

Supplementary Table S1: Diagnosis of the study population

Diagnosis	Percentage (N)
Acute lymphoblastic leukemia	23.1% (74)
Nephroblastoma	15.6% (50)
Hodgkin's lymphoma	7.8% (25)
Rhabdomyosarcoma	7.2% (23)
Retinoblastoma	6.3% (20)
Acute myeloid leukemia	5.3% (17)
Neuroblastoma	4.7% (15)
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	4.7% (15)
Hepatoblastoma	4.1% (13)
Osteosarcoma	4.1% (13)
Brain tumor	3.8% (12)
Germ cell tumor	3.4% (11)
Burkitt lymphoma	2.8% (9)
Ewing's sarcoma	1.6% (5)
Carcinoma	1.3% (4)
Nasopharyngeal carcinoma	0.9% (3)
Sarcoma	0.6% (2)
Chronic myeloid leukemia	0.3% (1)
Other types *	2.5% (8)
Total	320

- Other include rhabdoid tumor, Langerhans histiocytosis.

Supplemental Table S2: Frequency of the answers in the Poverty tool questionnaire

Questions in the poverty score tool										
How many residents members do the household have? <i>[number residents]</i>	>6		=5		=4		=3		≤2	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
	115	35.9	72	22.5	81	25.3	47	14.7	5	1.6
Are any resident household members 15yr old or older currently being paid a wage?	No		Yes							
	n	%	n	%						
	151	47.2	169	52.8						
If the male head/spouse is a resident member, then how well can he read English?	No male head		Do not read or not well		Read Fair or well					
	n	%	n	%	n	%				
	125	39.6	39	12.2	156	48.8				
If the female head/spouse is a resident A member then how well can he read English	No female head		Do not read or not well		Read Fair or well					
	n	%	n	%	n	%				
	3	0.9	90	28.1	227	70.9				
What is the main type of material used for the floor of the main dwelling?	Mud /concrete		Tiles/wood							
	n	%	n	%						
	191	59.7	129	40.3						
Is there a flush toilet available for this household?	No		Yes							
	n	%	n	%						
	120	37.5	200	62.5						
Does the household own at least 1 gas stove or microwave in good working	No		Yes							
	n	%	n	%						
	38	11.9	282	88.1						
Does the household own at least 1 fridge/freezer in good working order?	No		Yes							
	n	%	n	%						
	46	14.4	274	85.6						
Does the household own at least 1 HI-FI, stereo, CD player or MP3 player in good working order?	No		Yes							
	n	%	n	%						
	155	48.4	154	51.56						
Does the household own at least 1 TV,	No TV or only TV		TV and DVD		TV and satellite					
	n	%	n	%	n	%				
	73	22.7	65	20.3	182	56.9				
Does the household own at least 1 lounge suite in good working order?	No		Yes							
	n	%	n	%						

	114	35.6	206	64.4	
Does the household own at least 1 cell phone in good working order?	No		Yes		
	n	%	n	%	
	4	1.3	316	98.8	

Supplementary Table S3: Income sources of families

Income source (N=320)	Yes		No	
	N	Percentage (%)	N	Percentage (%)
Child support grant	186	58.2%	134	41.9%
Salary /wages	165	51.6%	155	48.4%
Informal jobs	71	22.2%	249	77.8%
Old age grant	14	10.6%	286	89.4%
Care dependency grant	14	4.4%	306	95.6%
Foster child grant	6	1.9%	314	98.1%
Disability grant	4	1.3%	316	98.8%

Supplementary Table S4: Results of the hunger scale

Results of Household Hunger Scale	N	Percentage (%)
Living in hunger	119	37.2
Risk of living with food insecurity	137	42.8
No risk of hunger	64	20

Supplementary Table S5: The frequency of the eight questions in the Household Hunger Scale to measure hunger in South Africa

Questions in hunger scale (n=320)	No		Yes	
	N	%	N	%
Does your household ever run out of money to buy food?	109	34.1	211	65.9
Do you ever rely on a limited number of foods to feed your children because you are running out of money to buy food for a meal?	92	28.7	228	71.3
Do you, yourself, ever cut the size of meals or skip meals because there is not enough food at home?	139	43.3	181	56.6
Do your children ever eat less than you feel they should because there is not enough money for food?	201	61.0	119	36.9
Do your children ever say they are hungry because there is not enough food in the house?	222	69.4	98	30.6
Do you ever cut the size of your children's meals, or do they ever skip meals because there is not enough money to buy food?	219	68.4	101	31.6
Do any of your children ever go to bed hungry because there is not enough money to buy food?	277	86.6	43	13.4

Supplementary Table S6: Association of disease groups and diagnosis and risk of living in poverty

