## Supplementary



Figure S1 Heart Rate n-Variability and definition of RR intervals (27). Reprinted with permission from the copyright owner, under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License.

| Variable | SBI, median (IQR) | No SBI, median (IQR) | P value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| HR2, $\mathrm{V}_{1}$ PNN50 | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.00 (0.00-0.13) | 0.008 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{1} \mathrm{NN} 50$ | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.00 (0.00-1.00) | 0.008 |
| HR3V PNN50 | 0.00 (0.00-0.26) | 0.00 (0.00-1.10) | 0.030 |
| HR ${ }_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{1} \mathrm{pNN50}$ | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.00 (0.00-0.30) | 0.037 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}$ NN50 | 0.00 (0.00-1.00) | 0.00 (0.00-3.00) | 0.037 |
| HR2V PNN50 | 0.00 (0.00-0.28) | 0.00 (0.00-0.89) | 0.038 |
| HR $\mathrm{m}_{3} \mathrm{LF}$ (ms) | 473.89 (300.87-857.65) | 718.25 (310.83-1654.17) | 0.041 |
| HR ${ }_{3}$ V Poincare' SD2 (ms) | 69.79 (49.40-121.84) | 89.68 (64.09-143.13) | 0.042 |
| HR2VLF (ms) | 317.31 (207.10-576.77) | 494.84 (208.57-1107.65) | 0.042 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{NN5} 5$ | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.00 (0.00-1.00) | 0.043 |
| HR2V Poincare' SD2 (ms) | 47.58 (34.67-82.77) | 6.87 (43.70-96.59) | 0.043 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2} \mathrm{LF}$ (ms) | 1,412.79 (911.82-2,568.93) | 2,136.07 (923.26-4,926.39) | 0.044 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ Poincare' SD2 (ms) | 71.67 (52.22-124.34) | 91.60 (65.49-145.02) | 0.044 |
| HR2V SDNN (ms) | 35.77 (25.88-59.51) | 44.62 (31.04-69.69) | 0.044 |
| HR ${ }_{3}$ V SDNN (ms) | 53.25 (37.04-88.61) | 65.42 (46.46-103.47) | 0.045 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{V}} \mathrm{V}$ Poincare' $\mathrm{SD2}$ (ms) | 70.51 (51.46-123.95) | 90.50 (6..17-144.28) | 0.045 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{LF}(\mathrm{ms})$ | 707.26 (458.57-1380.68) | 1,061.59 (460.96-2,486.16) | 0.045 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1} \mathrm{~V}$ LF (ms) | 635.81 (428.80-1156.78) | 975.11 (416.68-2,224.80) | 0.046 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ Poincare' SD2 (ms) | 50.34 (35.54-83.49) | 62.10 (43.76-98.14) | 0.046 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2} \operatorname{SDNN}(\mathrm{~ms})$ | 53.24 (37.34-88.24) | 65.14 (4.36-103.12) | 0.046 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SDNN}(\mathrm{ms})$ | 53.15 (37.33-88.43) | 65.43 (46.36-103.48) | 0.047 |
| HR2V $\mathrm{V}_{1} \mathrm{SDNN}(\mathrm{ms})$ | 35.82 (25.92-59.36) | 44.52 (31.01-69.50) | 0.047 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{\text {T }}$ T (ms) | 3,106.02 (1,758.79-8,860.95) | 4,987.25 (2,631.89-11,820.92) | 0.048 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}$ TP (ms) | 1,613.44 (851.36-4,423.94) | 2,503.83 (1,318.70-5,965.87) | 0.048 |
| HRs $\mathrm{s}^{\text {TP (ms) }}$ | 2,425.59 (1,281.45-6,587.07) | 3,755.83 (1,968.65-9,015.68) | 0.049 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2} \mathrm{TP}$ (ms) | 6,966.85 (3,876.32-19,847.56) | 11,146.49 (5,865.69-26,330.49) | 0.050 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}$ NN50 | 0.00 (0.00-1.00) | 0.00 (0.00-4.00) | 0.051 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{\text {T }}$ T (ms) | 3,530.68 (1,886.68-9,898.59) | 5,614.97 (2,940.40-13,276.64) | 0.052 |
| HR $\mathrm{S}_{2} \mathrm{P}^{\text {PNN50 }}$ | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.060 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2} \mathrm{NN} 50$ | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.00 (0.00-0.00) | 0.065 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ VLF (ms) | 4,850.13 (2,331.44-15,497.07) | 8,198.39 (3,715.38-20, 152.63) | 0.067 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1}$ VLF ( ms ) | 2,154.44 (1,037.49-6,897.84) | 3,656.31 (1,65.82-8,966.29) | 0.068 |
| HR ${ }_{2}$ VLF (ms) | 1,078.23 (517.88-3,457.54) | 1,83.51 (825.91-4,476.60) | 0.068 |
| HR ${ }_{3} \mathrm{VLLF}$ (ms) | 1,617.49 (776.58-5,191.72) | 2,755.37 (1,234.00-6,717.32) | 0.068 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1}$ VLF (ms) | 2,432.54 (1,146.71-7,778.92) | 4,137.30 (1,852.93-10,072.15) | 0.070 |
