FIGURE 1

EVALUATED PATIENTS n=165

NON-RANDOMIZED PATIENTS n=109
- 46 older than 75 years of age
- 35 exacerbated COPD
- 6 aspiration pneumonia
- 6 refused to participate
- 5 malignancy on treatment
- 4 AIDS
- 3 premor tem status
- 2 already intubated

RANDOMIZED PATIENTS (n=56)

Placebo n=28

Excluded patients (N=6)
- 1 Absence of respiratory failure
- 1 Age >75 years of age
- 1 Empyema
- 2 Absence of radiological criteria
- 1 Violation of study protocol

VALID CASES PLACEBO GROUP (N=22)

MPDN n=28

Excluded patients (N=5)
- 1 Absence of radiological criteria
- 1 Violation of study protocol
- 3 Alternative diagnoses other than pneumonia (1 alveolar haemorrhage, 1 lung cancer, 1 tuberculosis)

VALID CASES MPDN GROUP (N=23)