

Burden of Diseases Potentially Preventable by Maternal Immunization in Sub-Saharan Africa

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Status RECRUITING
Sponsor Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine
Enrollment 1,000 participants

Plain Language Summary

Each year, infections from four bacteria and viruses — Group B Streptococcus (GBS), Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Influenza, and Pertussis (whooping cough) — cause a significant proportion of newborn deaths in sub-Saharan Africa. Vaccinating mothers during pregnancy may protect newborns by passing maternal antibodies through the placenta before birth, during the critical first weeks of life before routine childhood vaccines begin.

This study, conducted in Ghana and Zimbabwe, aims to measure exactly how common these infections are in pregnant women and newborns, and to assess whether antibodies produced by infected mothers actually protect their babies. This data will be crucial for making the case for maternal vaccination programs that could save thousands of newborn lives each year.

You may be eligible if you are a pregnant woman living in one of the study areas in Ghana or Zimbabwe, carrying a viable baby, and willing to have your infant followed for the first year of life. The only reason for exclusion is if you decline to participate.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (1)

- All pregnant women residing in the study areas in Ghana and Zimbabwe, carrying a viable foetus and who consent to participation and for their infants to be followed-up in the first year of life

Exclusion (1)

- Non-consent

Locations (2 total)

Kintampo, Brong-Ahafo Region, Ghana
Mabvuku, Harare, Zimbabwe