

Table 3 Correlation between initial platelet count and clinical and laboratory parameters in patients (Groups 1 and 2), and controls (Group 3)

Parameter	Age (years)	Platelet count ($\times 10^9/L$)	TNF- α (pg/mL)	IFN- γ (pg/mL)
Group 1				
Age (years)				
r		0.23	0.30	0.19
P		0.47	0.34	0.548
Platelet count ($\times 10^9/L$)				
r	0.23		0.829	0.81
P	0.47		0.001	0.001*
TNF- α (pg/mL)				
r	0.30	0.829		0.797
P	0.34	0.001*		0.002*
IFN- γ (pg/mL)				
r	0.19	0.81	0.797	
P	0.548	0.001*	0.002*	
Group 2				
Age (years)				
r	–	–0.395	–0.329	0.059
P	–	0.204	NS	NS
Platelet count ($\times 10^9/L$)				
r	–0.395	–	0.698*	0.579*
P	0.204	–	0.012	0.049
TNF- α (pg/mL)				
r	–0.329	0.698*	–	0.432
P	0.296	0.012	–	0.161
IFN- γ (pg/mL)				
r	0.059	0.579*	0.432	–
P	0.856	0.049	0.161	–
Group 3				
Age (years)				
r		–0.27	–0.15	0.14
P		0.448	0.678	0.69
Platelet count ($\times 10^9/L$)				
r	–0.27		0.507	0.42
P	0.448		0.135	0.227
TNF- α (pg/mL)				
r	–0.15	0.507		–0.186
P	0.678	0.135		0.606
IFN- γ (pg/mL)				
r	0.14	0.42	–0.186	
P	0.69	0.227	0.606	

*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

TNF = tumour necrosis factor; IFN = interferon; r = Pearson correlation.

NS = not significant ($P \geq 0.05$).