Supplementary Material

The cost of acute respiratory infections with cough among urban Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

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| Supplementary Table 2: Self-reported baseline characteristics of children eligible for inclusion in analysis, of children who reported at least one ARIwC illness during the study period and of children who reported no ARIwC illnesses during the study period |
|  | All children, *n=178, n (%)* | Children with ≥1 ARIwC illness, *n=138, n (%)* | Children with 0 ARIwC illnesses, *n=40, n (%)* | p-value |
| DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS |
| Child’s sex |
| MaleFemale | 91 (51.12)87 (48.88) | 67 (48.55)71 (51.45) | 24 (60.00)16 (40.00) | 0.202 |
| Mum’s age (years) |
| ≤1920-2425-2930-3435+Unknown2 | 30 (16.85)62 (34.83)36 (20.22)29 (16.29)20 (11.24)1 (0.56) | 18 (13.04)52 (37.68)29 (21.01)20 (14.49)19 (13.77)0 (0.00) | (30.00)10 (25.00)7 (17.50)9 (22.50)1 (2.50)1 (2.50) | 0.016 |
| Dad’s age (years) |
| ≤1920-2425-2930-3435+Unknown2 | 8 (4.49)56 (31.46)46 (25.84)22 (12.36)45 (25.28)1 (0.56) | 7 (5.07)45 (32.61)35 (25.36)14 (10.14)37 (26.81)0 (0.00) | 1 (2.50)11 (27.50)11 (27.50)8 (20.00)8 (20.00)1 (2.50) | 0.464 |
| Mother’s highest level of education |
| Did not finish high schoolFinished high schoolHigher levelsUnknown/declined/ missing2 | 67 (37.64)84 (47.19)25 (14.04)2 (1.12) | 47 (34.06)70 (50.72)21 (15.22)0 (0.00) | 20 (50.00)14 (35.00)4 (10.00)2 (5.00) | 0.118 |
| Father’s highest level of education |
| Did not finish high schoolFinished high schoolHigher levelsUnknown/declined/ missing | 80 (44.94)51 (28.65)22 (12.36)25 (14.04) | 58 (42.03)46 (33.33)18 (13.04)16 (11.59) | 22 (55.00)5 (12.50)4 (10.00)9 (22.50) | 0.025 |
| Mother’s employment status |
| EmployedUnemployedUnknown2 | 25 (14.04)152 (85.39)1 (0.56) | 22 (15.94)116 (84.06)0 (0.00) | 3 (7.50)36 (90.00)1 (2.50) | 0.2971 |
| Father’s employment status |
| EmployedUnemployedUnknown/ declined | 77 (43.26)75 (42.13)26 (14.61) | 59 (42.75)62 (44.93)17 (12.32) | 18 (45.00)13 (32.50)9 (22.50) | 0.199 |
| Total annual household income ($AUD) |
| <26,00026000 - <5200052000 and above | 68 (38.20)68 (38.20)42 (23.60) | 46 (33.33)56 (40.58)36 (25.09) | 22 (55.00)12 (30.00)6 (15.00) | 0.044 |
| Primary carer on government benefits |
| YesNo | 160 (89.89)18 (10.11) | 124 (89.86)14 (10.14) | 36 (90.00)4 (10.00) | 1.0001 |
| Family has private insurance that covers the child |
| YesNo | 9 (5.06)169 (94.94) | 7 (5.07)131 (94.93) | 2 (5.00)38 (95.00) | 1.0001 |
| HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS |
| Care type at home |
| Both parents at homeSingle ParentOther  | 99 (55.62)68 (38.20)11 (6.18) | 81 (58.70)49 (35.51)8 (5.80) | 18 (45.00)19 (47.50)3 (7.50) | 0.309 |
| Child’s primary carer |
| MotherOther | 165 (92.70)13 (7.30) | 128 (92.75)10 (7.25) | 37 (92.50)3 (7.50) | 1.0001  |
| Child’s primary carer identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander  |
| Yes | 128 (71.91) | 99 (71.74) | 29 (72.50) | 0.925 |
