

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of study participants, stratified by *PNPLA3* rs738409 polymorphism.

	All (n=523)	CC (n=144)	CG (n=252)	GG (n=127)	P value
Demographics					
Age (years)	42.5 ± 12.0	44.0 ± 12.2	41.5 ± 12.1	42.6 ± 11.5	0.154
Men, n (%)	381 (72.8)	104 (72.2)	191 (75.8)	86 (67.7)	0.244
Metabolic risk factors					
Body mass index (kg/m ²)	26.9 ± 3.7	27.0 ± 4.5	27.0 ± 3.5	26.7 ± 3.2	0.758
Overweight/obesity, n (%)	360 (68.8)	100 (69.4)	174 (69.0%)	86 (67.7)	0.949
Visceral fat area (cm ²)	102.8 ± 25.9	103.9 ± 25.2	102.4 ± 25.6	102.3 ± 27.5	0.838
Type 2 diabetes, n (%)	135 (25.8)	41 (28.5)	62 (24.6)	32 (25.2)	0.687
Hypertension, n (%)	126 (24.1)	37 (25.7)	54 (21.4)	35 (27.6)	0.365
Laboratory parameters					
AST (U/L)	34.0 (25.0-52.5)	31.5 (24.0-48.0)	34.0 (25.0-54.0)	36.0 (26.0-57.0)	0.116
ALT (U/L)	51.0 (30.0-88.0)	44.5 (28.8-73.8)	52.0 (30.0-91.2)	55.0 (30.5-89.5)	0.109
GGT (U/L)	52.0 (32.5-84.5)	51.5 (30.8-81.2)	55.0 (35.0-85.2)	49.0 (31.5-83.0)	0.491
Total bilirubin (μmol/L)	12.0 (10.0-16.0)	12.0 (9.8-16.0)	13.0 (10.0-16.0)	12.0 (10.0-16.5)	0.730
Albumin (g/L)	45.9 ± 4.0	46.2 ± 3.5	45.9 ± 3.8	45.7 ± 5.0	0.589
Glucose (mmol/L)	5.3 (4.9-6.3)	5.4 (5.0-6.4)	5.3 (4.9-6.2)	5.3 (4.9-6.1)	0.281
Insulin (mIU/L)	14.6 (9.6-21.3)	15.2 (9.4-21.3)	14.3 (10.0-21.2)	14.9 (9.8-21.2)	0.949
HOMA-IR score	3.6 (2.3-5.3)	3.6 (2.3-5.5)	3.4 (2.4-5.2)	3.6 (2.2-5.5)	0.879
Total cholesterol (mmol/L)	5.1 (4.4-5.9)	5.1 ± 1.2	5.2 ± 1.1	5.2 ± 1.2	0.516
Triglycerides (mmol/L)	1.9 (1.4-2.8)	2.0 (1.4-3.2)	1.9 (1.4-2.8)	1.8 (1.4-2.5)	0.179
HDL-cholesterol (mmol/L)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)	1.0 ± 0.2	1.0 ± 0.2	1.0 ± 0.3	0.163
LDL-cholesterol (mmol/L)	3.0 (2.4-3.6)	2.9 ± 0.9	3.1±0.9	3.1±1.0	0.055
Liver histology, n (%)					
Steatosis grade					<0.001
1	222 (42.4)	83 (57.6)	101 (40.1)	38 (29.9)	
2	193 (36.9)	47 (32.6)	97 (38.5)	49 (38.6)	
3	108 (20.7)	14 (9.7)	54 (21.4)	40 (31.5)	
Hepatocyte ballooning					0.922
0	78 (14.9)	22 (15.3)	38 (15.1%)	18 (14.2)	
1	296 (56.6)	85 (59.0)	141 (56.0%)	70 (55.1)	
2	149 (28.5)	37 (25.7)	73 (29.0%)	39 (30.7)	
Lobular inflammation					0.148
0	64 (12.2)	25 (17.4)	29 (11.5%)	10 (7.9)	
1	306 (58.5)	76 (52.8)	153 (60.7%)	77 (60.6)	
2	145 (27.7)	41 (28.5)	68 (27.0%)	36 (28.3)	
3	8 (1.5)	2 (1.4)	2 (0.8%)	4 (3.1)	
Definite NASH	202 (38.6%)	47 (32.6%)	95 (37.7%)	60 (47.2%)	0.044
Significant fibrosis (F ≥2 stage)	102 (19.5%)	22 (15.3%)	49 (19.4%)	31 (24.4%)	0.167

Abbreviations: ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; GGT, gamma-glutamyltransferase; HOMA-IR, homeostasis model assessment-insulin resistance; HDL, high-density lipoprotein; LDL, low-density lipoprotein; NASH, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis.