



CHILD Study
HELP CHILDREN
GROW UP HEALTHY



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA



The Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study

Meghan Azad, PhD

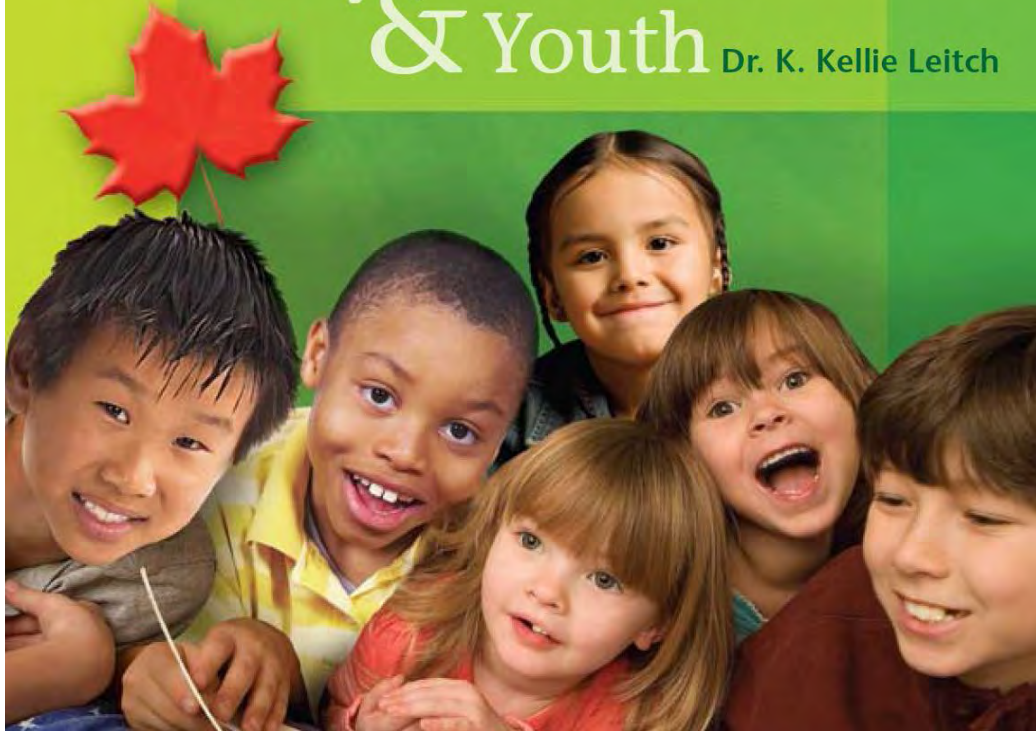
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Sandbox Summit – April 2018

REACHING FOR THE TOP

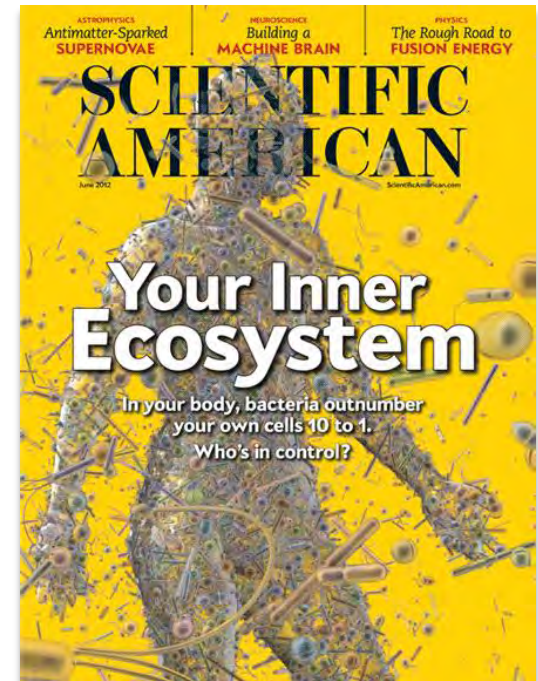
A Report by the Advisor on
Healthy Children
& Youth Dr. K. Kellie Leitch



1. Developing a National Injury Prevention Strategy;
2. Reducing childhood obesity by establishing a Centre of Excellence on Childhood Obesity;
3. Improving mental health services for Canadian children and youth;
4. Undertaking a longitudinal cohort study to provide data on the health of Canadian children and youth to help understand environmental factors impacting children's health; and,
5. Establishing a National Office of Child and Youth Health with a permanent Advisor.



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Developmental origins of ...

