

LEVERAGE THE COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLOBAL PREGNANCY COLLABORATION



The Global Pregnancy Collaboration (CoLab) is an international consortium of 40 centers that promote collaboration in perinatal research to facilitate maternal and child health worldwide.

What CoLab has to offer:

- More than 40 cohorts from around the world, including consortia in Latin America and Indonesia; many high and low resource settings with infrastructure in place for clinical and preclinical research
- Skilled and world recognized experts on adverse pregnancy outcomes research
- Experienced clinical and fundamental (preclinical) investigators
- Contacts with centers worldwide beyond the CoLab membership

OTHER WAYS YOU CAN WORK WITH CoLab:

- We can provide a selected group of content experts to evaluate and advise in the early stages of a planned project
- We can provide contacts and potential sites for clinical or preclinical studies
- From the worldwide collection of 40+ cohorts that are part of the CoLab
- From other contacts of the CoLab cohorts
- We can evaluate and assist in experimental design
- Preclinical
- Clinical

CoLab Strategic Components

To promote sharing of data and biological samples to enable research studies of adverse pregnancy outcomes. The Collaboration allows questions about pregnancy complications to be addressed that could not be answered in any single center or project.

To collaborate with investigators who work in low resource settings where most maternal and perinatal deaths and severe adverse outcomes occur. We help to improve research infrastructure, both human and material. Recent collaborations involve centers in Columbia, Brazil, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina, Indonesia and Tanzania. We have worked with investigators in Brazil, India and Africa to submit applications for external funding to establish local biobanks in conjunction with implementation studies. We have received funding for Brazil and Africa. We are currently assisting two new consortia of investigators: in Latin America, (Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico) and in Indonesia. We help them to obtain funding and to establish policies and procedures. We share our databases with them.

To establish a standardized database for studies of adverse pregnancy outcomes which is available to investigators worldwide. This is the logical extension of our publication of recommended data collection for the study of preeclampsia. These recommended fields are included in a standardized form facilitating future data sharing and collaborations. This REDCapp based database is available for CoLab members as is consultation. Modules are currently available for specific studies of preeclampsia and environmental pollution. Additional modules can be constructed at modest cost.

CoLab has been very interested in developing useful pregnancy data bases for low resource centers. This has culminated in projects by investigators at the University College Cork (UCC). Funded by Horizon-Europe, LINDA-FAMILIA will implement an open source, integrated digital health information system to replace paper-based records at maternal and child health units in four priority regions in Ethiopia, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. These systems will capture individual level health data on infectious diseases and vaccinations, enabling improved clinical care, disease surveillance, and public health research, at lower cost than existing systems. The initiative brings together 11 global partner consortiums from Ireland, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Uganda, Norway and the UK and is coordinated UCC in Ireland. The project builds on the ULTRA Project, a collaboration between UCC, Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute (KCRI), and CoLab. ULTRA successfully developed and implemented an eRegistry system in maternal and child health units at seven healthcare facilities in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, transforming how health data is captured and used.

This work also honors the memory of the late Professor Christopher Redman (1941–2024). A great inspirer, mentor, scientist, and collaborator who made giant clinical steps forward in the field of maternal and newborn health and who contributed significantly to the early stages of this work. His inspiration and dedication live on in this project.



Dr. Leslie Myatt (left) and Dr. James Roberts (right) are the current and founding Principal Investigators of CoLab respectively. Dr. Myatt has a distinguished track record of studying human placental function in relation to adverse pregnancy outcomes and Dr. Roberts is internationally recognized for his work on preeclampsia. They have collaborated for many years, particularly studying the prevention of preeclampsia by antioxidant treatment and identifying biomarkers for early prediction of preeclampsia in the NIH-funded CAPPS study. Dr. Myatt and Roberts are Fellows (ad eundem) of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Dr. Myatt is the recipient of the Distinguished Scientist Award by the Society for Reproductive Investigation while Dr. Roberts is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.

We believe that devastating disorders of pregnancy are some of the most complicated medical problems. They include interaction of two genomes and environments, maternal and fetal. The resolution of these complications requires collaboration of investigators worldwide to unravel the complexities including similarities and difference in all settings, both high and low resource.

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