

**Table 1 Characteristics of children with thalassaemia major who were vaccinated and unvaccinated against hepatitis B virus**

Characteristic	Vaccinated cohort ( <i>n</i> = 218)	Unvaccinated cohort ( <i>n</i> = 196)	<i>P</i> -value
% of girls	69	44	0.156
Mean (SD) age (months)	44.4 (8.6)	42.9 (8.4)	0.156
Mean (SD) blood transfusions (no.)	35.1 (8.6)	33.6 (8.2)	0.064

*SD* = standard deviation.