

Table 1: Socio-demographic and clinical characteristics of study participants according to ethnicity

	Chinese (n=485)	Malay (n=217)	Indian (n=156)	p value²
Maternal age (years)	31.9 ± 4.7 ¹	29.0 ± 5.5 ³	30.2 ± 4.8	<0.001
Maternal education level				<0.001
< 12 years	144 (30) ¹	148 (68)	43 (28)	
≥ 12 years	339 (70)	67 (32) ³	112 (72)	
Parity				0.007
Primiparous	243 (50)	90 (41)	58 (37)	
Multiparous	242 (50)	127 (59)	98 (63) ³	
Maternal height (cm)	159 ± 6	157 ± 6 ³	157 ± 5 ³	<0.001
Pre-pregnancy overweight				<0.001
No	341 (76)	95 (47)	59 (41)	
Yes	107 (24)	105 (53) ³	84 (59) ³	
Paternal overweight				0.01
No	195 (54)	69 (41)	43 (43)	
Yes	168 (46)	98 (59) ³	57 (57)	
Raised FPG during pregnancy				0.006
No	442 (97)	187 (92)	125 (91)	
Yes	15 (3)	17 (8)	12 (9) ³	
Excessive GWG⁴				<0.001
No	286 (65)	94 (48)	77 (55)	
Yes	156 (35)	102 (52) ³	64 (45)	
Any BF < 4 months⁴				<0.001
No	229 (57)	57 (33)	64 (54)	
Yes	171 (43)	115 (67) ³	54 (46)	
Early introduction to solids				0.003
No	444 (99)	176 (95)	124 (95)	
Yes	4 (1)	9 (5) ³	6 (5) ³	
Gestational age (weeks)	38.4 ± 1.3	38.0 ± 1.3 ³	38.1 ± 2.1 ³	0.007
Child gender				0.65
Male	235 (48)	97 (45)	75 (48)	
Female	250 (52)	120 (55)	81 (52)	
Child energy intake at 12-months (kcal)	734 ± 187	806 ± 242	784 ± 205	<0.001
Child physical activity at 24-months				0.04
< 1 hour per day	268 (61)	137 (65)	73 (49)	
1 to < 2 hours per day	123 (28)	52 (25)	54 (36)	
≥ 2 hours per day	49 (11)	22 (10)	23 (15)	
BMI at 48 months⁴	15.3 ± 1.4	16.1 ± 2.2 ³	15.6 ± 2.3	<0.001
SSF at 48 months⁴	16.0 ± 3.8	17.1 ± 6.6 ³	16.9 ± 6.9	<0.001
WHR at 48 months⁴	0.48 ± 0.03	0.50 ± 0.04 ³	0.49 ± 0.05	<0.001
FMI at 48 months⁴	3.7 ± 1.1	4.0 ± 1.3	4.2 ± 1.7 ³	0.02

¹ Mean ± SD or n (%)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 compared with Chinese [determined with the use of a chi-square analysis (categorical) or 2-sample t-test]⁴ GWG: gestational weight gain; BF: breastfeeding; BMI: body mass index; SSF: sum of skinfolds; WHR: waist-to-height ratio; FMI: fat mass index