Navajo Birth Cohort Study (NBCS)

• The primary goal of this study is to better understand the relationship between uranium exposures and birth outcomes and early developmental delays on the Navajo Nation.

• Participants will be surveyed during their pregnancies and take part in four developmental assessments with their child in her first year.

• The study will provide broad public health benefits for Navajo communities, including —
  • early assessment and education on environmental, prenatal risks;
  • service referral when developmental concerns are identified; and
  • heightened awareness of impacts of environmental exposures among Navajo area health care providers.

• The study is funded by Congress at the request of the Navajo Nation and in response to concerns expressed by women about the health impacts of living near abandoned uranium mines.

Participants will be asked to:

• Complete surveys before birth and at 2-, 6-, 9- and 12-months after birth

• Provide urine and blood samples and consent to a medical record review

• Consent to a home environmental assessment and sampling

• Consent to child's growth and developmental assessments, blood and urine collection, and home environmental sampling

Direct Benefits for Participants:

• The home environmental assessment will indicate if any serious levels of contamination are present, and if so, the family will be referred to the appropriate agency for further environmental testing.

• Access to information on community-based infant services and programs, including WIC and First Things First.

• Children with developmental concerns will be referred to Growing In Beauty, Navajo Nation Early Intervention Program, for services.
The Navajo Birth Cohort Study (NBCS) began enrolling participants in February 2013.

Who will be eligible?

Women between the ages of 14 and 45 years old who have lived on the Navajo Nation for 5 years, are pregnant, and will deliver at

- Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility
- Gallup Indian Medical Center
- Northern Navajo Medical Center (Shiprock)
- Tséhootsooí Medical Center (Ft. Defiance)
- Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation

For information about the study, please call us at 1-877-545-6775

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Helping Your Baby and Future Generations To Grow in Beauty

A collaborative study to better understand the relationship between uranium exposures and birth outcomes and early developmental delays on the Navajo Nation

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