

Table 1 Sociodemographic characteristics of peptic ulcer patients during Ramadan and after Ramadan (1992–2002)

Variable	During Ramadan (n = 215)		After Ramadan (n = 255)		P-value
	No.	%	No.	%	
Sex					
Male	114	53.0	168	65.9	0.006
Female	101	47.0	87	34.1	
Nationality					
UAE	87	40.5	98	38.4	NS
Non UAE	128	59.5	157	61.6	
Age group (years)					
<30	30	14.0	84	32.9	< 0.001
30–39	71	33.0	74	29.0	
40–49	58	27.0	55	21.6	
>50	56	26.0	42	16.5	
Smoking habit^a					
Yes	32	15.0	61	24.3	0.014
No	182	85.0	190	75.7	
Diseases associated with peptic ulcer					
Hypertension	11	5.1	25	9.9	NS
Diabetes	12	5.6	21	8.3	NS
Age (years) [mean (SD)]	42.1 (13.3)		36.1 (14.6)		< 0.001

SD = standard deviation.

NS = not significant.

UAE = United Arab Emirates.

^a*Data were available for only 214 and 251 patients during and after Ramadan*