

**Table 3 Association of liver and spleen abnormalities and ascites with pruritus in patients with chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection**

Variable	HCV patients with pruritus (n = 23)		HCV patients without skin manifestations (n = 47) <sup>a</sup>		RR	95% CI	P-value
	No.	%	No.	%			
<b>Liver</b>							
Normal size	0	0.0	10	21.3			
Hepatomegaly	12	52.2	30	63.8			
Shrunken	11	47.8	7	14.9	2.1	1.2–3.9	0.001
<b>Spleen</b>							
Normal size	5	21.7	28	59.6			
Splenomegaly	18	78.3	18	38.3	3.3	1.4–7.9	0.002
<b>Ascites</b>							
Absent	20	87.0	44	93.6			
Present	3	13.0	3	6.4	1.6	0.7–3.9	0.38

<sup>a</sup>1 patient without skin manifestations had had a splenectomy.

RR = relative risk; CI = confidence interval.