| No | 50 (28.09) | 39 (28.26) | 11 (27.50) |  |
| Number of children living in the household |
| 0123+Missing2 | 38 (21.35)53 (29.78)45 (25.28)41 (23.03)1 (0.56) | 31 (22.46)37 (26.81)37 (26.81)33 (23.91)0 (0.00) | 7 (17.50)16 (40.00)8 (20.00)8 (20.00)1 (2.50) | 0.414 |
| Number of people usually living in the household |
| 2 - 34 - 56+Unknown/declined2 | 54 (30.34)78 (43.82)45 (25.28)1 (0.56) | 41 (29.71)61 (44.20)36 (26.09)0 (0.00) | 13 (32.50)17 (42.50)9 (22.50)1 (2.50) | 0.886 |
| Condition of the house in which the child usually lives |
| ExcellentGoodAveragePoor/Very poorMissing2 | 31 (17.42)96 (53.93)33 (18.54)17 (9.55)1 (0.56) | 25 (18.12)75 (54.35)23 (16.67)15 (10.87)0 (0.00) | 6 (15.00)21 (52.50)10 (25.00)2 (5.00)1(2.50) | 0.465 |
| Mold, mildew, dampness and/or smell in house in which child usually lives |
| YesNoUnknown/declined2 | 61 (34.27)116 (65.17)1 (0.56) | 47 (34.06)91 (65.94)0 (0.00) | 14 (35.00)25 (62.50)1 (2.50) | 0.831 |
| CHILD AND FAMILY MEDICAL HISTORY CHARACTERISTICS |
| Child ever had a cough lasting > 4 weeks |
| YesNoMissing2 | 43 (24.16)134 (75.28)1 (0.56) | 37 (26.81)101 (73.19)0 (0.00) | 6 (15.00)33 (82.50)1 (2.50) | 0.142 |
| Child diagnosed with a respiratory illness by a doctor in 12 months prior to enrolment |
| YesNoMissing2 | 60 (33.71)117 (65.73)1 (0.56) | 52 (37.68)86 (62.32)0 (0.00) | 8 (20.00)31 (77.50)1 (2.50) | 0.0551 |
| Child hospitalized for an acute respiratory illness in 12 months prior to enrolment |
| YesNoUnknown/declined2 | 20 (11.24)157 (88.20)1 (0.56) | 17 (12.32)121 (87.68)0 (0.00) | 3 (7.50)36 (90.00)1 (2.50) | 0.5711 |
| Child had wheezing in 12 months prior to enrolment |
| YesNoMissing2 | 65 (36.52)112 (62.92)1 (0.56) | 57 (41.30)81 (58.70)0 (0.00) | 8 (20.00)31 (77.50)1 (2.50) | 0.0171 |
| Child has eczema, currently or previously |
| YesNo | 23 (12.92)155 (87.08) | 21 (15.22)117 (84.78) | 2 (5.00)38 (95.00) | 0.1111 |
| Family history of reactive airways disease |
| YesNoUnknown/missing2 | 132 (74.16)42 (23.60)4 (2.25) | 106 (76.81)30 (21.74)2 (1.45) | 26 (65.00)12 (30.00)2 (5.00) | 0.225 |
| Family history of other chronic lung diseases |
| YesNoUnknown/missing2 | 44 (24.72)130 (73.03)4 (2.25) | 37 (26.81)99 (71.74)2 (1.45) | 7 (17.50)31 (77.50)2 (5.00) | 0.271 |
| CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS |
| Family maintains cultural connections at home  |
| YesNoUnknown2 | 110 (61.80)66 (37.08)2 (1.12) | 89 (64.49)49 (35.51)0 (0.00) | 21 (52.50)17 (42.50)2 (5.00) | 0.298 |
| Family has a connection with traditional lands/homelands |
| YesNoUnknown2 | 78 (43.82)91 (51.12)9 (5.06) | 64 (46.38)70 (50.72)4 (2.90) | 14 (35.00)21 (52.50)5 (12.50) | 0.412 |
| Child spent time in an Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander community outside Brisbane in 12 months prior to enrolment |
| YesNoUnknown2 | 21 (11.80)156 (87.64)1 (0.56) | 19 (13.77)119 (86.23)0 (0.00) | 2 (5.00)37 (92.50)1 (2.50) | 0.1711  |
| Child has any family members from the Stolen Generation |
| YesNoUnknown/declined2 | 82 (46.07)41 (23.03)55 (30.90) | 69 (50.00)34 (24.64)35 (25.36) | 13 (32.50)7 (17.50)20 (50.00) | 0.012 |