Variable	Categories	High risk		Medium risk		Low risk		Total	p-value
		N	%	N	%	N	%		
Disease group	Hematological malignancy	43	30.5	42	29.8	56	39.7	141	0.466
	Solid tumor	46	25.7	64	35.8	69	38.6	179	
Diagnosis	Leukemia*	27	29.4	26	28.3	39	42.4	92	0.880
	Nephroblastoma	16	32.0	17	34.0	17	34.0	50	
	Lymphoma**	16	32.7	16	32.7	17	34.7	49	
	Rhabdomyosarcoma	7	30.4	10	41.5	6	26.1	23	
	Retinoblastoma	5	25.0	7	35.0	8	40.0	20	
	Neuroblastoma	4	26.7	6	40.0	5	33.3	15	
	Hepatoblastoma	1	7.7	4	30.8	8	61.5	13	
	Osteosarcoma	1	7.7	6	46.2	6	46.2	13	
	Brain tumor	3	25.0	4	33.3	5	41.7	12	
	Germ cell tumor	4	36.4	4	36.4	3	27.3	11	
	Other***	5	22.7	6	27.3	11	50.0	22	
Risk	SR; Local disease ****	29	26.4	33	30.0	48	43.6	110	0.449
	HR, Advance disease	58	28.6	71	34.9	74	36.5	203	

*Leukemia: Acute lymphoblastic Leukemia, Acute myeloid leukemia, Chronic myeloid leukemia; ** Lymphoma: Hodgkin lymphoma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, Burkitt Lymphoma; *** Other: Nasopharynx carcinoma, Ewing sarcoma, Carcinoma, Sarcoma; **** SR: Standard risk disease; Local disease: stage 1 or 2, HR: High-risk disease; Advanced disease is stage 3 or 4. A *p*-value of 0.05 is considered significant.

Supplementary Table S7: Association of demographics and nutritional status and risk for food insecurity

Category		Hunger		Risk for food insecurity		NO risk		N=320	p -value
		N	%	N	%	N	%		
Age	< 5 years	48	31.2	77	50.0	29	18.8	154	0.035
	≥ 5 years	71	42.8	60	36.1	35	21.1		
Gender	Male	27	16.1	74	44.1	67	39.9	168	0.170
	Female	37	24.3	63	41.5	52	34.2		
Gestational age	Premature birth	103	39.7	106	40.9	50	19.3	259	0.143
	Term baby	16	26.2	31	50.8	14	22.9		
Provinces	Eastern Cape	2	20	5	50	3	30	106	< 0.001
	Free state	8	24.1	4	21.1	7	36.8		
	Gauteng	31	37.8	30	36.6	21	25.6		
	Mpumalanga	51	55.4	36	39.1	5	5.4		
	Western Cape	23	21.7	59	55.7	24	22.6		
	Other provinces*	4	36.3	3	27.2	4	36.3		
Length for age	Normal	96	80.7	117	86.0	59	92.2	272	0.105
	Stunted	23	19.3	19	13.8	5	7.8		
BMI for age	Normal	102	85.7	121	88.3	60	93.8	283	0.268
	Malnutrition	17	14.3	16	11.7	4	6.3		
MUAC for age	Normal	84	70.6	111	81.0	56	87.5	251	0.018
	Malnutrition	35	29.4	26	18.9	8	12.5		

*Northern Cape, North West, and Limpopo Provinces. Abbreviations: BMI: Body mass index; MUAC: mid-upper arm circumference. A p-value of <0.05 was considered statistically significant

Supplementary Table 8: Factors associated with treatment abandonment.

Variables	Parameters	Abandoning treatment	
		*OR (95% CI)	<i>p</i> -value
Province	Western Cape*	1	
	Free State	15.7 (3.5, 70.6)	< 0.001
	Gauteng	1.8 (0.5, 6.8)	0.382
	Mpumalanga	1.9 (0.5, 7.1)	0.319
	Eastern Cape	7 (1, 48.9)	0.051
	Other	2.6 (0.3, 26.9)	0.411
Risk of living in poverty	Low risk*	1	
	Medium risk	0.9 (0.3, 2.6)	0.832
	High risk	0.8 (0.3, 2.6)	0.713
Household Hunger Scale	No risk for hunger*	1	
	Risk of hunger	2.3 (0.5, 10.1)	0.256
	Hunger	4.5 (1.03, 19.4)	0.045
Disease group	Hematological malignancies*	1	
	Solid tumors	1.8 (0.7, 4.3)	0.216

Abbreviations: *OR: odds ratio. A *p*-value of <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Supplementary Table 9: Hazard ratios for modeling the overall survival on baseline risk factors adjusting for stage of disease using a Cox regression model

Variables	Parameters	Overall survival	
		*HR (95% CI)	<i>p</i> -value
Risk of living in poverty	Low risk*	1	
	Medium risk	1 (0.5, 2.1)	0.990
	High risk	1.5 (0.7, 3.1)	0.335
Household Hunger Scale	No risk for hunger*	1	
	Risk of hunger	2.7 (0.9, 8.0)	0.076
	Hunger	3.2 (1.02, 9.9)	0.046
Length for age	Normal*	1	
	Stunted	1.7 (0.9, 3.4)	0.115
Stage of disease	Standard risk and local disease*	1	
	High-risk and advanced disease	3.5 (1.7, 7.6)	<0.001

Abbreviations: *HR: Hazard ratio. A *p*-value of <0.05 was considered statistically significant.