

Supplementary Digital Content 3, Table: Comparison of mean iron biomarkers in children with Severe versus not Severe (Inactive/Mild/Moderate) disease

Biomarker Mean (SD)	Severe Disease N = 4	Inactive/Mild/Moderate N = 58	p-value
Hb, g/dL	10.8 (1.9)	12.9 (1.9)	0.034*
RDW, %	13.3 (0.6)	14.5 (1.7)	0.009*
MCV, fL/cell	83.4 (5.6)	82.7 (7.4)	0.821
CHr - Adjusted, pg	32.2 (2.4)	31.3 (3.1)	0.527
Ferritin - Adjusted, µg/L	65.6 (62.7)	19.8 (14.7)	0.357
sTfR- Adjusted, mg/L	12.6 (7.9)	9.7 (6.0)	0.520
Hepcidin, mg/mL	1110.4 (776.0)	666.7 (466.0)	0.337
BIS, mg/kg body weight	5.9 (4.3)	2.5 (4.3)	0.137

Abbreviations: Hemoglobin =Hb; RDW (Red blood Cell Distribution Width); mean cell volume- MCV; Reticulocyte Hemoglobin Content=CHr; soluble transferrin receptor=sTfR. Note: Disease severity defined using disease activity index 'Physician Global Assessment' categorized as Inactive, Mild, Moderate, Severe. * significant p-value, < alpha of 0.05