**Table 1**: Demographics and clinical characteristics of study subjects

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Maternal characteristics** | | **Chinese (n = 406)** |  | **Malay (n = 186)** |  | **Indian (n = 127)** |  | **p value**2 |
| **Maternal age (years)** | | 32.1 ± 4.6 |  | 329.3 ± 5.5\*\* |  | 30.1 ± 5.0 |  | <0.001 |
| **Education level** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | <0.001 |
|  | < 12 years | 117 (29.0%) |  | 126 (68.5%) |  | 34 (26.8%) |  |  |
|  | ≥ 12 years | 287 (71.0%) |  | 58 (31.5%)\*\* |  | 93 (73.2%) |  |  |
| **Parity** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.012 |
|  | Primiparous | 199 (49.0%) |  | 78 (41.9) |  | 44 (34.6%) |  |  |
|  | Multiparous | 207 (51.0%) |  | 108 (58.1%) |  | 83 (65.4%)\*\* |  |  |
| **Maternal anthropometry** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Height (cm) | 158.9 ± 5.6 |  | 157.0 ± 5.7\*\* |  | 157.4 ± 5.5 |  | <0.001 |
|  | BMI (kg/m2) | 24.9 ± 3.4 |  | 28.4 ± 5.3\*\* |  | 27.7 ± 4.6 |  | <0.001 |
| **Maternal BP**1 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SBP1 (mmHg) | 107.3 ± 11.8 |  | 113.9 ± 15.5\*\* |  | 111.0 ± 10.6 |  | <0.001 |
|  | DBP1 (mmHg) | 65.1 ± 9.3 |  | 68.9 ± 10.0\*\* |  | 67.4 ± 8.2 |  | <0.001 |
| **Child characteristics** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sex** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.777 |
|  | Male | 202 (49.8%) |  | 88 (47.3%) |  | 65 (51.2%) |  |  |
|  | Female | 204 (50.2%) |  | 98 (52.7%) |  | 62 (48.8%) |  |  |
| **Gestational age at delivery (weeks)** | | 38.4 ± 1.4 |  | 38.1 ± 1.3\* |  | 38.1 ± 2.2\* |  | 0.028 |
| **Age at BP measurement (months)** | | 49.4 ± 1.4 |  | 49.3 ± 0.9 |  | 49.5 ± 1.1 |  | 0.522 |
| **Birth anthropometry** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Weight (kg) | 3.1 ± 0.4 |  | 3.1 ± 0.4 |  | 3.0 ± 0.5 |  | 0.053 |
|  | Height (cm) | 48.9 ± 2.3 |  | 48.2 ± 2.0\*\* |  | 48.7 ± 2.5 |  | 0.008 |
|  | Abdominal circumference (cm) | 28.3 ± 2.2 |  | 28.6 ± 2.5 |  | 28.1 ± 2.4 |  | 0.208 |
|  | Triceps skinfolds (mm) | 5.5 ± 1.2 |  | 5.5 ± 1.3 |  | 5.3 ± 1.2 |  | 0.298 |
|  | Subscapular skinfolds (mm) | 5.0 ± 1.1 |  | 5.0 ± 1.2 |  | 4.7 ± 1.0 |  | 0.101 |
| **BP measurement** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SBP (mmHg) | 96.9 ± 8.8 |  | 98.3 ± 9.4\*\* |  | 98.9 ± 8.6 |  | 0.043 |
|  | DBP (mmHg) | 57.6 ± 5.3 |  | 58.2 ± 5.7\* |  | 59.2 ± 5.5\* |  | 0.012 |

1 BP: blood pressure; SBP: systolic blood pressure DBP: diastolic blood pressure

2 p value across 3 ethnic groups were determined with the use of a chi-square analysis (categorical) or 1-factor

ANOVA (continuous)

3 \*p<0.05 or \*\*p<0.01 compared with Chinese [determined with the use of a chi-square analysis (categorical) or 2-sample t-test]