

Supplemental file 6. Characteristics of all febrile children and their missing data

		All children N=35,705 ²	Children with fever ≥5 days, missing data n (%)	Children with fever <5 days, missing data n (%)
<i>General characteristics</i>				
Age	Median (IQR)	2.74 (1.31-5.51)	0 (0)	0 (0%)
Sex	Female, n (%)	16136 (45%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)
Previous visit to any health care provider in last 7 days	N (%)	8991 (26%)	245 (6%)	960 (3%)
Referral	N (%)	14984 (43%)	95 (3%)	988 (3%)
Comorbidity	N (%)	5823 (16%)	27 (1%)	226 (1%)
Triage urgency classification	Emergent – Very urgent	3431 (10%)	107 (3%)	846 (3%)
	Urgent	8834 (25%)		
	Standard – Non-urgent	22487 (63%)		
Duration of fever	Days, median (IQR)	4 (3 -5)	-	-
<i>Non-specific signs and symptoms</i>				
Respiratory signs and symptoms	Any	11487 (38%)	646 (17%)	4731 (15%)
Gastro-intestinal signs and symptoms	Any	10810 (34%)	487 (13%)	3435 (11%)
Other type of rash ¹	Any	3285 (10%)	419 (11%)	3276 (10%)
<i>Warning signs and symptoms</i>				
Ill appearance	N (%)	5700 (17%)	161 (4%)	1047 (3%)

Tachypnoea (breaths/minute)	APLS thresholds, n (%)	6783 (33%)	1759 (47%)	13528 (42%)
Tachycardia (beats/minute)	APLS thresholds, n (%)	11517 (41%)	739 (20%)	7074 (22%)
Prolonged capillary refill	>= 3 seconds, n (%)	407 (1%)	555 (15%)	3466 (11%)
Oxygen saturations (%O ₂)	<94% O ₂ , n (%)	762 (3%)	727 (19%)	7175 (22%)
Level of consciousness	Decreased (Verbal, Pain, Unresponsive), n (%)	180 (1%)	39 (1%)	236 (1%)
Increased work of breathing	N (%)	5249 (17%)	620 (16%)	3828 (12%)
Non-blanching rash	N (%)	1016 (3%)	419 (11%)	3276 (10%)
Neurological signs	N (%)	234 (1%)	364 (10%)	2025 (6%)
Seizures	N (%)	1303 (4%)	205 (5%)	849 (3%)
<i>Diagnostics</i>				
C-reactive protein	mg/L, Median (IQR)	18 (5 -49)	1626 (43%)	17741 (56%)
Laboratory testing at ED	Any, n (%)	16612 (47%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Imaging at ED	Any, n (%)	6496 (18%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
<i>Treatment and outcomes</i>				
Immediate lifesaving interventions ³	Any, n (%)	563 (2%)	0 (0%)	16 (0%)
Antibiotics prescribed this attendance	Any, n (%)	11417 (32%)	62 (2%)	379 (1%)
Diagnosis – focus of infection	Upper respiratory tract	19018 (53%)	16 (0%)	243 (1%)
	Lower respiratory tract	5133 (14%)		
	Gastro-intestinal	3608 (10%)		
	Urinary tract	1256 (4%)		
	Childhood exanthema	1732 (5%)		

Disposition

Soft tissue or musculoskeletal	840 (2%)		
Sepsis or meningitis	258 (1%)		
Undifferentiated fever	2806 (8%)		
Inflammatory, other	1028 (3%)		
Discharge without follow-up	12700 (36%)	7 (0%)	41 (0%)
Discharge with follow-up	13698 (38%)		
Admission <24 hours	1735 (5%)		
Admission 24 hours or more	6761 (19%)		
Admission, duration unknown	415 (1%)		
PICU or death ⁴	143 (0.4%)		
Left without being seen	205 (1%)		

¹ This excludes any non-blanching rash including petechiae and purpurae

² the MOFICHE study included a total of 38,480 febrile children [7]; n=2,775 (7%) were excluded because of missing data on duration of fever.

³ Immediate lifesaving interventions (ILSI): airway and breathing support (non-rebreathing mask, (non-invasive)-ventilation, intubation), emergency procedures (chest needle decompression, pericardiocentesis, or open thoracotomy), haemodynamic support (fluid bolus (>10 ml/kg) or blood administration) or emergency medication (naloxone, dextrose, atropine, adenosine, epinephrine, or vasopressors)

APLS Advanced paediatric life support; CRP C-reactive protein; IQR Interquartile rang; PICU Paediatric intensive care unit; SBI Serious bacterial infection

⁴ In total, 1 death was recorded in the MOFICHE study