

LEAFLET



What's new with APrON?

The APrON and All Our Babies studies are joining forces!

All Our Babies is a University of Calgary based study with a cohort of about 3,300 Alberta mothers and their babies. The original research objectives of All Our Babies were to understand women's pregnancy experiences (e.g. mental well-being, prenatal care, and social support) and to predict preterm birth.

The All Our Babies and APrON studies started looking for participants around the same time, and the two studies share a number of measures and outcome variables. A few families are even enrolled in both studies!

Now, after receiving the go-ahead from our Participant Advisory Committee, the APrON and All Our Babies research teams are in the process of proposing the Alberta Birth Common Dataset (ABCD), to bring together the APrON and All Our Babies studies and link data collected from mothers, fathers, and children starting at age 5 years.

Many benefits would come with merging the two studies:

- More participants will allow for more powerful analyses, particularly those for less common measures (e.g. the effects of pre-eclampsia, factors related to autism, etc.).
- A larger dataset will encourage more funding to follow families to age 8 years and beyond.
- Allows for *prospective harmonization*: future assessments with each cohort can be designed to use the same measures to answer really tough questions.

The **overarching objectives** of the ABCD Team are to (1) develop new knowledge about the influence of the environment on the emergence of emotional and behavioural problems in children; and (2) create a legacy data set, the analysis of which will inform policy and interventionsto improve outcomes for children.

We will be sure to keep our APrON participants updated on this proposal. As always, feel free to email us at apron@ucalgary.ca with any questions or concerns.

The APrON Study Featured on Breakfast Television!

APrON Study researchers were invited to Breakfast Television to talk about findings from The Fetal Programming Study, a substudy of APrON that is looking at the effects of stress during pregnancy. If you missed it, not to worry. You can catch the entire interview featuring Dr. Nicole Letourneau and Dr. Gerry Giesbrecht on the Breakfast Television website at <http://www.btcalgary.ca/videos/3569160300001/>.



Fun Facts: How Common Is Your Baby's Name?

Ever wonder how many other APrON babies share the same name as your son or daughter? The word chart below shows the most common baby names in APrON. Names with larger font size are more common while names with smaller font size are less common.

If you cannot find your baby's name in the chart, don't pull your magnifying glass out just yet! Only names that were given to at least 3 APrON babies are represented in the word chart below.



Join APrON's Participant Advisory Committee

The APrON team will be running a participant focus group and we'd like you to be a part of it! If you have ideas on how we can keep participants, like you, engaged and interested in our research, we want to hear from you. The session will take place at the Alberta Children's Hospital on June 6 from 1:30-3:00 PM. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity please contact Julia, the committee coordinator, at julia.poole@albertahealthservices.ca.

HELP KEEP OUR FILES UP TO DATE

Staying in touch with our participants is a key part of our work. When we lose touch with people we lose some of our ability to answer important health questions. If you have moved, changed your phone number or have a new email address, please take a moment to let us know of these changes. Keep in mind that we can send you surveys and keep you up-to-date with the *APrON Leaflet* no matter where you live, even if you are outside of Alberta or Canada.



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