



The Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study

AllerGen is promoting the development of a national birth cohort to study the root causes and track the development of asthma and allergy from birth through to adulthood.

This collaborative initiative will bring together experts from AllerGen's research programme and the public and private sectors at four recruitment centres across Canada. Researchers will endeavour to understand why early allergen sensitization is a dominant risk factor for childhood asthma that persists into adult life, and why the loss of lung function appears to be established very early in childhood.

CHILD will track a population-based cohort of 5,000 Canadian infants, from conception through early childhood, with prospective collection of data on multiple risk factors for allergy and asthma including indoor and outdoor environmental exposures, infections, nutrition, and immunologic responses, and their interactions with genetic and individual host factors.

This study aims to examine these interactions in a population with diverse geography, ethnicity, socio-economic status and environmental exposures. The results will inform all aspects of allergic and immune disease diagnosis, treatment and policy.

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