

Table 1. Patient baseline characteristics

	Total [#]	Fluticasone propionate group	Budesonide group
Patient (n)	40	15	14
Mean age (years)	61.2±12.6	62.1±11.8	60.0±14.5
Male/Female	14/26	6/9	3/11
Duration (years)*	6.19±6.05	8.11±6.69	2.84±2.39
Severity			
Step II	2	1	1
Step III	7	3	3
Step IV	30	11	10
Step V	1	0	0
FeNO (ppb)	29.8±20.6	33.3±21.6	27.5±26.0
Pulmonary Function			
%FVC	102.5±18.1	100.5±22.9	106.5±14.9
%FEV ₁	91.3±19.7	92.4±23.4	94.3±15.3
FEV _{1%}	69.9±10.6	72.1±11.6	70.0±8.72
%V ₅₀	51.4±29.6	59.6±31.0	49.9±30.6
%V ₂₅	35.4±22.5	45.6±27.9	30.3±13.8
Basal dose of ICS (µg/day)*	305.6±181.6 ^{##}	399.6±232.0	217.9±83.9 ^{##}
Systemic corticosteroids (mg/month) ^{###}	2.5±8.5	0.3±1.3	0.7±1.8
Concomitant drugs			
LABA	37	14	12
LTRA	22	8	7
Theophylline	10	5	2

Mean ± standard deviation (SD). *: P<0.01.

[#]: Total means all ICSs, including beclomethasone dipropionate, ciclesonide and fluticasone furoate.

^{##}: Fluticasone propionate was used as a standard relative to which the dose of other ICSs was calculated.

^{###}: Prednisolone was used as a standard relative to which the dose of other corticosteroids was calculated.

FeNO, Fractional exhaled nitric oxide; %FVC, forced vital capacity (% of predicted); %FEV₁,

forced expiratory volume in 1 s (% of predicted); %V₅₀, maximum expiratory flow at 50% of the forced vital capacity (% of predicted); %V₂₅, maximum expiratory flow at 25% of the forced vital capacity (% of predicted); LABA, Long-acting beta-adrenoceptor agonist; LTRA, leukotriene receptor antagonist.