Supplementary Table 3. Characteristics of the infants in the two study groups and results of between-group comparison.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Infants’ characteristics** | **Group 1 (n=8)** | **Group 2 (n=8)** | **Group 1 vs. 2,**  **p-value** |
| Gestational age at birth (wks), median (IQR) | 35.3 (30.6-39.7) | 34.8 (31.5-39.8) | .798° |
| Post-conceptional age at T0 (wks), median (IQR) | 40.3 (36.6-43.7) | 39.7 (37.3-43.8) | .798° |
| No. of preterm neonates (GA ≤32 wks), n (%) | 4 (50%) | 4 (50%) | 1§ |

*°Mann-Whitney U test*

*§Fisher’s exact test*