Children with severe bronchiolitis often develop asthma, but we do not understand the link between these two common conditions. The WIND study is the largest, federally-funded study seeking answers to this question. Study staff at 10 different hospitals across the nation are enrolling children hospitalized with bronchiolitis and closely following them for the possible development of breathing problems. In the end, the goal is to be able to identify children at high risk for future wheezing and asthma. The “WIND” in WIND study is short for “Wheezing INDex.” With the information you and your child provide, we hope to develop a tool (WIND) that health care providers can use to improve the care they provide to children.

The WIND study is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and is led by the Emergency Medicine Network (EMNet)

The WIND Study

Learning how severe bronchiolitis affects future health

855-815-WIND (9463)
info@windstudy.org
www.windstudy.org

We want to see the **BIG** picture

That is why we want to work with you after this hospitalization to keep track of your child’s breathing problems. The viruses causing breathing problems 2 months or 2 years from now could give us clues about future wheezing and asthma. Every time your child has a breathing problem that requires a visit to a health care provider, we ask that you collect a nasal swab. We will test these nasal swabs for viruses and this testing will help us identify the viruses associated with future asthma. Please explore the contents of one of the nasal swab kits we gave you in the hospital. If something does not make sense, contact us and we’ll be happy to answer your questions.

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**Why this study is so important**

*Bronchiolitis is the leading cause of hospitalization for U.S. infants (1,2)*

Almost half of children hospitalized with bronchiolitis will develop asthma (3)

Is a specific virus or a combination of viruses associated with the later development of asthma? Are the children who require more supportive care in the hospital at higher risk of developing asthma? Are allergies a piece of this puzzle? The answers to these questions could affect thousands of lives and help health care providers develop better and more appropriate treatment plans for children. With your help, we will make huge strides towards better understanding the link between severe bronchiolitis, wheezing, and asthma.

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**step 1**

THE INITIAL HOSPITALIZATION

We will test the mucus for viruses associated with bronchiolitis and the blood for vitamin D. We can send these results to you and your health care provider as soon as they are available. *(Please note: it may be up to a year after enrollment before test results become available due to our research testing schedule).*

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**step 2**

SHORT-TERM FOLLOW-UP

We will call you 1 week and 3 weeks after you leave the hospital. We will ask you about any breathing problems your child might have had since we last spoke. Also, at 3 weeks, we will ask you to collect a nasal swab. This will show us if your child is still carrying the virus associated with the hospitalization or if your child has “cleared” the virus.

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**step 3**

LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP

We will call you every 6 months for several years. You will receive $20 for the first call, $30 for each call after that, and $50 at the end of the study. We will ask you to collect a nasal swab when your child sees a health care provider for a breathing problem until your child turns 3. We will ask you to collect one swab this summer when your child is well and then once again the following year. These swabs will allow us to get a complete picture of your child’s respiratory health.

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**Almost half of children hospitalized with bronchiolitis will develop asthma (3)**

Bronchiolitis hospitalization costs are more than $500 million per year (4)

Bronchiolitis hospitalizations have been rising for the past few decades (5)

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*We know that many children hospitalized for bronchiolitis will go on to develop asthma, we just don’t know how to tell which ones ...*