

**Table 1.** Study population characteristics

|                           | <b>Variable</b>                                    | <b>n (%)</b><br><b>149 (100)</b> | <b>Median<sup>a</sup> or</b><br><b>Mean<sup>b</sup></b> |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Infant</b>             | Male sex   | 94 (63.1)                        |   |
|                           | Gestational age (weeks)                            |                                  | 26 (3) <sup>a</sup>                                     |
|                           | Birth weight (grams)                               |                                  | 779 (331) <sup>a</sup>                                  |
|                           | Small for gestational age*                         | 13 (8.7%)                        |   |
|                           | Oxygen required at delivery                        | 136 (91.3)                       |   |
|                           | Surfactant   | 130 (87.2)                       |   |
|                           | High frequency oscillation ventilation             | 79 (53)                          |   |
|                           | Post-natal steroids                                | 58 (38.9)                        |   |
|                           | Nitric oxide                                       | 17 (11.4)                        |   |
|                           | Surgical PDA ligation                              | 7 (4.7)                          |   |
|                           | Nosocomial infection                               | 54 (36.2)                        |   |
|                           | Necrotizing enterocolitis                          | 22 (14.8)                        |   |
|                           | Invasive ventilation (days)                        |                                  | 17.9 (29.4) <sup>a</sup>                                |
|                           | Non-invasive ventilation** (days)                  |                                  | 51.7 (20.6) <sup>b</sup>                                |
|                           | Total respiratory support*** (days)                |                                  | 73.3 (28.6) <sup>b</sup>                                |
|                           | pCO <sub>2</sub> at term CGA (mmHg)                |                                  | 53.9 (7.1) <sup>b</sup>                                 |
|                           | Moderate hypercapnia (pCO <sub>2</sub> 55-65 mmHg) | 46 (30.9)                        |   |
|                           | Severe hypercapnia (pCO <sub>2</sub> > 65 mmHg)    | 9 (6)                            |   |
|                           | Length of stay (days)                              |                                  | 113.6 (31.1) <sup>b</sup>                               |
| CGA at discharge (weeks)  |  | 42 (4.5) <sup>a</sup>            |   |
| NGT feeding at discharge  | 5 (3.4)  |                                  |   |
| <b>Maternal</b>           | Antenatal steroids                                 | 127 (85.2)                       |   |
|                           | Antepartum hemorrhage                              | 21 (14.1)                        |   |
|                           | Placental abruption                                | 5 (3.4)                          |   |
|                           | Placenta previa                                    | 3 (2)                            |   |
|                           | Preterm labour                                     | 107 (71.8)                       |   |
|                           | Premature rupture of membranes                     | 60 (40.3)                        |   |
|                           | Caesarean section                                  | 84 (56.4)                        |   |
|                           | Birth at tertiary NICU                             | 125 (83.9)                       |   |
| <b>Home O<sub>2</sub></b> | Discharge O <sub>2</sub> flow rate (mL/min)        |                                  | 250 (300) <sup>a</sup>                                  |
|                           | Discharge O <sub>2</sub> ≤ 125 mL/min              | 29 (19.5)                        |   |
|                           | Discharge O <sub>2</sub> 126 to 250 mL/min         | 76 (51)                          |   |
|                           | Discharge O <sub>2</sub> 251 to 500 mL/min         | 42 (28.2)                        |   |
|                           | Discharge O <sub>2</sub> > 500 mL/min              | 2 (1.3)                          |   |
|                           | Ceased by 12 months CGA                            | 130 (87.2)                       |   |
|                           | Ceased by 9 months CGA                             | 108 (72.5)                       |   |
|                           | Ceased by 6 months CGA                             | 58 (38.9)                        |   |
|                           | Ceased by 3 months CGA                             | 10 (6.7)                         |   |
|                           | CGA at O <sub>2</sub> cessation (months)           |                                  | 6.8 (4.4) <sup>a</sup>                                  |

Abbreviations: CGA, corrected gestational age; NGT, nasogastric tube; NICU, neonatal intensive care unit; O<sub>2</sub>, oxygen; pCO<sub>2</sub>, partial pressure of carbon dioxide; PDA, patent ductus arteriosus.

<sup>a</sup> Continuous variable expressed as median (interquartile range).

<sup>b</sup> Continuous variable expressed as mean (standard deviation).

\* Small for gestational age is birth weight < 10<sup>th</sup> percentile using the Fenton 2013 preterm growth chart

\*\* Includes high-flow nasal cannula oxygen.

\*\*\* Excludes time on low flow oxygen ( $\leq 2\text{L}/\text{min}$ ) with nasal prongs.