| HR $\mathrm{v}^{\text {V SDHR (bpm) }}$ | 2.58 ( (1.95-3.75) | 3.07 (2.19-4.26) | 0.117 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}$ SDHR (bpm) | 4.00 (3.00-5.88) | 4.65 (3.35-6.42) | 0.118 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ SDHR (bpm) | 2.58 (1.94-3.76) | 3.06 (2.18-4.25) | 0.122 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ SDHR (bpm) | 3.99 (2.97-5.90) | 4.65 (3.35-6.42) | 0.123 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1}$, SDHR (bpm) | 2.58 (1.95-3.77) | 3.07 (2.18-4.26) | 0.123 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{HF}$ (ms) | 97.80 (51.10-286.60) | 155.12 (56.77-399.27) | 0.125 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ Kurtosis | 0.28 (0.00-1.22) | 0.48 (0.00-3.12) | 0.130 |
| $H R_{2} V_{1}$ Poincare' SD1 | 5.94 (4.25-9.80) | 7.35 (4.52-13.32) | 0.136 |
| $H R_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{1} \mathrm{RMSSD}$ | 8.40 (6.02-13.85) | 10.39 (6.39-18.82) | 0.136 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{HF}$ (ms) | 62.33 (3.83-181.06) | 92.36 (38.19-248.84) | 0.143 |
| HR, V RMSSD | 22.66 (16.17-36.55) | 27.67 (16.01-45.18) | 0.147 |
| $H R_{3}$ V Poincare' SD1 | 16.04 (11.45-25.99) | 19.58 (11.33-32.00) | 0.148 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{HF}$ (ms) | 124.07 (58.87-368.79) | 176.91 (70.15-445.68) | 0.149 |
| HR2V RMSSD | 13.01 (10.14-22.15) | 16.46 (10.37-28.52) | 0.156 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}$ Poincare' SD1 | 9.21 (7.17-15.88) | 11.65 (7.34-20.19) | 0.156 |
| HR2V RR Triangular Index | 8.40 (5.90-11.40) | 9.40 (6.30-14.10) | 0.163 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2} \mathrm{HF}$ (ms) | 246.37 (117.30-674.09) | 333.83 (135.20-837.68) | 0.163 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1} \mathrm{~V}$ RMSSD | 16.38 (12.08-27.80) | 19.74 (12.00-33.51) | 0.165 |
| $H_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ Poincare' SD1 | 11.59 (8.55-19.68) | 13.97 (8.49-33.72) | 0.165 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1} \mathrm{~V}$, R T Triangular Index | 8.40 (6.20-12.80) | 9.50 (6.40-14.20) | 0.166 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{1} \mathrm{HF}$ (ms) | 124.03 (61.37-349.70) | 174.08 (69.90-434.24) | 0.167 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ Skewness | 3.00 (0.00-9.00) | 4.00 (0.00-28.00) | 0.176 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1}$, kurtosis | 0.17 (0.00-1.04) | 0.36 (0.00-2.32) | 0.187 |
| $H R_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ RR Triangular Index | 12.00 (8.60-16.70) | 13.10 (8.90-19.50) | 0.187 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ Poincare' SD1 | 6.90 (5.10-11.63) | 8.64 (5.32-14.51) | 0.192 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ RMSSD | 9.75 (7.21-16.44) | 12.21 (7.53-20.51) | 0.192 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}$ kurtosis | 3.39 (1.25-15.47) | 6.25 (1.39-19.66) | 0.194 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ skewness | 2.00 (0.00-9.00) | 3.00 (0.00-21.00) | 0.216 |
| HR $\mathrm{V}_{1}$, kurtosis | 1.26 (0.48-6.54) | 2.70 (0.25-10.60) | 0.238 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} V$ skewness | 11.00 (5.00-41.00) | 19.00 (5.00-58.00) | 0.247 |
| HR2V kurtosis | 0.85 (0.24-4.27) | 1.30 (0.20-7.84) | 0.255 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ mean NN (ms) | 1,110.56 (1,052.84-1,216.75) | 1,122.29 (1,057.45-1,253.98) | 0.284 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ mean NN (ms) | 740.33 (701.91-811.14) | 748.16 (704.98-836.04) | 0.285 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}$ mean NN (ms) | 1,110.49 (1,052.84-1,216.60) | 1,122.15 (1,056.47-1,254.02) | 0.285 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}$ mean NN (ms) | 740.31 (701.91-811.08) | 748.12 (704.82-835.96) | 0.285 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}$, mean $\mathrm{NN}(\mathrm{ms}$ ) | 1,110.65 (1,053.21-1,216.54) | 1,122.03 (1,057.30-1,253.93) | 0.288 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ skewness | 7.00 (2.00-29.00) | 12.00 (1.00-47.00) | 0.293 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}$ AVHR | 54.21 (49.34-57.12) | 53.65 (47.99-57.00) | 0.295 |
| $H_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2}$ AVHR | 54.21 (49.34-57.12) | 53.65 (48.01-56.99) | 0.295 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ AVHR | 81.32 (74.01-85.68) | 80.48 (72.01-85.50) | 0.298 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}$ AVHR | 81.33 (74.01-85.68) | 80.48 (72.00-85.50) | 0.298 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{1}$ AVHR | 54.21 (49.34-57.09) | 53.64 (47.99-57.00) | 0.299 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{2} \mathrm{~V}$ skewness | 4.00 (1.00-21.00) | 6.00 (1.00-32.00) | 0.325 |
| HR3V RR Triangular Index | 11.40 (8.50-15.70) | 12.20 (8.50-16.50) | 0.366 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{1} \mathrm{RR}$ Triangular Index | 11.60 (8.80-16.10) | 12.30 (8.70-18.60) | 0.376 |
| $\mathrm{HR}_{3} \mathrm{~V}_{2} \text { DFA } \alpha 1$ | 1.65 (1.52-1.79) | 1.68 (1.56-1.78) | 0.383 |

