cases and 210 controls) were analysed regarding phenotypic characteristics for risk of melanoma as well as number of grandparents born in Europe. European ancestry (Spanish, Italian, Germanic or Slavic, and 2 or more European countries), eye colour (light brown and green or blue), presence of nevi, use of sunscreen, referred episodes of sunburn in adolescence or not, were independently associated with melanoma. Portuguese ancestry was not associated in multivariate logistic regression analysis. Our data confirmed the importance of European ancestry as a susceptibility factor. The higher tendency to develop melanoma in persons with those ancestries could be related not only to the phenotypic but probably also to other genetic characteristics.

Growth faltering has been defined as failure to gain weight or actual loss of weight, and weight gain <300 g over a period of three consecutive months.

**Results** The cumulative incidence of growth faltering among 0–6 years children was 930 per 1000 children per year (95% CI 900.8 to 959.2). The number of growth faltering episodes per child per year was 3.1 (95% CI 2.9 to 3.3). In the multivariate analysis we found presence of anaemia, presence of any illness & improper household ventilation as significant predictors of growth faltering.

**Conclusion** Our finding suggests more focus should be given on early detection and timely correction of growth faltering rather than just identification and treatment of severely malnourished children.