

Table 2: Characteristics of study patients

Characteristic	Patient group; mean (and SD)*		p value
	Appropriate use (n = 4671)	Inappropriate use (n = 763)	
Sex, no. (and %) female	2821 (60.4)	419 (54.9)	0.004
Age, yr	25.3 (13.7)	32.8 (11.2)	<0.001
Pharmacare plan C (receiving social assistance), no. (and %)	3391 (72.6)	468 (61.3)	0.001
Use of short-acting β -agonists, no. of canisters/yr	1.9 (1.0)	16.9 (10.2)	<0.001
Use of inhaled corticosteroids, $\mu\text{g}/\text{d}$	16.6 (479.8)	2.7 (12.1)	<0.001

*Except where indicated otherwise.

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