

Table 1 Characteristics of the study group of preschool children in Karma Albalad, Northern State, Sudan (n = 163)

Characteristic	No.	%
Sex		
Male	81	49.7
Female	82	50.3
Family characteristics		
Large family	70	43.0
Poor family	40	24.5
Illiterate mother	12	7.4
Health history		
Frequent malaria attacks	55	33.7
History of pica	17	10.4
Asthma	13	8.0
Type 1 diabetes	1	0.6
Recurrent urinary tract infection	1	0.6
Tuberculosis	0	0.0