**Table 1. Cohort Characteristics of children included immune or microbiome analysis**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Belgium** | **Canada** | **Ecuador** | **South Africa** | p |
| **Child characteristics** | n | 21 | 33 | 43 | 21 |  |
| Sex | Female |  1 (4.8)  |  16 (48.5)  |  28 (65.1)  |  11 (52.4)  | <0.001 |
| Male |  20 (95.2)  |  17 (51.5)  |  15 (34.9)  |  10 (47.6)  |
| Missing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Delivery Mode | Caesarean |  2 (9.5)  |  16 (48.5)  |  9 (20.9)  |  0 (0.0)  | <0.001 |
| Vaginal |  19 (90.5)  |  17 (51.5)  |  34 (79.1)  |  21 (100.0)  |
| Missing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Age (months) |  |  25.00 [21.00, 27.00] |  18.00 [18.00, 20.00] |  26.00 [25.00, 26.00] |  24.00 [23.00, 24.00] | <0.001 |
| Missing | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Gestational age (weeks) |  |  39 [38, 40] |  39 [38, 40] |  39 [38, 40] |  38 [37, 40] | 0.389 |
| Missing | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 |  |
| Birthweight (g) |  | 3095 [2935, 3480] | 3280 [3062, 3610] | 3250 [2991, 3647] | 3030 [2740, 3300] | 0.092 |
| Missing | 3 | 0 | 17 | 0 |  |
| WAZ |  |  0.22[-0.10, 1.63] |  0.32[-0.30, 1.04] |  -0.37[-0.98, 0.04] |  -0.46[-1.16, 0.07] | <0.001 |
| Missing | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |  |
| WLZ |  |  -0.04[-1.07, 0.81] |  0.33[-0.33, 0.80] |  0.22[-0.41, 0.65] |  0.06[-0.56, 0.32] | 0.448 |
| Missing | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |  |
| HAZ |  |  1.36 [0.59, 1.85] |  0.27 [-0.50, 1.07] |  -1.01 [-1.50, -0.30] |  -1.27 [-2.07, -0.03] | <0.001 |
| Missing | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |  |
| Maternal age (years) |  |  33[28, 36] |  35[33, 38] |  26 [21, 30] |  25[22, 28] | <0.001 |
| Missing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |  |
| **Breastfeeding** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ever Breast fed | Data collected | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |  |
| Yes |  NA |  33 (100.0)  |  42 (100.0)  |  20 (100.0)  |  |
| Missing | NA | 0 | 1 | 1 |  |
| Time since weaning (months) | Data collected | No | Yes | Yes | Yes |  |
| Yes | NA |  5 [0, 12] |  13 [10, 16] |  | 0.001 |
| Missing | NA | 0 | 1 | 21 |  |
| Breastfeeding duration (months) | Data collected | No | Yes | Yes | No |  |
|  | NA |  14 [6, 18] |  13 [10, 16] | NA | 0.872 |
| Currently Breastfeeding | Data collected | No | Yes | No | No |  |
| N | NA |  24 (72.7)  | NA | NA |  |
| Y | NA |  9 (27.3)  | NA | NA |  |

WLZ = Weight-for-length Z-score, WAZ = Weight-for-age Z-score, HAZ = height-for-age Z-score. NA; not applicable. Categorical variables displayed as n (%), continuous variables in median [inter-quartile range]. Statistical analyses: Chi-square test for categorical variables, Kruskal-Wallis test for continuous variables with more than two classes, Wilcoxon Rank-Sum test for continuous variables with two classes.