[^0] successive R-R intervals exceeds 50 ms ; pNN50, The number of times that the absolute difference between 2 successive $R-R$ intervals exceeds 50 ms , divided by the total number of R-R intervals; LF, Low Frequency; SDNN, Standard deviation of R-R intervals; TP, Total
Power, VLF Very low frequency; SDHR, standard deviation of mean heart rate; HF, High frequency; RMSSD, Square root of the mean Power; VLF, Very low frequency; SDHR, standard deviation of mean heart rate; $H F$, High frequency; RMSSD, Square root of the mean
squared differences between R-R intervals; R-R, interval between 2 consecutive Rs; Mean NN, Average of R-R intervals; AVHR, Average squared differences between R-R intervals; R-R, inter
heart rate; DFA $\alpha 1$, Detrended fluctuation analysis $\alpha 1$.

Table S2 Clinical outcomes for febrile infants with and without SBIs

| Variable | Infants with SBIs (n=74) | Infants without SBIs (n=238) | P value |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Admitted to ICU/high dependency, $\mathrm{n}(\%)$ | $2(2.7)$ | $4(1.7)$ | 0.813 |
| Admitted to general ward, $\mathrm{n}(\%)$ | $70(94.6)$ | $229(96.2)$ |  |
| Discharged against advice or transferred, $\mathrm{n}(\%)$ | $2(2.7)$ | $5(2.1)$ | 0.053 |
| Received normal saline bolus resuscitation, $\mathrm{n}(\%)$ | $12(16.2)$ | $20(8.4)$ | $<0.001$ |
| Received intravenous antibiotics, $\mathrm{n}(\%)$ | $72(97.3)$ | $3.0(3.0-4.0)$ | $<0.001$ |
| Hospital length of stay, days, median (IQR) | $4.0(3.0-5.0)$ |  |  |

SBIs, serious bacterial infections.


[^0]:    HRnV parameters are listed in ascending P value, up to $\mathrm{P}<0.4$. NN50, The number of times that the absolute difference between 2

