

**Table 2 Alkaline phosphatase (ALP) level and clinicopathological variables in patients with oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma (n = 185)**

Variable			ALP level (g/dL)	P-value
	No.	%	Mean (SD)	
<b>Sex</b>				0.458
Male	96	51	121 (69)	
Female	89	49	129 (71)	
<b>Anatomical location</b>				0.104
Upper	4	2	94 (19)	
Middle	66	40	114 (64)	
Lower	95	58	136 (77)	
<b>Degree of differentiation</b>				0.306
Good	47	29	118 (67)	
Moderate	86	52	125 (67)	
Poor	31	19	142 (74)	
<b>Depth of penetration</b>				0.969
T <sub>1</sub> and T <sub>2</sub>	42	26	125 (78)	
T <sub>3</sub> and T <sub>4</sub>	120	74	125 (69)	
<b>Lymph nodes metastasis</b>				0.018
Positive	72	44	143 (78)	
Negative	93	56	115 (64)	
<b>Distant metastasis</b>				0.276
Present	6	4	96 (34)	
Absent	156	96	128 (72)	
<b>Lymphatic invasion</b>				0.095
Present	64	41	134 (79)	
Absent	91	59	114 (64)	
<b>Vascular invasion</b>				0.0001
Present	70	43	144 (69)	
Absent	91	57	105 (57)	
<b>Perineural invasion</b>				0.071
Present	36	24	133 (61)	
Absent	114	76	111 (63)	
<b>Multiple cancers</b>				0.229
Present	7	4	94 (17)	
Absent	160	96	127 (73)	

SD - standard deviation.