



Supplementary Figure 1. Distribution of developmental levels at 18 months of corrected age

Infants received either *Bifidobacterium bifidum* OLB6378 (B-group) or a placebo (P-group). The number of infants with a certain DQ18 score is indicated in each box: dark grey, DQ18<70, clear developmental abnormalities; medium grey, DQ18=70–84, moderate developmental delay; light grey, DQ18=85–99, without developmental delay; white, DQ18≥100, average development or better. On ordered logistic regression analysis, there was a significant correlation between intervention and favourable distribution of developmental levels in B-group ($p=0.038$). Significant differences between the B-group and P-group subgroups, with more favourable development in the B-group subgroups, were observed among the infants with a gestational age ≥28 weeks, birth weight ≥1,000 g, caesarean delivery, antenatal steroid use, and female sex.