

**Table 1.** Characteristics of the Study Population

	Total (n=141)	Obesity Status (according to Cole et al, 2000)		p-value
		Normal Weight Group [NWG] (n=31)	Obese Group [OG] (n=110)	
Age (years, mean $\pm$ SD)	11.3 $\pm$ 2.2	13.0 $\pm$ 1.5	10.9 $\pm$ 2.2	<0.001
Gender, females, %	51.8%	58.6%	50.0%	0.5
BMI z-score (mean $\pm$ SD)	2.47 $\pm$ 1.81	-0.13 $\pm$ 0.60	3.17 $\pm$ 1.32	<0.001
Pubertal status, pre-/mid-/postpubertal, n (%)	41.3%/40.6%/18.1%	3.5%/51.7%/44.8%	51.4%/37.6%/11.0%	<0.001

\*\*\*Fisher's exact test