**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.