

A trial to evaluate the impact of an early start to iron/folic acid supplementation in pregnancy on deaths of newborns in rural Bangladesh

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Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	The University of Sydney
Enrollment	32,000 participants

Plain Language Summary

This large study in rural Bangladesh is testing whether starting iron and folic acid supplements early in pregnancy (during the first three months) and continuing throughout pregnancy can reduce deaths in newborns. Iron and folic acid are important nutrients for a developing baby, and getting them early may prevent problems like preterm birth and low birth weight that contribute to newborn deaths. Community health workers will identify pregnant women and provide supplements and support regularly during pregnancy.

You may be eligible if:

- You are a pregnant woman living in one of the study areas in rural Bangladesh
- You are in your first trimester of pregnancy (for the intensive follow-up component, no more than 16 weeks pregnant)

You may NOT be eligible if:

- You live in a cluster (area) where other programs are already distributing iron and folic acid
- You live in an area that is extremely difficult to access due to flooding
- You are more than 16 weeks pregnant (for the intensively followed cohort only)

Talk to your doctor or community health worker about whether this trial might be right for you.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (1)

- All pregnant women registered in the study clusters.

Exclusion (2)

-) Clusters on the sampling frame will be excluded if there are other interventions to improve antenatal iron/folic acid distribution currently being implemented either by government or non-government sectors. 2) Clusters located in areas where access is extremely difficult, for example, low land areas which are prone to flooding for extended periods of the year, will also be excluded.
-) Cohort evaluation: Pregnant women with more than 16 weeks of gestational age at enrollment will be excluded from 'cohort' follow-up.

Locations (1 total)

Dhaka Division, Bangladesh