| RISK FACTOR CHARACTERISTICS |
| Child’s gestational age (weeks) |
| < 37 ≥ 37  | 19 (10.67)159 (89.33) | 15 (10.87)123 (89.13) | 4 (10.00)36 (90.00) | 1.000 |
| Child’s birthweight (grams) |  |  |  |  |
| <2500≥2500 | 30 (16.85)148 (83.15) | 26 (18.84)112 (81.16) | 4 (10.00)36 (90.00) | 0.2351 |
| Child admitted to neonatal intensive care unit for breathing issues post-birth  |
| YesNoUnknown/declined2 | 22 (12.36)154 (86.52)2 (1.12) | 18 (13.04)120 (86.96)0 (0.00) | 4 (10.00)34 (85.00)2 (5.00) | 0.7881 |
| Mother smoked during pregnancy |
| YesNoUnknown/declined2 | 87 (48.88)90 (50.56)1 (0.56) | 68 (49.28)70 (50.72)0 (0.00) | 19 (47.50)20 (50.00)1 (2.50) | 0.951 |
| Mother exposed to household smoke during pregnancy |
| YesNoMissing2 | 119 (66.85)58 (32.58)1 (0.56) | 92 (66.67)46 (33.33)0 (0.00) | 27 (67.50)12 (30.00)1 (2.50) | 0.763 |
| Child currently exposed to smoke in the household or car |
| YesNoUnknown/declined2 | 127 (71.35)50 (28.09)1 (0.56) | 99 (71.74)39 (28.26)0 (0.00) | 28 (70.00)11 (27.50)1 (2.50) | 0.995 |
| Child was, or currently is, breastfed |
| YesNoMissing2 | 129 (72.47)48 (26.97)1 (0.56) | 104 (75.36)34 (24.64)0 (0.00) | 25 (62.50)14 (35.00)1 (2.50) | 0.163 |
| Up to date with immunisations with respect to age at enrolment and as per Qld Immunisation Schedules |
| YesNoN/A (aged <3mths)Missing | 43 (24.16)116 (65.17)18 (10.11)1 (0.56) | 33 (23.91)90 (65.22)15 (10.87)0 (0.00) | 10 (25.00)26 (65.00)3 (7.50)1 (2.50) | 0.4121 |
| Child currently attends preschool or childcare  |
| YesNoUnknown/declined2 | 58 (32.58)119 (66.85)1 (0.56) | 46 (33.33)92 (66.67)0 (0.00) | 12 (30.00)27 (67.50)1 (2.50) | 0.763 |
| PARENT/GUARDIAN COUGH KNOWLEDGE |
| Is a cough that goes on for more than 4 weeks normal or abnormal? |
| NormalAbnormalQuestion not asked3 | 8 (4.49)124 (69.66)46 (25.84) | 8 (5.80)95 (68.84)35 (25.36) | 0 (0.00)29 (72.50)11 (27.50) | 0.3671 |
| Is a wet sounding cough normal or abnormal? |
| NormalAbnormalUnknown2Question not asked3 | 6 (3.37)124 (69.66)2 (1.12)46 (25.84) | 4 (2.90)97 (70.29)2 (1.45)35 (25.36) | 2 (5.00)27 (67.50)0 (0.00)11 (27.50) | 0.7301 |
| Do you think your child should get antibiotics when he/she has a cold or the flu? |
| YesNoUnknownQuestion not asked3 | 46 (25.84)56 (31.46)30 (16.85)46 (25.84) | 34 (24.64)49 (35.51)20 (14.49)35 (25.36) | 12 (30.00)7 (17.50)10 (25.00)11 (27.50) | 0.131 |
| If your child is prescribed antibiotics by your doctor, how long should you give them to your child for? |
| Until no more symptomsUntil they are all finishedUnknown2Question not asked3 | 17 (9.55)113 (63.48)2 (1.12)46 (25.84) | 12 (8.70)91 (65.84)0 (0.00)35 (25.36) | 5 (12.50)22 (55.00)2 (5.00)11 (27.50) | 0.588 |

1Fisher’s exact test used instead of chi-square because ≥1 cell has cell count <5

2Category excluded from analysis of differences between groups because <5 in the unknown group

3Question not asked because cough knowledge questions were not added to the baseline questionnaire until part-way through recruitment