VIentiane mulTigEneRational BIrth Cohort (VITERBI)

Cohort Profile

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Cohort Overview

VITERBI

- Is a multi-generational birth cohort located in Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR
- The cohort was launched in 2020, and enrollment will continue until late 2023
Cohort Location

Vientiane Capital

• Focuses on 4 out of 9 districts
• The two most central high-SES districts: Chanthabuly (1-01) and Sikhotabong (1-02)
• The two most rural low-SES districts: Santhong (1-08) and Parkgnum (1-09)
Sampling Approach

• The cohort is structured around a core birth cohort comprised of children born between July 1, 2022 and Jan 31, 2023

• Whenever possible, children will be enrolled during pregnancy; children missed during pregnancies will be enrolled shortly after birth

• A total of 3’000 births are anticipated in this period in the four target districts

• In addition, we aim to enroll 13’000 parents, grandparents and great-grandparents if they are alive and live in our target districts
Overall Cohort Structure: Anticipated N= 16,000

3’000 Index Children

3’000 Mothers
2’700 Fathers

1’800 maternal GMs
1’500 maternal GFs
1’800 paternal GMs
1’500 paternal GFs

700 Great-grandparents

Inclusion criterion:
lives in one of the four cohort districts with no plan to move
Key Research Areas

• Identify medical and public health problems that are important to people in Lao PDR

• Intra-urban differences in maternal and child health

• Intergenerational transmission of poverty and health

• Early life nutrition, breastfeeding and gut microbiome

• Health service access
Core Team

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Social Transfers for Exclusive Breastfeeding (STEB)

This project is to assess the extent to which social transfers can improve exclusive breastfeeding rates in Lao PDR through a small randomized controlled trial.

• Aim 1: Assess the feasibility of social transfer programs for breastfeeding promotion.
• Aim 2: Assess impact of social transfers on exclusive breastfeeding rates.
• Aim 3: Assess cost-effectiveness of social transfers.
Dynamics and consequences of nutrition-related microbial dysbiosis in early life (Viterbi-Gut)

This project aims at elucidating microbial changes associated with maternal and infant malnutrition as well as a possible epigenetic changes in early life.
VITERBI Field team
Thank you for your attention