



Improving Maternal-Child Health Through Research What do we learn from the data we collect?





Survey and Phone Calls Maternal: Prenatal; Child: Infancy through Early Childhood Individual information that is important for assessing health and study outcomes



Placenta and Cord Blood Maternal: Birth The placenta plays a major role in pregnancy outcomes and can help us understand future health of mother and child.

Blood Maternal: Birth; Child: Early Childhood *Mother's blood* collected close to the time of birth is examined for nutritional factors during pregnancy. *Child's blood* will help determine allergic responses and provide other markers of health. Blood from the mother and child will also provide a DNA sample for genetic research.



Maternal: Child's Infancy This sample will allow us to measure the combinations of proteins, fats, vitamins, and carbohydrates found in breast milk.



Transepidermal Water Loss (TEWL) Test

Child: Infancy through Early Childhood Using a specialized instrument, we will measure the child's skin moisture and hydration.

Nasal, Skin Swab and Stool Combination

Maternal: Prenatal Child: Birth (meconium) through Early Childhood The measurement of healthy bacteria that are naturally in/on the body is called the microbiome. These samples allow us to sample the microbiome and measure substances the body produces in response to the environment.



<u>Urine Collection</u> Maternal: Prenatal Child: Infancy through Early Childhood The measurement of naturally produced substances in urine will help us learn how to predict health. These are known as "biomarkers".



A Hair and Toenail Clippings

Maternal: Prenatal Child: Infancy through Early Childhood These samples allow us to measure chemicals and other substances stored in hair and toenails that tell us about exposures over a long period of time.



Wipe Kit/Home Dust Collection

Child's Home: Infancy through Early Childhood Indoor particle sampling looks for normal substances found in the home. These particles are naturally occurring, present in all homes, and can impact our health.