

Table 1: Baseline characteristics of the study population consisting of 80 consecutive patients with knee osteoarthritis who were randomly assigned to two treatment groups and received weekly intra-articular injections either of low or of high molecular weight hyaluronic acid preparation.

	LMW group	HMW group	p value
Female/male	25/15	23/17	0.648
Mean age (range)	67.38 (66-74)	67.20 (66-78)	0.509
Kellgren-Lawrence stage	2.55	2.57	0.814
WOMAC score	42.48 (SD 12.8)	43 (SD 13.54)	0.547
VAS score	7.18 (SD 3.84)	7.48 (SD 3.45)	0.707
Medial Joint Space (mm)	3.65 (SD 1.58)	3.66 (SD 1.37)	0.938
Lateral Joint Space (mm)	5.16 (SD 2.16)	5.17 (SD 2.07)	0.454

LMW: low molecular weight, HMW: high molecular weight group, WOMAC: Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index, VAS: visual analog scale, SD: standard deviation.