

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of study population

Variable	Group A (Breast cancer) n=21	Group B (Controls) n= 25	p-value
Age (mean $\pm$ SD)	58.1 $\pm$ 8.9	61.8 $\pm$ 8.5	0.134
Serum Ca (mean $\pm$ SD)	10.0 $\pm$ 0.4	9.8 $\pm$ 0.5	0.169
Serum P (mean $\pm$ SD)	3.7 $\pm$ 0.5	3.7 $\pm$ 0.5	0.694
Serum PTH [median (IQR)]	53.7 (24.7)	46.2 (62.2)	0.503 *
U _{Ca}	141 (99)	185 (120)	0.151 *

Variables were described with mean and standard deviation (SD) or median and IQR (interquartile range) according to their assessment of normality. Ca: Calcium, P: Phosphate, PTH: Parathyroid Hormone, U_{Ca}: calcium in the 24h urine collection.

Group A: Women with non-metastatic breast cancer and osteoporosis; Group B: Controls P-values are derived from T-test, unless otherwise specified. *Mann-Whitney test.