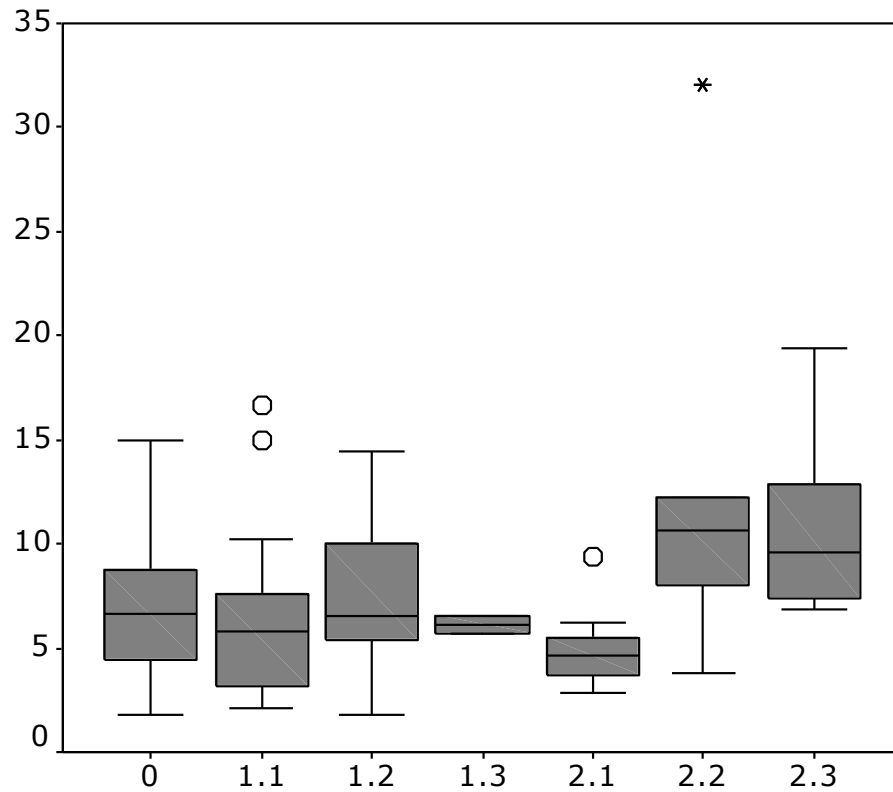


Graph 1. Erythropoietin concentration in blood (mIU/ml) in different clinical stages of nonproliferative (NPDR) and proliferative (PDR) diabetic retinopathy



0- Control group, 1.1.NPDR mild, 1.2. NPDR moderate, 1.3. NPDR severe  
2.1. PDR mild, 2.2 PDR moderate, 2.3. PDR severe

° measured values different from most of the others (outlier),

\* measured values extremely different from most of the others (extreme outlier).