

Supplementary Table 2. The comparison of cognitive function assessed by PHES between the groups and visits

Variable	Baseline		Week 24		Change of values (24 weeks–baseline)		
	Value	<i>p</i> value ^a	Value	<i>p</i> value ^a	Difference	<i>p</i> value ^a	<i>p</i> value ^b
PHES score		0.951 ^c		0.131 ^c		0.129 ^c	
Placebo	–3 (–5 to –1)		–2 (–4 to 0)		0 (0 to 2)		0.038 ^d
L-carnitine	–3 (–5 to 0)		–2 (–4 to 1)		0 (0 to 2)		< 0.001 ^d
MHE		0.830 ^e		0.454 ^e		0.463 ^f	
Placebo	21/72 (29.2)		15/72 (20.8)		7/21 (33.3)		0.030 ^g
L-carnitine	19/69 (27.5)		11/69 (15.9)		9/19 (47.4)		0.009 ^g
CHE		0.211 ^e		0.272 ^e		0.678 ^f	
Placebo	64/72 (88.9)		29/72 (40.3)		35/64 (54.7)		< 0.001 ^g
L-carnitine	57/70 (81.4)		22/70 (31.4)		36/57 (63.2)		< 0.001 ^g

Values are presented as median (interquartile range) or number (%).

PHES, psychometric hepatic encephalopathy score; MHE, minimal hepatic encephalopathy; CHE, covert hepatic encephalopathy.

^aComparison between the groups.

^bComparison within the groups.

^cIndependent *t* test or Wilcoxon rank sum test.

^dPaired *t* test or Wilcoxon signed rank test.

^eChi-square test.

^fGeneralized Estimating Equations for the interaction effect of time × group.

^gGeneralized Estimating Equations for the time effect.