

**Supplementary table 2 Background and characteristics of infants who is followed-up or not**

Characteristic	B-group infants who is followed-up (n=102)	P-group infants who is followed-up (n=105)	B-group infants who is not followed-up (n=51)	P-group infants who is not followed-up (n=25)	<i>p</i>
<b>At enrolment</b>					
Gestational age, weeks	28.7±3.1	28.4±3.0	28.4±2.3	29.1±4.2	0.772 <sup>a</sup>
Birth weight, g	1,036±287	994±282	994±285	1015±281	0.697 <sup>a</sup>
Light-for-dates, n (%)	35 (34)	41 (39)	18 (35)	9 (36)	0.917 <sup>b</sup>
Head circumference at birth, cm	25.5±2.6	25.2±3.7	24.9±2.3	25.8±2.4	0.403 <sup>a</sup>
Use of antenatal steroids, n (%)	65 (63)	56 (53)	37 (74)	10 (40)	0.013 <sup>b</sup>
Caesarean section delivery, n (%)	47 (46)	85 (81)	43 (84)	18 (72)	<0.001 <sup>b</sup>
Male sex, n (%)	60 (59)	58 (55)	26 (51)	13 (52)	0.790 <sup>b</sup>
Apgar score at 1 min	6 (4, 8)	5 (3, 7)	5 (3, 8)	5 (2, 8)	0.024 <sup>c</sup>
Apgar score at 5 min	8 (7, 9)	7 (6, 9)	8 (6, 9)	7 (5, 8)	<0.001 <sup>c</sup>
Respiratory distress syndrome, n (%)	68 (67)	68 (65)	34 (67)	14 (56)	0.858 <sup>b</sup>
Chronic lung disease, n (%)	56 (55)	49 (47)	23 (45)	12 (50)	0.590 <sup>b</sup>
Intraventricular haemorrhage, n (%)	10 (10)	23 (22)	10 (20)	1 (4)	0.031 <sup>b</sup>
Grade III or IV, n (%)	2 (2)	3 (3)	1 (2)	1 (4)	0.751 <sup>b</sup>
Periventricular leukomalacia, n (%)	3 (3)	5 (5)	3 (6)	0 (0)	0.604 <sup>b</sup>
Late-onset sepsis, n (%)	6 (6)	12 (11)	0 (0)	1 (4)	0.039 <sup>b</sup>
Use of total parenteral nutrition, n (%)	83 (81)	94 (90)	32 (63)	21 (88)	0.001 <sup>b</sup>
Treatment for retinopathy of prematurity, n (%)	15 (17)	21 (20)	7 (14)	4 (17)	0.765 <sup>b</sup>
Age at enteral feeding exceeding 100 mL/kg/day, days	11.0 (9.0, 17.3)	12.0 (9.5, 16.0)	13.0 (10.0, 19.0)	13.5 (11.3, 16.8)	0.339 <sup>c</sup>
Infants who achieved it by 21 days of age, n (%)	80 (78)	91 (87)	41 (80)	23 (96)	0.128 <sup>b</sup>
infants who achieved it by 21 days of age, days	9.0 (5.0, 12.0)	11.0 (8.0, 14.0)	11.0 (6.0, 14.0)	13.0 (10.3, 16.0)	0.004 <sup>c</sup>
<b>At the 18-month medical check-up</b>					
Age, years	1.69±0.31	1.71±0.15			0.729 <sup>d</sup>
Corrected age, years	1.46±0.39	1.51±0.13			0.869 <sup>d</sup>

Values are expressed as mean ± standard deviation, median (first quartile, third quartile), or number (frequency).

<sup>a</sup>One-way analysis of variance

<sup>b</sup>Fisher's exact test

<sup>c</sup>Kruskal-Wallis Test

<sup>d</sup>Student's t-test