Table 1. Clinical and epidemiological characteristics of HIV infected patients and healthy donors.

	Controls vs. all HIV patients			HIV groups of patients			
Characteristics	Control	All HIV (*)	p-value (a)	LTNPs-group	MPs-group	RPs-group	<i>p</i> -value ^(b)
No.	113	667		183	334	150	
Male	93 (82.3%)	540 (81.4%)	0.829	115 (64.2%)	283 (84.7%)	142 (94.7%)	< 0.001
Age (years)	42.0 (37.0; 49.0)	41.3 (35.0; 48.4)	0.427	48.7 (46.0; 51.7)	38.2 (33.2; 45.3)	38.3 (33.0; 43.8)	<0.001
Age of HIV diagnosis	-	34.3 (29.0; 40.4)	-	39.8 (34.3; 43.7)	31.8 (27.0; 38.4)	34.0 (29.6; 38.1)	< 0.001
Year of HIV diagnosis	-	2006 (1999; 2008)	-	1993 (1990; 1997)	2006 (2004; 2008)	2009 (2007; 2010)	<0.001
HIV acquired							
IDU	-	166 (25.0%)	-	130 (72.6%)	29 (8.7%)	7 (4.7%)	< 0.001
Homosexual	-	359 (54.1%)	-	13 (7.3%)	220 (65.9%)	126 (84.0%)	
Heterosexual	-	118 (17.8%)	-	27 (15.1%)	76 (22.8%)	15 (10.0%)	
Others	-	20 (3.0%)	-	9 (5.0%)	9 (2.7%)	2 (1.3%)	

Statistics: P-values were calculated by Chi-square or Fisher's exact test, Mann-Whitney and Kruskal-Wallis tests: (a). differences between control group and all HIV infected patients; (b). differences among HIV groups. Statistically significant differences are shown in bold. (*), Clinical and epidemiological data for three HIV-infected patients were not available.

Abbreviations: IDU, intravenous drug users; HIV, Human immunodeficiency virus; LTNPs, Long Term Non Progressors; MPs, Moderate Progressors; RPs, Rapid progressors.