

# CHILD STUDY

## TORONTO LIFE & TIMES

Volume I

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In this edition, we highlight some fun facts, updates, and what we have learned so far!



### HOW MANY...

3560 Participants Nationally  
785 Participants in Toronto  
667 Home Visits completed  
159 Participants in the breathing test cohort

### What makes the CHILD study great?

I bet you are all wondering why we are taking so many samples? Well, what makes CHILD a strong study is the fact that we are collecting these samples at many different times throughout your child's development. After we have collected all of the samples, we will be able to link them to the information you have given us in your questionnaires and the information we collect from your home.

What makes the Toronto site different is the fact that we are taking a closer look at children's

lung development until the age of 5 in our breathing test cohort. By collecting breathing test data around 3 months, 1 year, 18 months, and 2 more times thereafter, we hope to be able to better, and at an earlier age, diagnose respiratory conditions, like asthma.



## Environmental FUN FACTS

The CHILD study has made many partnerships to gather important information about the environment we all live in and the impact it may have on our health.

For example, at the 3 month home visit, we collect GPS coordinates that we can link with Environment Canada's pollution database. The different sources of pollution we are looking for include heating and cooling systems, cooking appliances, sources

of mould, leaks, and many more. Environment Canada tracks different types of pollutants across the city on a daily basis. They have stations around the city (actually, all over the country) that monitor air quality. We are hoping that by combining your information with that of Environment Canada's, we will be able to increase awareness of how exposure to pollutants may affect respiratory conditions.

### Our Partnerships:





# Update

## Questionnaires have gone ONLINE!

Many questionnaires have gone online! Look out for an email when your child turns 6 months, 1 year, 18 months, 2 years, and 3 years old. For logistical reasons, members of the Vanguard study will continue to use paper questionnaires.

Our oldest kids are turning

## 3 years old!

We are happy to have you all back to the hospital. We have some fun things planned for your visit!

Party whistlers,  
Astronauts, and  
scuba divers!



## Asthma & Allergy Facts:

- According to Statistics Canada in 2011, approximately **7.5% of Canadians** (aged 12 and over) have been diagnosed with asthma, this number continues to rise each year.
- Some of our preliminary analysis from breathing tests in the first year suggest that the **heating source, dust, and pests in your home** may contribute to **increased eNO**, a marker of airway inflammation.

### And most importantly....

THANK YOU all for being a part of the CHILD family! Our team appreciates all of the hard work and effort you and your family are putting into the study.



**SickKids**  
THE HOSPITAL FOR  
SICK CHILDREN

**CHILD Study Hotline**  
**416-813-5694**

*Imagine a Healthier Canada*



#### SickKids Cares

**Call for Colds:** Please help us keep track of the exposure your child has to **colds and viruses** in his or her first year of life. If your child is experiencing a runny nose, cough or fever, call the CHILD Study Hotline.

#### CONTACT US:

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Hospital for Sick Children  
416-813-7765

Questions? Our website may help  
[www.canadianchildstudy.ca/index](http://www.canadianchildstudy.ca/index)