

Table 4 Comparison of primary and reactivation Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infection over 15 years (2001 to 2015) according to sociodemographic and clinical data

Variable	Primary EBV infection (n = 664)	Reactivation of EBV infection (n = 974)	P-value (z -test)
	No. (%)	No. (%)	
Age (years)			
< 5	161 (24.2)	66 (6.8)	< 0.0001
5–10	320 (48.2)	155 (15.9)	< 0.0001
11–15	68 (10.2)	61 (6.3)	< 0.01
16–20	37 (5.57)	83 (8.5)	< 0.05
21–25	29 (4.3)	128 (13.1)	< 0.0001
> 25	49 (7.4)	481 (49.3)	< 0.0001
Sex			
Male	435 (65.5)	481(49.4)	< 0.0001
Female	229 (34.5)	493 (50.6)	< 0.0001
Nationality			
Bahraini	583 (87.8)	796 (81.6)	< 0.001
Non-Bahraini	81 (12.2)	178 (18.3)	< 0.001
Pregnant women	20 (3.0)	69 (7.1)	<0.001
History of chronic renal diseases	13 (2.0)	68 (7.0)	<0.0001
History of diabetes mellitus	20 (3.0)	107 (11.0)	<0.001
History of malignancy	7 (1.1)	49 (5.0)	<0.0001
Associated chronic infection			
Tuberculosis	20 (3.0)	68 (7.0)	< 0.001
Cytomegalovirus	73 (11.0)	263 (27.0)	< 0.001
HIV	4 (0.6)	36 (3.7)	< 0.001
Autoimmune diseases	13 (2)	64 (6.6)	< 0.001
Clinical presentation			
Fever	611 (92.0)	828 (84.9)	< 0.001
Duration of fever (weeks)			
> 1	230 (37.6)	300 (36.2)	0.3
< 1	381 (62.4)	528 (63.8)	0.4
Mean (SD)	7.2 (3.4)	6.4 (3.5)	< 0.0001
Abdominal pain	299 (45.0)	536 (55.0)	< 0.0001
Rash	126 (19.0)	69 (7.1)	0.3
Pharyngitis	598 (90.0)	819 (84.0)	< 0.001
Lymphadenopathy	358 (53.9)	224 (23.0)	< 0.0001
Organomegaly	212 (31.9)	243 (24.9)	< 0.01
Laboratory data			
Erythrocyte sedimentation rate > 20 mm in first hour	412 (62.0)	624 (64.0)	0.4
C-reactive protein > 6 (mg/L)	359 (54.1)	692 (71.0)	< 0.0001
White blood cell count (10 ⁹ /L) [mean (SD)]	12.4 (7.9)	10.1 (4.7)	< 0.0001
Haemoglobin (g/L) [mean (SD)]	11.0 (1.2)	11.9 (3.7)	< 0.0001
Platelet count (10 ⁹ /L) [mean (SD)]	256.7 (135.4)	294.5 (151.7)	< 0.0001
Rate of hospitalization	64 (9.6)	44 (4.5)	<0.0001
Duration of hospitalization, if any (weeks)			
> 1	30 (4.5)	20 (2.1)	< 0.01
< 1	34 (5.1)	24 (2.5)	< 0.01
Mean duration (SD)	7.1 (3.5)	5.2 (2.1)	< 0.0001

SD = standard deviation.