Allergies



1 in 4 Canadians
have seasonal allergies

1 in 13 Canadians
have food allergies

Canadian Allergy, Asthma and
Immunology Foundation

2008-09 national food allergy
prevalence survey (Soller *et al*, 2012)

Asthma



1 in 6 Canadian
children have asthma

Public Health Agency of Canada
(2007). Life and breath: Respiratory
disease in Canada.

Obesity



1 in 3 Canadian
children are overweight

Overweight and obesity in children
and adolescents: Results from the
2009 to 2011 Canadian Health
Measures Survey

The Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study

*How do genes
and the
environment
influence child
health and
development?*



“Everything Affects Everything Else”

- @CCYHCTweets



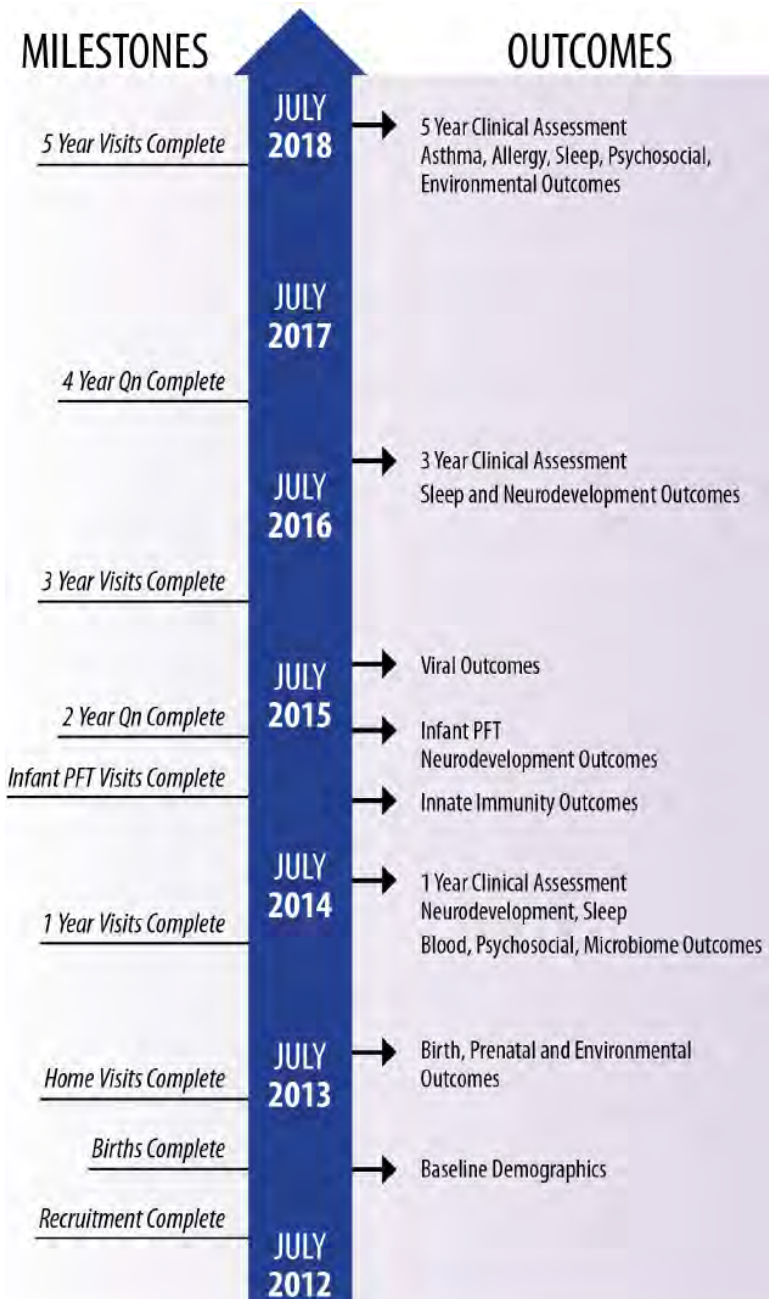


CHILD Study

HELP CHILDREN GROW UP HEALTHY

\$30M Invested
500,000 Biological Samples Banked
200,000 Questionnaires Completed
3600 Families Participating
92% Retention at 1 year
40 Senior Researchers
20+ Scientific Disciplines:

Air Quality	Infectious Disease	Physiology
Biostatistics	Molecular Biology	Population Health
Endocrinology	Neonatology	Psychology
Environmental Health	Neuroimmunology	Respirology
Epidemiology	Nutrition	Sociology
Genetics	Obstetrics	Toxicology
Immunology	Pediatrics	Microbiome





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Immunology	Pediatrics	Microbiome



OH CANADA!

