HTE was estimated using the same categorized versions of baseline ferritin, TSAT and their combinations (either low, or both low), following what was previously done with negative binomial regression models.

Table X. Subgroup specific effects of treatment on the number of blood transfusions (30 days post-surgery) and tests for the respective statistical interactions.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Placebo | Active | IRR (95% CI) | p |
| Ferritin ng/ml < 30 | 0.5 ± 1.1 | 0.2 ± 0.5 | 0.45 (0.2 to 0.98) | 0.06 |
| Ferritin ng/ml 30 - 100 | 0.4 ± 0.9 | 0.7 ± 1.3 | 1.53 (0.75 to 3.1) |  |
| Ferritin ng/ml ≥ 100 | 0.5 ± 0.8 | 0.5 ± 0.9 | 1.04 (0.64 to 1.7) |  |
| TSAT% < 20 | 0.5 ± 1 | 0.5 ± 1 | 0.92 (0.6 to 1.4) | 0.29 |
| TSAT% ≥ 20 | 0.3 ± 0.7 | 0.4 ± 0.7 | 1.55 (0.63 to 3.8) |  |
| Ferritin ng/ml < 100 OR TSAT% < 20 | 0.5 ± 1 | 0.5 ± 1 | 0.95 (0.63 to 1.43) | 0.29 |
| Ferritin ng/ml ≥ 100 and TSAT% ≥ 20 | 0.3 ± 0.6 | 0.4 ± 0.8 | 1.72 (0.66 to 4.51) |  |
| Ferritin ng/ml < 100 AND TSAT% < 20 | 0.5 ± 1 | 0.4 ± 0.9 | 0.88 (0.49 to 1.55) | 0.51 |
| Ferritin ng/ml ≥ 100 or TSAT% ≥ 20 | 0.5 ± 0.8 | 0.5 ± 0.9 | 1.14 (0.69 to 1.89) |  |
| Within-group outcomes (number of blood transfusions in 30 days post-surgery) are summarized as means and SDs. IRR = Incidence Rate Ratio. P-values are from the likelihood ratio test of the interaction between treatment group and the respective covariate. | | | | |

HTE was also estimated using quasi-Poisson models with an interaction between treatment arms and a given baseline lab value (one for each model). Lab values were modeled with restricted cubic splines with 4 knots. This was done to avoid categorization of the lab values and the subsequent loss of power to detect interactions. Each model is adjusted for age and an offset for time at risk.

