

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of patients with biopsy-proven NAFLD.

	Overall (N=553)	Training set (N=278)	Validation set (N=275)	P value
Demographics				
Age, years	41.2 ± 12.8	40.7 ± 12.5	41.5 ± 13.1	0.485
Men, n (%)	403 (72.9%)	212 (76.3%)	191(69.4%)	0.327
Body measurements				
BMI, kg/m ²	26.9 ± 3.5	26.9 ± 3.6	26.9 ± 3.5	0.861
WHR	0.9 ± 0.0	0.8 ± 0.1	0.9± 0.1	0.721
Concomitant diseases				
Hyperlipidemia (%)	268 (48.5%)	125 (44.8%)	143 (52.1%)	0.277
Hypertension (%)	125 (22.6%)	63 (23.1%)	62 (22.6%)	0.126
T2DM (%)	87 (15.7%)	39 (14.0%)	48 (17.5%)	0.453
Obesity (%)	380 (68.7%)	191 (68.7%)	189 (68.7%)	0.423
Drugs				
Hypoglycemic drugs (%)	69 (12.5%)	30 (10.8%)	39 (14.2%)	0.193
Lipid-lowering drugs (%)	61 (11.0%)	31 (11.2%)	30 (10.9%)	0.427
Antihypertensive drugs (%)	53 (9.6%)	23 (8.3%)	30 (10.9%)	0.885
Laboratory parameters				
ALT, IU/L	49.0 ± 20.8	48.9 ± 20.7	49.2 ± 20.6	0.315
AST, IU/L	45.9 ± 33.2	45.9 ± 34.2	45.9 ± 32.3	0.856
GGT, IU/L	74.3 ± 93.9	77.0 ± 105.2	70.3 ± 77.8	0.724
Albumin, g/L	46.0 ± 4.1	46.1 ± 3.7	45.8 ± 4.5	0.974
Albumin/globulin ratio	1.5 ± 0.2	1.5 ± 0.2	1.5 ± 0.2	0.732
Fasting glucose, mmol/L	6.5 ± 1.7	7.1 ± 1.6	5.9 ± 1.9	0.475
HbA1c, %	6.2 ± 1.5	6.2 ± 1.4	6.2 ± 1.4	0.393
HOMA-IR score	4.0 ± 1.1	4.9 ± 1.4	3.1 ± 1.0	0.398
Platelet count, ×10 ⁹ /L	245.7 ± 61.2	246.5 ± 62.7	246.8 ± 59.9	0.549
CK18-M30, IU/L	311.4 ± 545.2	319.5 ± 593.2	303.0 ± 501.8	0.961
IV-C, ng/ml	21.4 ± 13.7	21.4 ± 14.8	21.3 ± 15.5	0.726
PC-III, ng/ml	22.4 ± 21.2	22.5 ± 22.4	22.3 ± 20.1	0.252
Liver histology				
Steatosis				0.071
1	237 (42.9%)	237 (42.9%)	237 (42.9%)	
2	199 (36.0%)	97 (34.9%)	102 (37.1%)	
3	117 (21.1%)	63 (22.7%)	54 (19.6%)	
Ballooning				0.135
0	83 (15.0%)	37 (13.3%)	46 (16.7%)	
1	311 (56.2%)	165 (59.4%)	146 (53.1%)	
2	159 (28.8%)	75 (27.3%)	83 (30.2%)	
Lobular inflammation				0.595
0	64 (11.6%)	33 (11.9%)	31 (11.3%)	
1	329 (59.6%)	168 (60.6%)	161 (58.5%)	
2	146 (26.4%)	71 (25.6%)	75 (27.3%)	
3	12 (2.2%)	4 (1.4%)	8 (2.9%)	
NAS	4.1 ± 1.6	4.2 ± 1.7	4.1 ± 1.5	0.225
Fibrosis stage				0.799

0	206 (37.3%)	98 (35.3%)	108 (39.3%)	
1	240 (43.4%)	127 (45.7%)	113 (41.1%)	
2	87 (15.7%)	40 (14.4%)	47 (17.1%)	
3	15 (2.7%)	9 (3.2%)	6 (2.2%)	
4	5 (0.9%)	4 (1.4%)	1 (0.4%)	
Significant fibrosis, n (%)	107 (19.3%)	53 (19.1%)	54 (19.6%)	0.417

Data are presented as means \pm SD and absolute or relative percentages

Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; WHR, waist to hip ratio; T2DM, type 2 diabetes; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; GGT, gamma-glutamyltranspeptidase; A/G, ratio of albumin/globulin; HOMA-IR, homeostatic model assessment of insulin resistance; CK18-M30, cytokeratin fragments 18 M30; IV-C, type IV collagen; PC-III, procollagen III
Significant fibrosis was defined as fibrosis stage \geq F2..