Our kids
deserve better.

UNICEF REPORT CARD 14
Canadian Companion



Global Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Canada ranks
14



Global Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Canada ranks
19



Global Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being

Canada ranks
29



Global Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition

Canada ranks
37

CHILD Knowledge Mobilization Stakeholder Advisory Committee



CHILD Knowledge Mobilization Stakeholder Advisory Committee



“A beacon in Canada”
– Kellie Leitch

CHILD Knowledge Mobilization Stakeholder Advisory Committee



Mandate:

- Provide advice regarding strategies for **translating** CHILD findings into products and tools that benefit parents and communities
- Ensure that the knowledge and outputs emerging from the CHILD Study are **accessible and appropriate** for specific stakeholder/receptor groups
- Inform development of **messages** that demonstrate the value-added CHILD and support fundraising to enable data collection to continue
- Provide advice on **future research foci** relevant to stakeholders

New
Members
Welcome!

Lessons Learned from CHILD

Babies with eczema who are also sensitized to allergens more likely to develop asthma and food allergies; predictable by age one

Sears, *JACI*, November 2017



Study finds asthma and food allergies predictable as early as age one



A child uses a puffer in this file photo. (sarra22/Shutterstock.com)

Lessons Learned from CHILD

Owning a cat or dog may protect babies from allergies and obesity

Kozyrskyj, *Microbiome*, April 2017



USA TODAY

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SPORTS LIFE MONEY TECH TRAVEL OPINION 55° CROSSWORDS VIDEO SUBSCRIBE MORE

Why owning a pet could protect your baby from obesity and allergies

USA TODAY NETWORK Sean Rossman, USA TODAY Published 11:51 a.m. ET April 7, 2017 | Updated 12:38 p.m. ET April 7, 2017



A study at the University of Alberta in Canada found that being exposed to pets early in life may reduce the risk of developing allergies and obesity. Researchers found that babies from families with pets, especially dogs, had higher levels of two types of microbes that are known to lower risks of allergies and obesity. USA TODAY

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usatoday.com | 6 hours ago

Baptist leader resigns; cites 'inappropriate' relationship

Lessons Learned from CHILD

Artificial sweetener
intake in pregnancy may
increase babies' risk of
obesity

Azad, *JAMA Pediatrics*,
May 2016






HEALTH DIET/NUTRITION

The Case Against Artificial Sweeteners Is Getting Stronger

Alice Park @aliceparkny 8:00 AM ET



Eating more sugar substitutes during pregnancy is linked to overweight and obesity in kids, one study finds

They're supposed to be a way to have the proverbial cake and, literally, eat it too: all the sweet taste without the calories and the metabolic health problems that come with sugar.

But it turns out that artificial sweeteners may be too good to be true, more and more studies are finding. The latest, which looked at moms-to-be who consumed more artificial sweeteners, found that even though they are low- or no-calorie, the compounds may contribute to overweight and obesity in their children after birth.

In a [report published in *JAMA Pediatrics*](#), researchers



Lessons Learned from CHILD

Eating fruit during pregnancy boosts a baby's cognitive development

Mandhane, *EBioMedicine*, May 2016



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Eating Fruit While Pregnant May Boost Your Baby's Intelligence

Infants whose mothers ate more fruit were smarter one year after birth, a preliminary study shows



Each additional daily serving of fruit that pregnant women ate corresponded with an increase in cognitive scores for their children one year after birth, a study found. PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

rochebobois

Lessons Learned from CHILD

Traffic pollution increases
risk of allergies by one
year of age

Brauer, *Environmental Health
Perspectives*, May 2015



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Infant allergies linked to air pollution by new Canadian study

Vancouver babies more likely to have allergies, UBC study finds

CBC News Posted: May 04, 2015 12:06 PM PT | Last Updated: May 04, 2015 12:06 PM PT



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A new study has linked allergies rates in infants to air pollution. (iStock)

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A new study shows that babies exposed to air pollution in their first year of life are more likely to develop allergies to food, mould, pets or pests.

The Canadian study, which surveyed more than 2,700 children in four cities across Canada, is the first to link air pollution and allergies in infants, according to Michael Brauer, the study's senior author.

