

# **Elevated serum levels of glial fibrillary acidic protein are associated with covert hepatic encephalopathy in patients with cirrhosis**

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**Table S1. Baseline characteristics of the cohort stratified by study sites.**

Variable		Mainz n = 85	Lübeck n = 50	p-value
Age, y (IQR)		60 (54; 65)	61 (53; 70)	0.216
Male gender, n (%)		37 (44)	30 (60)	0.065
Aetiology	Alcohol, n (%)	54 (64)	26 (52)	0.188
	Other, n (%)	31 (37)	24 (48)	
Median MELD score (IQR)		14 (10; 18)	10 (7; 14)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Child-Pugh A/B/C, n (%)		36/43/6 (42/51/7)	28/17/5 (56/34/10)	0.172
History of OHE, n (%)		13 (15)	4 (8)	0.217
History of ascites, n (%)		55 (65)	29 (58)	0.438
Sodium, mmol/l (IQR)		137 (135; 139)	139 (136; 141)	<b>0.024</b>
Albumin, g/l (IQR)		30 (25; 35)	39 (31; 44)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
WBC, /nl (IQR)		5.1 (3.8; 7.9)	6.0 (4.3; 6.6)	0.685
GFAP, pg/ml (IQR)		138 (92; 191)	137 (74; 206)	0.532
CHE, n (%)		37 (44)	13 (26)	<b>0.042</b>
Median PHES (IQR)		-4 (-10; -1)	-3 (-5; 0)	0.052

Data are expressed as medians and interquartile ranges (IQR) or as frequencies and percentages; Differences between patients from Mainz vs Lübeck with metric data were evaluated using an unpaired t-test or a Mann-Whitney U Test depending on data distribution. Regarding categorical variables, a chi-square test was applied. MELD, model for end-stage liver disease; WBC, white blood cell count; OHE, overt hepatic encephalopathy; CHE, covert hepatic encephalopathy; PHES, psychometric hepatic encephalopathy score.