

## Supplementary Materials

**Table S1.** Binary logistic regression analysis to evaluate the influence of covariates on the occurrence of bronchopulmonary dysplasia.

Variables	$\beta$	S.E.	Wald	<i>p</i> value	Odds ratio (OR)	95 C.I for OR	
						Lower	Upper
ELBW °	2.749	0.818	11.283	0.001*	15.625	3.14	77.70
IUGR±	-4.05	0.905	0.200	0.655	0.667	0.11	3.93
Male sex	0.039	0.600	0.427	0.513	1.480	0.457	4.80
Group assignment	1.050	0.664	2.496	0.114	2.857	0.777	10.506
Culture-proven sepsis	0.048	0.734	0.004	0.948	1.049	0.25	4.42
Mechanical ventilation <sup>§</sup>	2.138	0.840	6.479	0.011	8.48	1.63	44.00

Notes. ELBW = birth weight < 1000 grams; ±IUGR = intrauterine growth restriction; <sup>§</sup>duration > 7 DoL

\**p* < 0.05

**Table S2.** Binary logistic regression analysis to evaluate the influence of covariates on the occurrence of retinopathy of prematurity.

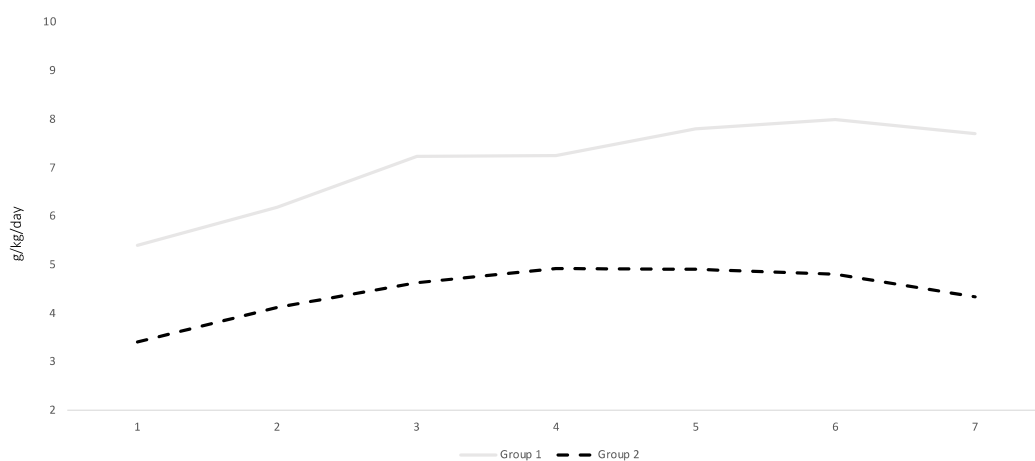
Variables	$\beta$	S.E.	Wald	<i>p</i> value	Odds ratio (OR)	95 C.I for OR	
						Lower	Upper
GA °	1.872	0.564	11.018	0.001*	6.500	2.152	19.630
IUGR±	0.092	0.508	0.033	0.856	1.096	0.405	2.97
Group assignment	-0.923	0.389	5.623	0.018*	0.397	0.185	0.852
Culture-proven sepsis	0.578	0.472	1.502	0.220	1.782	0.707	4.492
Blood transfusion <sup>§</sup>	1.542	0.379	16.586	0.000*	4.673	2.225	9.813

Notes. °GA = gestational age < 30 weeks; ±IUGR = intrauterine growth restriction; <sup>§</sup>at least one during hospital stay. \**p* < 0.05

