

**Supplementary table 1. A summary and explanation of variables included in the models A, B and C of the analysis.**

	Sex	Socioeconomic status	Eczema*	Parental smoking‡	Parental asthma¶
Model A	√	√	√	X	X
Model B	√	√	√	√	X
Model C	√	√	√	√	√

\*including 10% of cases where missing data were replaced by imputed values derived from response to wheeze. √=included in model, X=not included in model, ‡not determined in 1964 survey, ¶not determined in the 1964 and 1989 surveys.