

Table 1 Characteristics of patients in the groups receiving albendazole and metronidazole in the treatment of giardiasis

Characteristic	Albendazole group (n = 60)	Metronidazole group (n = 60)
<i>Mean age (SD) (years)</i>	21.3 (8.9)	22.9 (12.1)
<i>Male/female</i>	30/30	31/29
<i>Mean duration of symptoms (SD) (days)</i>	3.4 (0.6)	4.2 (0.7)
<i>Education^a</i>		
Illiterate (No.)	4	5
Educated (No.)	44	32
Highly educated (No.)	12	13
<i>Quit treatment</i>	15	9
<i>Response to treatment</i>		
All patients, No. (%)	54/60 (90.0)	46/60 (76.7)
Male, No. (%)	26/30 (86.7)	22/31 (71.0)
Female, No. (%)	28/30 (93.3)	24/29 (82.8)

SD = standard deviation.

^a*Illiterate: no schooling/not able to read or write; educated: able to read or write up to high-school diploma; highly educated: attended university.*