**Supplementary table 1:** Association between age, CA-125 concentration, and pleural effusion volume in all study subjects.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Control (N=292)** | | | | ***P* value** | | **COPD patients (N=284)** | | | | ***P* value** | |
| **Age (rears)** | ≤ 29 | 30-59 | 60-79 | ≥80 | |  | ≤ 29 | 30-59 | 60-79 | ≥80 | |  |
| **Number** | 4 | 243 | 42 | 3 | |  | 13 | 64 | 155 | 52 | |  |
| **CA-125 (Mean ± S.D.)** | 10.90  ±5.371 | 10.41  ±5.273 | 8.307  ±3.637 | 8.333  ±3.556 | | *p*=0.0963 | 104.7  ±76.56 | 117.1  ±112.3 | 122.4  ±119.6 | 108.7  ±121.4 | | *p*=0.8722 |
| **Pleural effusion** |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| Minimal-volume |  |  |  |  | |  | 3 | 20 | 45 | 19 | | *p*=0.9923 |
| Small-volume |  |  |  |  | |  | 5 | 22 | 57 | 18 | |  |
| Medium-volume |  |  |  |  | |  | 2 | 11 | 28 | 8 | |  |
| Large-volume |  |  |  |  | |  | 3 | 11 | 25 | 7 | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |

COPD = chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; CA-125 = cancer antigen-125.