

**Table 1: The baseline characteristics of the three pathological groups of patients**

Variable	Group A		Group B		Group C		P-value
<i>Gender</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	
Male	52	(61.2)	9	(69.2)	2	(100)	0.469
Female	33	(38.8)	4	(30.8)	0	(0.0)	
<i>Age at time of enrolment In years</i>	5.60 ± SD 2.50		8.08 ± SD 2.18		8.75 ± 6.01		0.002
<i>Age of corrosive ingestion In years</i>	1.94 ± SD 0.66		2.27 ± SD 0.44		6.25 ± SD 6.72		<0.001
<i>Type of corrosion</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	
Alkaline	78	(91.8)	10	(76.9)	2	(100)	0.005
Neutral	6	(7.0)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	
Acidic	1	(1.2)	3	(23.1)	0	(0.0)	
<i>Weight in percentile</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	
< 3 <sup>rd</sup>	38	(44.7)	9	(69.2)	0	(0.0)	0.104
>3 <sup>rd</sup>	47	(55.3)	4	(30.8)	2	(100)	
<i>Height in percentile</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	
< 3 <sup>rd</sup>	61	(71.8)	9	(69.2)	0	(0.0)	0.091
>3 <sup>rd</sup>	24	(28.2)	4	(30.8)	2	(100)	
<i>Stricture site</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	
Upper esophageal	74	(87.1)	12	(92.3)	1	(50.0)	0.253
Mid esophageal	53	(62.4)	10	(76.9)	2	(100)	0.341
Lower esophageal	3	(3.5)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	0.761
<i>Stricture length</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	
Long segment	59	(69.4)	13	(100)	2	(100)	0.045
Short segment	26	(30.6)	0	(0.0)	0	(0.0)	
<i>Stricture number</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>%</i>	
Single	45	(52.9)	4	(30.8)	2	(100)	0.124
Multiple	40	(47.1)	9	(69.2)	0	(0.0)	
<b>Number of dilatation</b>	35.21 ± 12.79		49.38 ± 21.81		42.50 ± 17.68		0.005
<b>Duration since ingestion In years</b>	3.66 ± 2.20		5.81 ± 2.41		2.50 ± 0.71		0.004
<b>No further dilatation</b>	43 (50.5%)		11 (84.6%)		0 (0.0%)		0.015
<b>Ongoing dilatation</b>	42 (49.5%)		2 (15.4%)		2 (100%)		

**NB: Number of strictures is greater than No of patients since every patient may have more than one stricture. SD [standard deviation]**