

Table 1: Cohort Characteristics

Variable	All (N = 42) Median [IQR]	RSS Improved (n = 24) Median [IQR]	RSS Worsened (n = 18) Median [IQR]	p-value*
Gestational Age at Birth (weeks)	25 [24-27]	26 [25-27]	25 [24-26]	0.136
Birth weight (kg)	0.735 [0.558-0.970]	0.86 [0.67-0.99]	0.68 [0.53-0.64]	0.036
RSS at 36 weeks PMA	7 [3.2-10.5]	5.3 [2.9-6.3]	9.6 [3.8-13.7]	0.008
RSS at 40 weeks PMA	5.6 [2.7-7.2]	5.6 [3-7.2]	5.6 [2.7-7]	0.474
PMA at tracheostomy (weeks)	46 [42-48]	45 [42-46]	49 [44-50]	0.007
Weight at tracheostomy (kg)	4.14 [3.569-4.737]	4.01 [3.41-4.50]	4.58 [3.85-5.10]	0.020
RSS day prior to tracheostomy	5.2 [2.9-6.9]	5.3 [3.3-7.1]	5.2 [2.9-5.2]	0.453
RSS two weeks after tracheostomy	5 [2.4-6]	3.8 [2.1-4.9]	6.6 [3.5-8.1]	0.011
PMA at Discharge (weeks)	60 [56-67]	60 [56-65]	66 [57-74]	0.026

*Statistical analysis performed via Student's T-test.