 |
| Mean ALT level at week 48 after the end of therapy, U/L, М ± SD | 78.9 ± 40.7 | 76.7 ± 26.8 | 0.653 |

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; HDV, hepatitis D virus; М, mean; Peg-IFN-α, pegylated interferon alpha; SD, standard deviation

P values for comparison between two patient groups, Mann–Whitney U test