

Table 1. Characteristics of the patients and plaques

Characteristics	Symptomatic n=47	Asymptomatic n=21	P value
Age, y	72.0 ± 0.9	71.1 ± 1.4	0.9
Male sex	46 (98)	21 (100)	0.50
<b>Risk factors</b>			
Current smoker	10 (21)	2 (10)	0.24
Diabetes mellitus	11 (23)	10 (48)	0.046
Hypertension	39 (83)	19 (90)	0.42
Dyslipidemia	32 (68)	18 (86)	0.13
<b>Plaque characteristics</b>			
<b>Severity of stenosis</b>			
<50%	3 (6)	0 (0)	0.03
50-69%	13 (29)	2 (9)	
70%≤	31 (65)	19 (91)	
<b>Contrast grade</b>			
<b>G<sub>L</sub></b>			<0.0001
0	1 (2)	5 (24)	
1	8 (17)	10 (48)	
2	22 (47)	6 (28)	
3	16 (34)	0 (0)	
<b>G<sub>A</sub></b>			0.03
0	6 (13)	6 (28)	
1	13 (28)	8 (38)	
2	21(44)	6 (29)	
3	7 (15)	1 (5)	
<b>G<sub>D</sub></b>			0.0095
-1	6(13)	3(14)	
0	18(38)	16(76)	
+1	16(34)	2(10)	
+2	7(15)	0(0)	
<b>CEUS EI(dB)</b>			
E <sub>L</sub>	23.9±6.7	23.9±4.7	0.98
E <sub>C</sub>	2.2±3.4	0.73±1.8	0.12
E <sub>S</sub>	12.3±4.6	7.7±2.8	<0.0001
<b>Neovessel density(/mm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	56.2 ± 43.7	18.1 ± 15.2	<0.0001
<b>AHA classification</b>			
<b>V</b>	3 (6)	3 (14)	0.29
<b>VI</b>	44 (94)	18 (86)	

N (%). GL indicates grade from the luminal side; GA, grade from the adventitial side; GD, grade difference; CEUS, contrast-enhanced ultrasound; E<sub>L</sub>, enhanced intensity in the lumen; E<sub>C</sub>, enhanced intensity in the core; E<sub>S</sub>, enhanced intensity in the plaque shoulder; AHA, American Heart Association.