Predisposition to acute viral gastroenteritis in childhood

Primary prevention of acute viral gastroenteritis (AGE) will begin in the UK in July 2013 with the introduction of rotavirus vaccine. Other viral causes of this disease will remain prevalent including norovirus, astrovirus and adenovirus. As part of an ongoing surveillance programme at Bristol Children's Hospital we are collecting clinical data and biological specimens from children with AGE. This project will investigate genetic predisposition to AGE caused by different viruses by assessing the blood group antigen secretor genotype in patients and controls. This could help explain why some children get so much more severely ill than others.

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