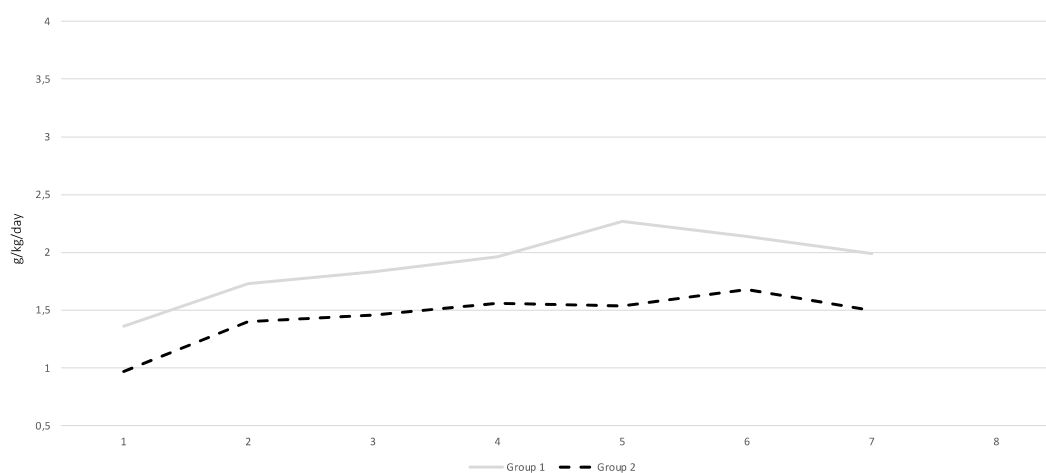
**Table S3.** Binary logistic regression analysis to evaluate the influence of covariates on the occurrence of sepsis.

Variables	$\beta$	S.E.	Wald	<i>p</i> value	Odds ratio (OR)	95 C.I for OR	
						Lower	Upper
ELBW °	0.733	0.446	2.699	0.100	2.082	0.868	4.995
IUGR±	0.103	0.496	0.043	0.835	1.109	0.419	2.934
Antenatal corticosteroids <sup>§</sup>	-0.323	0.392	0.679	0.410	0.724	0.336	1.560
Group assignment	1.386	0.405	11.682	0.001	3.998	1.806	8.852
CVA <sup>δ</sup>	1.837	0.640	8.245	0.004*	6.279	1.792	22.004

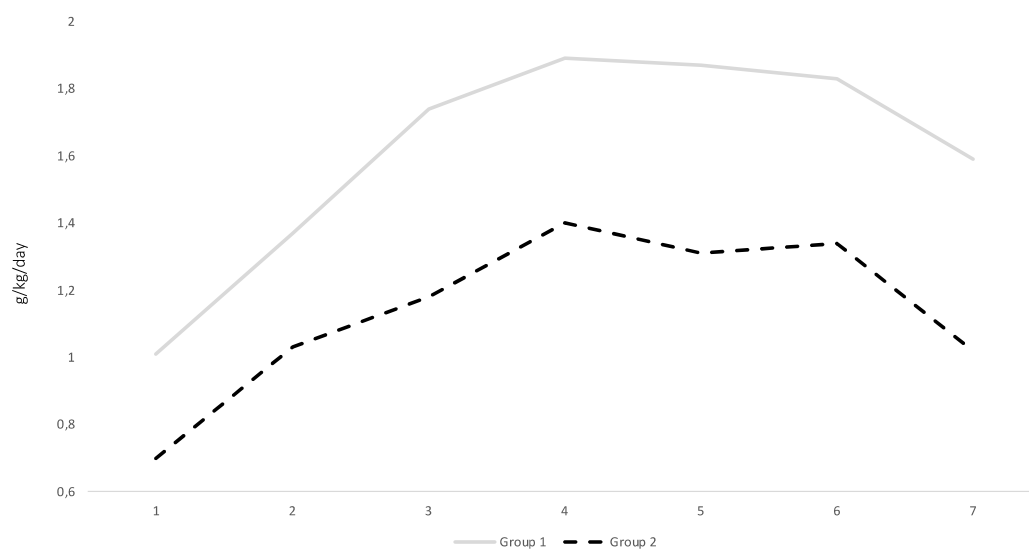
Notes. °ELBW = birth weight < 1000 grams; ±IUGR = intrauterine growth restriction; <sup>§</sup>An intramuscular steroids cycle in two doses of 12 mg over a 24-hour period; <sup>δ</sup>CVA = central vascular access > 7 DoL. \**p* < 0.05



**Figure S1:** rate of increase of dextrose, within the first week of life, in the two study Groups.



**Figure S2:** rate of increase of amino acids, within the first week of life, in the two study Groups.



**Figure S3:** rate of increase of lipids, within the first week of life, in the two study Groups.