

**Table 2 Eosinophil counts and serum eosinophilic cationic protein (ECP) levels of the study subjects**

Variable	Healthy controls (n = 16) Mean (SD) [95% CI]	Total asthma cases (n = 38) Mean (SD) [95% CI]	Partially controlled asthma (n = 22) Mean (SD) [95% CI]	Controlled asthma (n = 16) Mean (SD) [95% CI]
Peripheral eosinophil count (cells/mm <sup>3</sup> )	371.5 (34.3) [53.5–489]	627.4 (103.4) [221–1272] <sup>a</sup>	854.2 (92.1) [467–1710] <sup>a,b</sup>	396.9 (45.6) [89–734]
Serum-ECP level (µg/L)	13.8 (3.3) [7.9–19.7]	51.8 (47.8) [17.1–91.2] <sup>a</sup>	56.2 (57.2) [33.3–95.9] <sup>a,b</sup>	20.2 (19.9) [10.8–28.7]

*SD = standard deviation; CI = confidence interval.*

<sup>a</sup>*P < 0.001 versus healthy controls; <sup>b</sup>P < 0.001 versus controlled asthma cases (non-parametric statistics).*