

CHILD Study Newsletter



Left to Right:
Joyce, Lisa, and Sukhpreet

Meet your team

CHILD is happy to welcome two new members to our team. Lisa Smithson and Sukhpreet Tamana are post-doctoral fellows that will be transforming all your questionnaire answers into scientific publications.

Meet Lisa

Coffee addicted Lisa (the espresso machine at her desk serves as proof) completed her PhD in Developmental Psychology at the University of Alberta. Her PhD research examined the influence of memory and gesturing on the reading comprehension of children. For CHILD, her enthusiasm will make taking your children's tiara and crown sizes (i.e. head circumference), blood draws, and allergy testing a breeze during the clinical visit. Her area of interest within CHILD is to determine how sleep influences cognitive development.

"Looking forward to sharing some laughs and learning more about your child!!"

-Lisa

Meet Sukhpreet

Originally from England (i.e. her likes include Prince Harry, high tea, and scones), Sukhpreet completed her PhD in Educational Psychology at the

University of Alberta. Her PhD research examined cognitive and behavioural development in children with neurodevelopmental disorders. For CHILD, she will be the friendly face your children see during their neurodevelopmental assessments and psychological testing. Her area of interest within CHILD is to determine how sleep influences behavioural development.

"I'm very excited to meet all the CHILD Study families!"

-Sukhpreet

Not new, but equally important. Let's get reacquainted with Joyce Chikuma.

Meet Joyce

Joyce, a Colorado native, is a Physician's Assistant in family practice. As the Study Coordinator, she is the cheerful voice booking your appointments, your go to gal for any questions, and your point of contact if you move or change your e-mail or phone numbers.

"It's exciting to see our work published into journals! I love watching our families grow up. Thank you for sharing your time with us."

-Joyce

Need to get in touch?

Joyce Chikuma

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CHILD by the numbers

- ## participants in the study
- ## 3-year old visits complete
- 110 Five year old visits completed



Our general cohort is turning 5 years of age! We look forward to celebrating with each and every one of you.



Read all about us (and you)



JD and Dad in for their five-year visit

We appreciate all the CHILD Study families and wanted you to know that your involvement has led to some amazing publications in the scientific community.

Please click on the title of the publication to read the full article/abstract.

- 1) [The CHILD Study: examining developmental origins of allergy and asthma](#). Thorax (June 11, 2015)

Summary: Did you know that out of the ~50 Canadian birth cohorts, CHILD is the only cohort that focuses on how the environment affects the development of allergies and asthma in a general population? Few studies also have the range of data (e.g. from microbiome to sleep) and the level of detail (i.e. from infant lung function to innate immune function) of CHILD cohort.

- 2) [The CHILD birth cohort study: assessment of environmental exposures](#). Journal of Exposure Science and Environmental Epidemiology (March 25, 2015)

Summary: CHILD has the potential to look at interactions between multiple environmental factors with genetic data and psychosocial factors, which will help us understand the gene environment interactions that influence the development of asthma and allergy.

- 3) [The CHILD birth cohort study: biological samples and biobanking](#). Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology (January 2015)

Summary: The CHILD study has a wealth of information, from questionnaires to biological samples such as urine and saliva, which will be relevant to many other aspects of health such as blood pressure and obesity.

Remember those poop samples?

In the words of Oprah:

"Everyone looks at their poop"

Those dirty diapers and poop samples have been in a hot topic in the scientific community.

The study below looked at how what influences the bacteria in our gut. The 3 biggest predictors were if the baby received antibiotics right at birth, type of delivery (e.g. cesarian section) and breastfeeding for 3 months of longer

- 1) [Maternal antibiotics at delivery, method of birth, and breastfeeding impact the child's gut bacteria during the first year of life](#). BJOG (September 2015)

We then found that the type of bacteria in the child's gut at 3 months of age was related to whether they had asthma at 3 years of age.

- 2) [Early infancy microbial and metabolic alterations affect risk of childhood asthma](#). Science Translational Medicine (September 30, 2015)

You can also watch a [video](#) related to the science translational medicine publication and a Maclean's article that highlights our findings.

- 3) [A baby's gut bacteria shape their health and may partly explain rising rates of asthma, allergies and obesity](#). Maclean's (November 9, 2015)

Joke of the month:

Why should you never give Elsa a floaty balloon?



Answer:

"Because I will always let it go..."