



Protocoles en émergence

AXE CARREFOUR DE L'INNOVATION

The impact of poor water, sanitation and hygiene on child mortality and growth following an episode of acute diarrhoea in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia: cohort study

Summary

Acute diarrhoea (AD) is the second leading cause of death among children 1-59 months of age worldwide. The World Health Organization is coordinating a randomised controlled trial (RCT) to be conducted in 7 countries in sub-Saharan Africa and south Asia to study the therapeutic value of administering antibiotics for a subset of vulnerable children with AD. Previous research has shown that, even after receipt of the current standard of care, children who report to hospital with AD are at high risk of growth failure and mortality in the 90 days following discharge; yet, the reasons are poorly understood. The RCT will investigate two (non-exclusive) hypotheses: (1) that the current standard of care may be inadequate to fight against some pathogens; (2) that host physiology may prevent some children from mounting an effective immune response against infections.

A third hypothesis is that environmental contamination in children's living environments may play a fundamental role in growth failure and mortality post-AD. We are designing a cohort study integrated into the planned RCT to investigate this possibility. The study will aim to determine whether and how increased exposure to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) risks is associated with subsequent adverse health outcomes among children in the 90-day period following an episode of acute diarrhoea (AD) in low-resource settings in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

CONFÉRENCIÈRE

Mira Johri, Ph.D, M.P.H. Professeure titulaire, Département de gestion, d'évaluation, et de politique de santé, Université de Montréal. Chercheur régulier, Carrefour de l'innovation, Centre de recherche du CHUM

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CENTRE DE RECHERCHE DU CHUM

Pavillon R

3^e étage, R03.216

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