

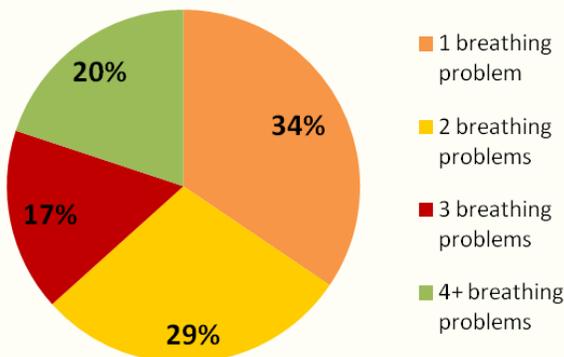


Thank you for being a part of the WIND Study! We send you this newsletter to keep you up to date with our progress and to share some interesting facts related to the study.

Our Progress

In our first and second winters, we enrolled 810 participants into the WIND Study from 17 hospitals across the U.S. So far, we have done more than 1,200 long term follow-up interviews and received more than 2,300 nasal swabs. On November 1st, we started our third "winter" of enrollment which will last from now to April 2014.

WIND Study Preliminary Findings



Every time you complete one of the 6-month follow-up interviews, you answer questions about the breathing problems your child has had since we last spoke. Knowing about each of these episodes helps us to piece together the complicated puzzle of which children are more likely to develop repeated wheezing or asthma.

For about one-third of our participants (34%), the breathing problem that made your child sick enough to end up in the hospital when you were enrolled into the study was the only breathing problem before the child's first birthday. On the other hand, 20% of WIND participants had 4 or more episodes before their first birthday.

We don't know if children who have only 1 breathing problem before their first birthday might be more likely to end up with asthma later in life – or not. And that's one of the main questions that we want to answer, which is why we'll keep asking you about breathing problems each time we talk on the phone!

Reminder: Fall Swabs

If we mailed you a Fall Seasonal Swab, please send it back to us soon! Remember to take it when your child **does not** have a breathing problem. If you need a reminder of how to take a nasal swab, please call us at 1-855-815-9463 or you can watch the video on our website (www.windstudy.org).

Contact Us

If you ever have any questions about the WIND Study, you are welcome to contact us anytime!

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

If you recently switched phone numbers or moved, please let us know so that we can stay in touch! Email or call us anytime!



WIND Study Water Bottles

As a small token of our appreciation, we will soon mail a WIND Study water bottle to all participants! Please keep an eye on your mailbox!



Healthcare & Seasonal Swabs

In addition to the follow-up interviews, the nasal swabs are another important component of the WIND Study. The first nasal swab taken when your child enrolled in the study tells us which virus(es) caused the illness that led to your child's hospitalization. The swab you took three weeks later tells us if your child's immune system "cleared" the virus.

The Healthcare and Seasonal swabs will provide more information about the viruses and bacteria that sometimes live in children's noses. We ask that you collect a Healthcare Swab when your child has a breathing problem that prompts you to seek medical care. Please collect the swab within 24-hours of the healthcare visit to maximize our chances of identifying which virus(es), if any, were present during the breathing problem. We ask you to collect swabs when your child is well over the summer (Summer Swab) and during one of the four seasons (Seasonal Swab). Comparing the results of these swabs to all of the other swabs may help us understand better the pathway from bronchiolitis to asthma. We will provide specific instructions about the Summer and Seasonal Swabs to each study participant; if it's not clear, please call us!



Get to Know...Dr. Strait

Richard Strait is one of the site principal investigators of the WIND Study. Since 1999, he has been a pediatric emergency medicine physician at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, one of the 17 hospitals where children can be enrolled into the WIND Study.



Dr. Strait hopes to use his previous research to help understand bronchiolitis and asthma.

In addition to his work with the WIND Study, Dr. Strait performs research on anaphylaxis (a severe whole-body allergic reaction) and antibodies. His previous work on lung complications after blood transfusions drew his interest to our study, and he hopes to use those findings to help understand bronchiolitis and asthma.

Dr. Strait has been married to his wife (who was also his high school sweetheart!) for 27 years and they have 3 adult children. They enjoy walking their dog, playing backgammon, and going on vacations to locations that are warmer than Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dr. Strait: "I became involved in the WIND study secondary to my interest in asthma and lung pathology. Since there appears to be a strong link between bronchiolitis and asthma, quite possibly through genetics and lung injury, it seemed a natural fit."

Fall Spotlight: WIND Study Website!

Have you checked out the WIND Study website lately? Browse over to our [Resources](#) webpage to learn more about:

- Signs of shortness of breath
- The causes of wheezing
- When to seek help for a fever



You can also browse our [News and Notes](#) webpage for the latest news on respiratory health and for updates on the WIND Study!



Happy Thanksgiving
from
the WIND Study team!