

Thank you for your continued participation in the CHIME study! We really appreciate the time you have given to this important research.

CHIME STUDY UPDATES

As you know, the CHIME study, short for "CHIIdhoood MicrobiomE," is focused on learning more about the normal bacteria, or "microbiome", living in the nose, mouth, and intestine of healthy children. Variations in the microbiome are linked to different childhood diseases. Still, we do not fully understand why and what can be done to create a healthier microbiome. The information you and your family continue to provide to us will play a vital role in improving our understanding of the microbiome and its relationship to childhood health.

Our team recently wrapped up the 3-year in-person visits; thank you to everyone who attended. Currently, our Coordinators are making 5-year follow-up calls – and 8-year calls for the older age group. If you have not had the chance to complete your child's follow-up call and would like to do so, feel free to reach out and we'd be happy to schedule a time that works for you. The next in-person visit will be around the time your child is 6 years old.



IN DEPTH: A POOL OF KNOWLEDGE



In the heat of the summer, taking a trip to the pool can be a fun way to cool off. You may remember that we ask you about your child's time at the pool in our follow-up phone interviews and some parents are curious why. The CHIME Study Team wants to learn about visits to the swimming pool because it helps provide information about your child's environment.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, how your child interacts with their environment can affect how their lungs and immune system develop. The questions we ask you help give us a better idea of the role swimming, exposure to chlorine, and bacteria – good and bad – may play in lung health. The CHIME Study is interested in how environments like indoor and outdoor pools may affect breathing and health.

Your response to these questions allows us to better understand the factors that may affect child breathing, and we greatly value your answers!

CONTACT US!

Do you have any questions about the CHIME Study? Did you recently move, or change your phone number or e-mail? Please let us know so we can stay in touch. Call or e-mail us anytime!

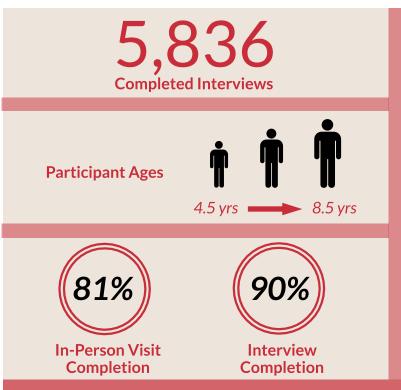


GET TO KNOW: MYRHA QADIR



Originally from rural North Carolina, Myrha is a Clinical Research Coordinator at Massachusetts General Hospital. She loves living in Boston and being a part of the CHIME, WIND, and ECHO Study Teams! Although she enjoys all parts of her job (especially sending families gifts and reviewing medical records), her favorite part of the work is getting to know parents and their families through the follow-up calls. Myrha graduated from Princeton University in 2021, majoring in the History of Medicine (with minors in Theater and Global Health/Health Policy). She plans to attend the University of North Carolina School of Medicine next year. She hopes to earn an MD/MPH and work with communities to increase healthcare access in the rural south. Myrha strongly believes that the CHIME study will help us better understand the socio-economic and environmental factors that affect child health. Outside of work, you can usually find Myrha going for bike rides along the Charles River or grabbing ice cream with her friends. She looks forward to speaking with everyone during their next follow-up call!







Whatever your child's age, the Coordinating Center staff will be calling you to learn more about your child's health. These calls typically take about 5 to 15 minutes. We look forward to talking with you!