Results

Overall, 150 patients with renal stones were enrolled in the study. Patients' demographics and stones characteristics were compared in both groups with no significant difference between both groups. The mean age was 53.88 ± 12.99 years in supine group and 52.37 ± 14.04 years in prone group. The mean stone size was 28.15 ± 8.68 mm in supine group and 27.27 ± 7.43 in prone group.

Patients undergoing supine PCNL were further subdivided into three groups of 25 consecutive patients (subgroups A1, A2, and A3):

Outcome measures and complications: The mean **operative time** decreased from 111.8 ± 13.91 minutes for subgroup A1 to 78.4 ± 12.97 minutes for subgroup A3. Particularly, the tract dilatation time and fluoroscopy time significantly decrease as the operator gain more experience (P<0.0001). **Considering HB drop,** it showed significant decrease from the mean of 1.99 mg/dl to 0.78 to 0.59 mg/dl in the three subgroups. Despite the initial stone free rate (SFR) was significantly higher among subgroup A1 and A3, there was no significant difference regarding the final SFR and the post-operative complications among the three subgroups.

Similarly, patients undergoing prone PCNL were further subdivided into three groups of 25 consecutive patients (subgroup B1, B2, and B3):

Outcome measures and complications: The **operative time** decreased from the mean of 122 ± 23.76 minutes for subgroup B1 to 110.2 ± 17.05 minutes for subgroup B2, and thereafter 82 ± 15.34 minutes for subgroup B3. Like patients undergoing supine PCNL, the tract dilatation time and fluoroscopy time significantly decrease as the operator gain more experience (P<0.001). **Considering HB drop**, it showed significant decrease from the mean of 2.03 mg/dl to 1.73 to 0.65 mg/dl in the three subgroups. On the other hand, there was no significant difference regarding the initial SFR, final SFR, and the post-operative complications among the three subgroups.