Supplemental Digital Content 1. Characteristics of the preterm neonates included in the study

Characteristic	Unit A (n=19)	Unit B (n=30)	Total (n=49)
Gestational age – weeks; median (IQR)	26 (25-29)	29 (27-33) *	28 (25-30)
Birth weight – grams; median (IQR)	1000 (792-1265)	1306 (906-1889)	1154 (814-1564)
Male – n (%)	12 (63.2)	18 (60)	30 (61.2)
Caesarean section – n (%)	11 (57.9)	16 (53.3)	27 (55.1)
Age at hospitalisation – days; median (IQR)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-0)
Length of NICU stay – days; median (IQR)	26 (18-28)	13.5 (7-23) *	17 (9-27)
Use of invasive respiratory support – n (%)	17 (89.5)	19 (63.3)	36 (73.5)
Duration of invasive respiratory support – days; median (IQR)	7 (3-13)	2 (0-3.75) *	2 (0-8)
Use of CVC – n (%)	18 (94.7)	24 (80)	42 (85.7)
Duration of CVC – days; median (IQR)	17 (11.5-25)	10 (5.5-13) *	11 (7-17)
Treatment with penicillin G – n (%)	5 (26.3)	8 (26.7)	13 (26.5)
Duration of treatment with penicillin G – days; median (IQR)	0 (0-0.5)	0 (0-1)	0 (0-1)
Treatment with beta-lactam antibiotics other than penicillin G – n (%)	16 (84.2)	24 (80)	40 (81.6)
Duration of treatment with beta-lactam antibiotics other than penicillin G – days; median (IQR)	11 (3-14.5)	8.5 (6-13)	9 (5-14)
Treatment with gentamicin – n (%)	16 (84.2)	28 (93.3)	44
Duration of treatment with gentamicin – days; median (IQR)	6 (2.5-8)	6 (4.25-7)	6 (4-8)
Treatment with vancomycin – n (%)	5 (26.3)	11 (36.7)	16 (32.7)
Duration of treatment with vancomycin – days; median (IQR)	0 (0-0.5)	0 (0-9)	0 (0-7)
Age at initiation of enteral feeding[a] – days; median (IQR)	1 (0-1)	0 (0-0)	0 (0-1)
Age at initiation of feeding with BM[a] – days; median (IQR)	2 (1-4)	2 (1-3)	2 (1-3.5)
Proportion of BM of total enteral feeding – %; median (IQR)	98 (94-99)	98 (72-99)	98 (83-99)

BM – breast milk; CVC – central venous catheter; NICU – neonatal intensive care unit.
Data were not available for [a]two neonates, [b]four neonate, [c]seven neonates. *p<0.05 between Unit A and Unit B