

Baseline characteristics by status of ARE

Variable	ARE = yes (N = 26)	ARE = no (N = 146)	P- value
Age, median (IQR)	15.3 (12.6-17.9)	15.7 (12.9-18.2)	0.842
Female sex, N (%)	14 (54%)	66 (45%)	0.523
eNO level (ppb), geometric mean (95% CI)	15.4 (14.0-16.9)	20.8 (16.5-26.2)	0.019
Azithromycin group, N (%)	11 (42%)	75 (51%)	0.524
Wasted (weight for age Z-score <-2), N (%)	10 (39%)	76 (52%)	0.287
Stunted (height for age z-score <-2), N (%)	14 (54%)	76 (52%)	1.0
Passive smoking, N (%)	7 (27%)	42 (29%)	-
History of TB, N (%)	6 (23%)	43 (29%)	0.639
Using cotrimoxazole, N (%)	23 (88%)	133 (91%)	0.713
Years on ART, median (IQR) ¹	6.4 (4.6-9.1)	6.4 (3.9-8.3)	0.374
Presence of atopy (asthma, eczema, or hay fever), N (%)	4 (15%)	20 (14%)	0.764
FEV1 Z-score, median (IQR)	-1.62 (-2.4 to -1.2)	-1.72 (-2.2 to -1.3)	0.876
Obstructive (FEV1 Z-score <-1.64), N (%)	13 (50%)	77 (53%)	0.834
Anaemia, N (%) ²	8 (31%)	48 (33%)	1.0
White blood cell count (*10 ⁹ /l), median (IQR) ²	4.1 (3.5-5.3)	4.2 (3.6-5.1)	0.989
Eosinophil count (*10 ⁹ /l), median (IQR) ²	0.06 (0.02-0.11)	0.07 (0.04-0.13)	0.679

Basophil count (*10⁹/l), median (IQR)²	0.02 (0.01-0.03)	0.02 (0.01-0.03)	0.271
Neutrophil count (*10⁹/l), median (IQR)^{2,3}	1.91 (1.4-2.82)	1.65 (1.27-2.17)	0.661
Lymphocyte count (*10⁹/l), median (IQR)²	1.74 (1.41-2.17)	2.01 (1.59-2.47)	0.222
Monocyte count (*10⁹/l), median (IQR)²	0.39 (0.3-0.56)	0.39 (0.3-0.49)	0.969
Virally suppressed (VL <1000 copies/ml), N (%)	16 (62%)	92 (63%)	1.0
CD4 T cell count (cells/μl), median (IQR)	579 (357-746)	552 (338-716)	0.863
CD4 T-cell count <200 cells/μl, N (%)	4 (15%)	18 (12%)	0.749
Hospitalization during study period, N (%)⁴	2 (8%)	3 (2%)	0.165

Table S1: Baseline characteristics of participants by trial group.

¹ 1 missing data on duration of ART in Placebo group

² 2 missing data on Hb and white blood cell count in AZM group.

³ 1 outlier with neutrophil count of 50.80 in Placebo group.

⁴ Placebo group: 1 participant admitted for TB treatment, 1 for ovarian cancer and 1 for anemia.

AZM group: 1 admitted for pneumonia and 1 unknown cause of admission.

1 in AZM group used salbutamol, no one used corticosteroids.

IQR, interquartile range; eNO, exhaled nitric oxide; ppb, parts per billion; CI, confidence interval, TB, tuberculosis; ART, Antiretriviral therapy; FEV1, forced expiratory volume in 1 s; VL – viral load.