

Table 2 Comparison between the mean levels of plasma homocysteine, vitamin B₁₂ and folic acid of the healthy control children and children with protein–energy malnutrition (PEM)

Group	Homocysteine (μmol/L)	Vitamin B ₁₂ (pmol/L)	Folic acid (nmol/L)
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)
Controls (n = 20)	4.27 (1.19)	290.5 (115.7)	13.38 (2.67)
PEM (n = 20)	8.41 (1.61)	72.6 (26.1)	6.36 (2.63)
P-value ^a	< 0.0001	< 0.0001	< 0.0001

^aVersus controls.

SD = standard deviation.