

**Supplemental Digital Content 2.** Clinical and laboratory characteristics of the EV and HPeV cases

	<b>Enterovirus (EV) (n=131)</b>	<b>Parechovirus (HPeV) (n=32)</b>	<b>p-value</b>
<b><i>Demographics</i></b>			
Age (days)	50 (29 - 102)	39.5 (25.5 - 61)	0.069
Sex (female)	42.0% (55/131)	40.6% (13/32)	0.999
<b><i>Symptoms</i></b>			
Fever	94.6% (123/130)	100% (32/32)	0.347
Peak temperature (°C)	38.5 (0.7)	38.7 (0.7)	0.293
Feeding problems	56.6% (73/129)	68.8% (22/32)	0.234
Rash in history	25.2% (32/127)	25.0% (8/32)	0.999
Seizure	4.7% (6/127)	3.1% (1/32)	0.999
Respiratory symptoms (coryzal symptoms, grunting, cough, wheeze).	35.2% (45/128)	37.5% (12/32)	0.838
<b><i>Blood and CSF results</i></b>			
C-reactive protein (CRP, mg/L) (normal range: 0 - 10)	10 (3 - 24)	6 (3 - 13.5)	0.073
White cell count (WCC, x10 <sup>9</sup> /L) (normal range: 6.0 - 17.0)	10.5 (4.1)	6.4 (2.9)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Neutrophils (x10 <sup>9</sup> /L) (normal range: 1.50 - 8.50)	5.5 (3.4)	3.7 (2.5)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Lymphocytes (x10 <sup>9</sup> /L) (normal range: 4.00 - 13.50)	4.0 (2.1)	2.0 (0.8)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Platelets (x10 <sup>9</sup> /L) (normal range: 140 - 400)	390.1 (130.0)	353.7 (139.1)	0.165
Alanine transferase (ALT, IU/L) (normal range: 2 - 53)	23 (18 - 30)	24 (20 - 31)	0.465
Total bilirubin (µmol/L) (normal range: 0 - 21)	10.5 (5 - 22)	12 (8 - 32)	0.284
CSF glucose (mmol/L)	2.9 (2.6 - 3.2)	3.1 (2.75 - 3.2)	0.123
CSF protein (g/L) (normal range: 0.10 - 0.45)	0.45 (0.32 - 0.65)	0.39 (0.31 - 0.67)	0.338
CSF RBC (x10 <sup>6</sup> /L) (normal range: 0)	8 (2 - 500)	4 (1 - 685)	0.481
CSF WCC (x10 <sup>6</sup> /L) (normal range: 0-20)	5 (1 - 75)	1 (0 - 2)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
CSF %polymorphs* (not applicable)	12 (5 - 40)		
CSF %lymphocytes* (not applicable)	76.5 (54 - 88)		
CSF taken before antibiotics given	61.9% (78/126)	43.8% (14/32)	0.073

<i>Treatment and outcome</i>			
Antibiotics given during admission	98.4% (127/129)	100% (32/32)	0.999
Acyclovir given during admission	37.1% (46/124)	34.4% (11/32)	0.839
Persistent <sup>**</sup> pyrexia (first 24-48 hours)	33.1% (42/127)	53.1% (17/32)	<b>0.042</b>
Persistent <sup>**</sup> irritability/feeding problem	19.0% (24/126)	37.5% (12/32)	<b>0.034</b>
At least 1 seizure post antibiotic treatment	2.4% (3/127)	6.3% (2/32)	0.264
Length of stay (LOS, days)	4 (3 - 5)	4 (3 - 5)	0.680
PICU/HDU	6.1% (8/131)	25.0% (8/32)	<b>0.004</b>
LOS PICU/HDU <sup>***</sup>	2 (1 - 5)	2.5 (1 - 4.5)	0.906

Footnotes: PICU – pediatric intensive care; HDU high dependency unit.

Continuous data expressed as mean (SD) or median (Q1-Q3) as appropriate, and binary as % (n).

Missing data - peak temperature (4), WCC (4), platelets (4), neutrophils (5), lymphocytes (5),

ALT (34), bilirubin (34), CSF protein (2), CSF RBC (3), CSF WCC (3)

\* data available for: 53 patients for CSF %polymorphs; 54 patients for CSF % lymphocytes

\*\* 'Persistent' indicating that it has continued for 24-48 hours after treatment commenced

\*\*\* PICU/HDU LOS available in 15 patients (7 EV and 8 HPeV)