

Table 3 Clinical presentation in the case and control groups before and after treatment

Symptom	Case group (n = 144)					Control group (n = 140)				Statistical analysis		
	Before		After		P-value ^a	Before		After		P-value ^a	RR (95% CI)	P-value ^b
	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%	No.	%			
Cough	127	88	101	70	0.004	112	80	103	74	0.427	2.3 (1.3–4.1)	0.003
Wheezing	94	65	68	47	0.002	88	63	81	58	0.638	3.6 (1.8–7.4)	< 0.001
Dyspnoea	56	39	35	24	0.003	57	41	49	35	0.537	4.2 (1.9–8.7)	< 0.001
Partially controlled asthma ^c	144	100	73	51	< 0.001	140	100	112	80	0.261	2.0 (1.4–2.8)	< 0.001

^aBefore versus after, χ^2 -test; ^bCase versus control group, independent t-test.

^cDaytime symptoms more than twice/week; limitations of activities and nocturnal symptoms/activities; need for relief/rescue therapy more than twice/week; lung function (PEF or FEV1) < 80% of predicted or personal best.

RR = relative risk; 95% CI = confidence interval.