

S7 Table: General characteristics of the Kilifi longitudinal cohort study by *ABO* genotype

Characteristics		<i>OO</i> (%)	<i>AO</i> (%)	<i>AA</i> (%)	<i>BO</i> (%)	<i>BB</i> (%)	<i>AB</i> (%)	<i>p</i> value
Sample size	n = 242	135 (55.8)	52 (21.5)	2 (0.8)	44 (18.2)	4 (1.6)	5 (2.1)	
Gender	Males	58 (56.3)	21 (20.4)	0 (0.0)	20 (19.4)	2 (1.94)	2 (1.94)	0.933
	Females	77 (55.4)	31 (22.3)	2 (1.4)	24 (17.3)	2 (1.4)	3 (2.2)	
Ethnic group	Giriama	118 (56.5)	44 (21.1)	1 (0.5)	39 (18.6)	4 (1.9)	3 (1.4)	0.120
	Chonyi	8 (38.1)	6 (28.5)	1 (4.8)	5 (23.8)	0 (0.0)	1 (4.8)	
	Others	9 (75.0)	2 (16.7)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (8.3)	
Sickle	AA	124 (58.5)	43 (20.3)	2 (0.9)	38 (17.9)	2 (0.9)	3 (1.4)	0.029
	AS	11 (36.6)	9 (30.0)	0 (0.0)	6 (20.0)	2 (6.67)	2 (6.67)	
α +thalassaemia	$\alpha\alpha/\alpha\alpha$	41 (55.4)	20 (27.0)	1 (1.4)	11 (14.8)	1 (1.4)	0 (0.0)	0.043
	$-\alpha/\alpha\alpha$	75 (61.5)	16 (13.1)	1 (0.8)	25 (20.5)	2 (1.6)	3 (2.5)	
	$-\alpha/-\alpha$	19 (41.3)	16 (34.7)	0 (0.0)	8 (17.4)	1 (2.2)	2 (4.4)	
Age in months								
Median (IQR)		32.2 (16-49)	30 (12-50)	39 (30-49)	39 (20-53)	40 (18-54)	39 (18-49)	<0.001

The Fisher's exact test was used to test for differences in the distribution of *ABO* genotypes across categorical variables of gender, ethnic group, HbS and α +thalassaemia genotypes while the Kruskal-Wallis test was used to test for differences in age (as a continuous variable) by *ABO* genotype. IQR, interquartile range. The significant differences in *ABO* genotypes in relation to HbS genotype, α +thalassaemia genotype and age may be due to the very small numbers in the "double dose" non-*O* genotype categories. Analysis of this dataset therefore included adjustment for these variables.