Lessons Learned from CHILD

Mothers' stress
linked to reduced
immune function in
infants

Kang et al., *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, 2018



Following

Happy #mothers healthy #babies! New research from @CHILDSTUDY has discovered a link between new mother's stress levels and babies' immune functions. Read the full blog here --> bit.ly/2EEAwQV

#ForEveryChild, health and joy.



Lessons Learned from CHILD

Exclusive breastfeeding
in hospital =
Longer breastfeeding
duration



March 2018

Breastmilk hormones
may help prevent
obesity in infants



September
2017

Direct breastfeeding until
3 months =
lower risk of asthma
at 3 years



November 2017



May 2017

Babies breastfed longer =
less likely to wheeze =
lower risk for asthma later on

Later introduction of allergenic foods =
food allergy more likely



June 2017



CHILD Beyond Age 5...

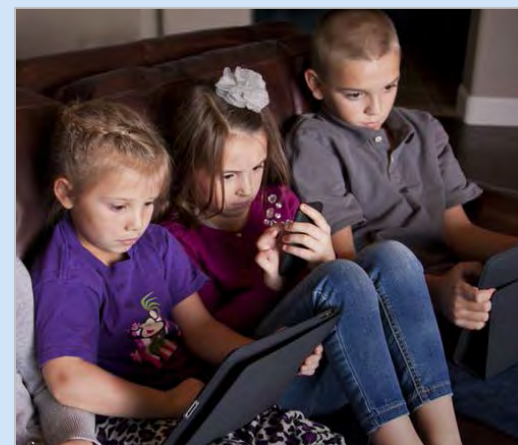
Mental Health



School



Technology



OH CANADA!

Our kids
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UNICEF REPORT CARD 14
Canadian Companion



Bullying	27
Social Transfers	29
Unhealthy Weight	29
Neonatal Mortality	31
Teen Suicide	31



Can Breastfeeding Help Protect Babies from Asthma?

New research shows that breastfed babies have a reduced rate of wheezing, putting them at a lower risk for asthma later on.

Primary Researchers

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University of Manitoba

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Children's Hospital Research
Institute of Manitoba
Pediatrics & Child Health,
University of Manitoba

Citation

Azad MB, Vehling L, Lu Z, et al. Breastfeeding, maternal asthma, and wheezing in the first year of life: a longitudinal birth cohort study. *European Respiratory Journal* 2017; 0: 1602019.

Keywords

breastfeeding, wheezing, maternal asthma, CHILD Study, childhood asthma, infant formula, complementary foods, developmental origins of asthma, birth cohort

What is this research about?

Wheezing—a whistling sound in the chest—is one of the most common reasons infants are hospitalized or receive medical care. Remarkably, between 20% and 50% of infants experience at least one episode of wheezing in their first year of life.

Wheezing in early childhood is associated with an increased risk of asthma and reduced lung function later in life. Studies have suggested that breastfeeding helps to reduce this risk; however, much about this relationship is still unknown, particularly in the case of infants born to mothers with asthma.

Research on this topic has produced inconsistent results, possibly due to challenges in collecting precise information about breastfeeding and other factors that influence wheezing. This study accounted for these issues in its investigation of the association between breastfeeding and wheezing in Canadian children.

What did the researchers do?

The study included over 2,700 infants and their parents who are participating in the Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development (CHILD) Study.

CHILD Study parents provided detailed information about themselves and their babies, and completed standardized questionnaires about feeding practices and their baby's health and development, including a description of wheezing episodes at three, six and 12 months of age.

The researchers calculated a "rate of wheezing" for each infant by dividing the number of wheezing episodes by the number of follow-up months in the first year of the study.

The researchers also carefully examined the exclusivity and duration (length) of breastfeeding each infant received by three, six and 12 months of age. Breastfeeding was categorized as: exclusive (breast milk only); partial (breast milk supplemented with infant formula or solid food); or none.

Finally, the researchers linked the infants' wheezing data with the breastfeeding information.



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Developmental Origins of CHILD HEALTH & Disease

Meghan Azad, PhD



DEVOTION
Manitoba Developmental Origins of
Chronic Diseases in Children Network



Breastfeeding

Mechanisms

- Gut Microbiota
- Epigenetics
- Metabolism
- Lung Function
- Immunity

**Allergies,
Asthma,
Obesity...**

Milk Composition

- Microbiota
- Oligosaccharides
- Immune Factors
- Fatty Acids
- Hormones
- Vitamins



Maternal Factors

Modifiable: Obesity, Nutrition, Smoking, Birth Mode,
Pro/Antibiotics... **Fixed:** Age, Ethnicity, Genetics, Allergies...