

October 2015



Welcome to the latest e-newsletter from the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC). It contains news and events as well as updates on our resources and publications. Please forward it to colleagues who may be interested and encourage them to visit our website www.bristol.ac.uk/alspac and follow us on Twitter @CO90s.

Latest news

- We are currently compiling information for our funders about research impact and awards. If you are an ALSPAC researcher and have received an award or your research has had policy impact within the last 12 months, please email the details to [Dara O'Hare](mailto:Dara.O'Hare@bristol.ac.uk) by **Monday 30 November**.
- The Wellcome Trust and Epic Games recently asked creative studios around the world to find virtual reality (VR) solutions to the problem of big-data generation. We are delighted to announce that the winners of the \$20,000 challenge were LumaPie (creative studio Masters of Pie and development firm Lumacode) for their flexible VR data-analysis tool, which used synthetic ALSPAC data to create a real-time data-analysis environment.
- Want a quick introduction to epigenetics? Look no further than this [Guardian article](#) by Dr Adam Rutherford, which refers to ALSPAC as 'the gold standard for transgenerational research'.
- Our online proposal system is now live <https://proposals.epi.bristol.ac.uk/>. Have you used it? We'd love to know what you think. Please send your feedback to alspac-exec@bristol.ac.uk.

Current activities

- **New clinical assessment on original cohort (aged 22-24)**
Our latest clinical assessment on 5,000 participants from the original cohort started in June and will run until May 2017. Data will be available in 2018. Please see our website for the full list of measures: <http://www.bris.ac.uk/alspac/participants/focus24/>
- **COCO90s data collection**
COCO90s (Children of the Children of the 90s) is the next generation cohort of the ALSPAC study <http://www.bris.ac.uk/alspac/researchers/resources-available/coco90s/>. It enrolls and follows families and expecting parents from among its original Children of the 90s cohort. With 350 children/expectant couples currently enrolled and 950 projected to enrol by 2019, this is a unique

and growing resource for inter-generational lifecycle epidemiology. Researchers interested in developing assessments (hands-on or questionnaire-based) of the new cohort are encouraged to contact Dr Melanie Lewcock (melanie.lewcock@bristol.ac.uk). **The deadline for expressions of interest is 31 October 2015.**

- **Questionnaire for fathers/partners**

We are planning the next questionnaire for study fathers/partners (3,500 men, average age 56), which will be sent to them in late 2016. We are accepting questions from researchers for potential inclusion in the questionnaire. If you are interested in questionnaire-based research in this population group, please complete an online proposal form at <https://proposals.epi.bristol.ac.uk/> Please note that per-page charges apply to questions included in the questionnaire. If you have any questions, please contact Kasia Kordas (kasia.kordas@bristol.ac.uk) or Ross Robinson (ross.robinson@bristol.ac.uk). **The submission deadline is 31 March 2016.**

- **Annual questionnaire for original study participants**

Researchers interested in including questions in the 2016 annual questionnaire to original study participants (age 24-25 in 2016) are encouraged to submit an application for their study, together with the proposed questions, via the online proposal system <https://proposals.epi.bristol.ac.uk/> Please note that per-page charges apply to questions included in the questionnaire. For further information, please contact Kasia Kordas (kasia.kordas@bristol.ac.uk) or Ross Robinson (ross.robinson@bristol.ac.uk). **The submission deadline is 31 March 2016.**

Recent publications

- UK10K – a detailed genetic analysis of nearly 10,000 individuals – including 2,000 participants from ALSPAC – has been carried out in an effort to explore how rare differences in our genes contribute to human disease. The main discoveries were reported in two papers published in *Nature* on 14 September.
- A full list of publications based on ALSPAC data is available on our [website](http://www.bris.ac.uk/alspac/researchers/research/papers/) <http://www.bris.ac.uk/alspac/researchers/research/papers/>. Follow us on Twitter @CO90s to receive regular alerts when ALSPAC research proposals are approved and papers based on ALSPAC data are published.

Forthcoming events

SLLS conference

- We will be attending the Society for Longitudinal and Lifecourse Studies (SLLS) in Dublin, 18-21 October. Please get in touch if you'd like to meet us there by emailing alspac-exec@bristol.ac.uk.

CLOSER conference

- A reminder that ALSPAC is partnering with CLOSER (Cohort & Longitudinal Studies Enhancement Resources) <http://www.closer.ac.uk/> to organise a conference entitled 'The importance of early years, childhood and adolescence: evidence from longitudinal studies', which will take place on Monday 30 November 2015 (9:30-17:00 followed by public lecture) at the British Library, London.

For more information on any of the projects mentioned here, please email alspac-exec@bristol.ac.uk