Supplementary Table 1. Preparation of Methylation (M) standards.

S. No	% of Methylation standard	Positive Control DNA (100 ng/µl)	Negative Control DNA (100 ng/µl)
1.	0%	0 µL	10 µL
2.	5%	0.5 µL	9.5 µL
3.	10%	1.0 µL	9.0 µL
4.	25%	2.5 µL	7.5 µL
5.	50%	5.0 µL	5.0 µL
6.	75%	7.5 µL	2.5 µL
7.	100%	10.0 µL	0 µL

Completely methylated (M) and unmethylated (U) – bisulfite converted control DNA set from the commercial source used for the MS-PCR standardization purpose. Both M and U DNA were mixed to generate a required concentration (% standard) for downstream MS-PCR procedures.

Supplementary Table 2. Comparison of study parameters between sub-groups and baseline characteristics of enrolled children.

Groups	No of Cases (%)	Vitamin D level (ng/mL)	*VDR* Methylation (%)	*VDR* mRNA Expression
PTB*	25 (58)	17.24 (10.75 – 18.59)	75 (50 – 75)	0.50 (0.40 – 0.76)
EPTB	18 (42)	12.7 (8 – 18.5)	75 (50 – 81.25)	0.51 (0.41 – 0.66)
p value		0.4	0.48	0.9
AFB + ve*	11 (44)	17.72 (7 – 18.6)	75 (75 – 81.25)	0.48 (0.32 – 0.60)
AFB -ve	14 (56)	17.24 (11.32 – 18.7)	75 (50 – 75)	0.62 (0.40 – 0.80)
p value		0.8	0.29	0.2
Age#				
<5 y	17 (39.5)	18.41 (14.47 – 18.93)	75 (50 – 87.5)	0.56 (0.43 – 0.79)
6 to 10 y	13 (30.2)	11.90 (6.72 – 17.57)	75 (50 – 75)	0.51 (0.43 – 0.65)
11 to 15 y	13 (30.2)	14.96 (7.71 – 17.95)	75 (75 – 75)	0.41 (0.33 – 0.74)
p value		0.05	0.6	0.2
LOA*				
< 5days	24 (55.8)	17.21 (9.09 – 18.69)	75 (75 – 93.75)	0.51 (0.4 – 0.76)
>5days	19 (44.2)	15.05 (8.2 – 18.62)	75 (50 – 75)	0.5 (0.41 – 0.6)
p value		0.8	0.05	0.58

Y, Years; n, number; VDR, Vitamin D receptor; LOA, Loss of appetite; ND, No Data/Not Determined; *****Mann–Whitney U test was used to compare the study parameters between the two groups and #Kruskal–Wallis test was used to compare the study parameters between more than two groups; $p<0.05$ is significant; Data are median with IQR.