NICHD Sexual & Gender Minority Health Research

Sonia Lee, PhD SGMRO Regional Workshop Atlanta, GA, May 30, 2019



The NICHD Mission is to ensure...

- That every person is born healthy and wanted
- That women suffer no harmful effects from reproductive processes
- That all children have the chance to achieve their full potential for healthy and productive lives, free from disease or disability
- The health, productivity, independence, and well-being of all people through optimal rehabilitation



NICHD's efforts encompass:

Activities from basic science to clinical applications to public and provider education











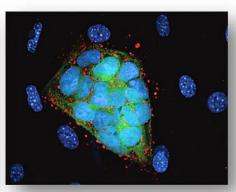




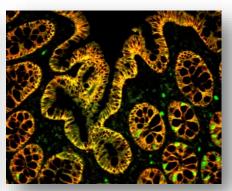
NICHD...

Fulfilling the mission through extramural research









NICHD Populations



- \Box infants
- □ children
- □ adolescents
- □ emerging/young adults
- □ orphans and vulnerable children
- pregnant and non-pregnant women
- □ sexual and gender minorities















NICHD Areas of SGM Research Interest





Demography and Reproductive Health



- Large-scale population-representative surveys examining the demographic and social characteristics
- Household composition and outcomes for children and families
- Methods for estimating size and characteristics of small and/or hard-to-reach populations
- Studies based on population-representative samples and related to reproductive health or overall health
- Behavioral interventions to improve reproductive health outcomes

Child Development and Behavior



- Social, emotional, psychological, and cognitive development in SGM youth
- Methods of conducting research with SGM youth populations in domains relevant to mission areas
- Identity-related issues and experiences of stigma and discrimination in children, adolescents, and young adults
- Impact of brain development of hormonal therapy in children/adolescents

Gynecologic Health and Fertility/Infertility



- Effects and consequences of surgical procedures and hormone administration on gynecological health outcomes
- Barriers to/options for fertility care, including assisted reproductive technologies
- Impact of hormonal or other therapies on reproductive function, fertility options and fertility preservation, and gamete quality

HIV & AIDS



- Domestic and international research related to the epidemiology, diagnosis, clinical manifestations, pathogenesis, transmission, treatment, and prevention of HIV infection, complications, co-infections and co-morbidities
- Barriers and facilitators to accessing HIV/AIDS and/or STI care
- Contributions of intimate partner violence and anti-SGM victimization to rates of HIV and STI transmission

Behavioral and social science; implementation science

Study Topics in DASH (*biospecimens available)

Autism Spectrum Disorders

Birth Defects

Cerebral Palsy

Children's Bone Health & Calcium

Diabetes

Driving Risk

Early Learning

High-Risk Pregnancy & Pregnancy Loss

HIV/AIDS*

Infant Care & Health

Infant Mortality

Infertility & Fertility

Labor & Delivery

Neuroscience

Necrotizing Enterocolitis

Obesity & Overweight

Obstetrics

Pediatric Injury

Pharmacology

Pelvic Floor Disorder

Preconception & Prenatal Care

Preeclampsia & Eclampsia

Pregnancy*

Preterm Labor & Birth*

Primary Ovarian Insufficiency

Rehabilitation Medicine

Sleep

Spinal Cord Injury

Stillbirth

Stroke

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

Traumatic Brain Injury

Turner Syndrome

Women's Health



https://dash.nichd.nih.gov

- Centralized resource for researchers to store deidentified data and to access data and associated biospecimens from NICHD supported studies
- Can help investigators meet NIH's data sharing requirements for their own studies
- Data sharing launched in August 2015;
 biospecimen request launched in March 2019
- Governed by the NICHD DASH Committee
- Aims to accelerate scientific findings to ultimately improve human health



133 Studies



35 Study Topics



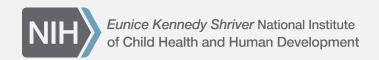
136 Data Requests



15 Data Use Publications



Studies Offering
Biospecimens





https://dash.nichd.nih.gov

- NICHD DASH has added a new function: managing requests for NICHD biospecimens.
- While not a biorepository itself, DASH serves as a portal for access to biospecimens associated with DASH data collections.
- Investigators worldwide can now request both biospecimens and data for secondary analyses; other than the costs of preparing and shipping biospecimens, these specimens are free to investigators.
- Studies with biospecimens currently available include:
 - Genomic and Proteomic Network for Preterm Birth Research (GPN) three studies
 - NICHD International Site Development Initiative (NISDI) four studies
 - Mothers and Infants Cohort Study (MICS)

| Study Topic Areas of Current Biospecimens | Currently Available Biospecimens | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| HIV/AIDS | Amniotic fluid | DNA/RNA/Proteins | Tissue samples |
| Pregnancy | Blood | Saliva | Urine |
| Preterm Labor and Birth | Breast milk | Serum/Plasma | Vaginal fluid |



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NICHD website:

https://www.nichd.nih.gov/about/org/der/branches/mpidb