

COVID-19 home antibody testing study

Submission date 26/07/2023	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 08/08/2023	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 05/09/2023	Condition category Infections and Infestations	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

The COVID-19 home antibody testing study will invite Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC) participants who previously completed the COVID-19 questionnaire to complete a home antibody test. This is part of a collaborative effort across UK cohorts to collect serological data on past infection status. In particular, cohorts have been selected to provide information on prevalence across important areas of variation – ethnicity, age, socioeconomic status and geography.

Who can participate?

Volunteers aged 28 to 50 years old of the ALSPAC longitudinal study

What does the study involve?

This is an antibody research study. In this study, the results of antibody tests that participants have taken at home are used to help understand how many people in Children of the 90s may have been infected with the virus which causes COVID-19.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The aim of the study was to have results that inform public policy/public health in the time of a pandemic. Risks include potential bruising associated with the test kit.

Note, this was an antibody research study rather than a medical device study. Covid19 test kits had not been licensed when this study ran. Because of this, the study was run as a device study.

Where is the study run from?

ALSPAC (Children of the 90s), University of Bristol (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

April 2020 to January 2021

Who is funding the study?

1. Medical Research Council (UK)
2. Wellcome Trust (UK)
3. University of Bristol (UK)

Who is the main contact?
Nicolas Timpson, N.J.Timpson@bristol.ac.uk (UK)

Contact information

Type(s)

Principal Investigator

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Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

Nil known

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Nil known

Secondary identifying numbers

B3566, CPMS 46980

Study information

Scientific Title

Serological testing for COVID-19 in ALSPAC (G0/G1)

Study objectives

Serological testing for COVID-19 in ALSPAC (G0/G1) (Lay title: COVID-19 home antibody testing study) will invite ALSPAC participants who have previously completed a COVID-19 questionnaire to complete a home antibody test.

This is part of a collaborative effort across UK cohorts to collect serological data on past infection status. In particular, a set of cohorts have been selected to provide information on prevalence across 4 important areas of variation – ethnicity, age, socio-economic status and geography. (Please note each cohort is running its studies separately and are have its own protocol and route to ethics approval).

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 21/07/2020, ALEC - ALSPAC ethics and Law committee (ALSPAC (Children of the 90s), Bristol, BS8 2BN, United Kingdom; +44 (0)117 455 3687; lynn.molloy@bristol.ac.uk), ref: 110264

Study design

Case-control across within a longitudinal study

Primary study design

Observational

Secondary study design

Case-control study

Study setting(s)

Community

Study type(s)

Screening

Participant information sheet

Not available in web format, please use the contact details to request a participant information sheet

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

COVID-19 home antibody testing study

Interventions

Our outcome measure is lateral flow test derived evidence of positive antibody response to COVID-19 given knowledge of the sensitivity and specificity of the Fortress Home Test kit. This is relevant given our objectives in this work.

The broad objective of this work (and contribution to the work already underway by REACT and UKBiobank) is the collection of epidemiological-grade biological test data for COVID-19 infection across a series of select studies across the UK which provide information on prevalence across 4 main axes of variation important for developing mitigation strategy relevant evidence (age, geography, socio-economic position, ethnicity/ancestry) and with the ability to assess this against information on existing comorbidities. The study's aim is to have results that are policy useful in a short period reflecting the burden of COVID-19 retrospectively across these important gradients but also to allow for the effective planning of research into the nature of the events before, during and after infection. This can only be done in longitudinal studies with retrospective data that are continuing (and part of funded examinations into COVID-19 studies) in the future. The Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC) is the first of 5 studies to have DHSC procured Fortress lateral flow tests available to do this.

This approach will use the same testing approach as the existing REACT-2 study (<https://www.reactstudy.org>) and consequently, methods are based directly on this successful investigation which has recruited and tested over 100,000 participants. Participants are invited to read the instructions of the antibody kit and do the test themselves at home. The test uses a drop of blood taken from your finger. An instruction booklet is provided with the test for detailed guidance on taking the test.

Participants are also asked to go online to complete a short questionnaire that will ask them to:

1. Record any COVID-19 symptoms you may have had in recent months
2. Record your test result
3. Upload a photograph of your test result (this step is optional)

In total, this should all take around 45 minutes.

Intervention Type

Device

Pharmaceutical study type(s)

Not Applicable

Phase

Not Applicable

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)

COVID-19 home antibody test

Primary outcome measure

Covid 19 infection status measured using a COVID-19 home antibody test at one timepoint

Secondary outcome measures

There are no secondary outcome measures

Overall study start date

20/04/2020

Completion date

20/01/2021

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

Eligible participants in ALSPAC, a longitudinal study

Participant type(s)

Population

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

28 Years

Upper age limit

50 Years

Sex

Both

Target number of participants

7000

Key exclusion criteria

1. Any participant who responded 'No' to the question that asked if they would be happy for the study team to send information about research involving testing for COVID-19 in the 'Learning more about COVID-19' questionnaire
2. Increased risk of bleeding (participants will be asked at the consenting stage to self-declare any issues related to bleeding disorders)
3. Participants outside the UK. Costs and timescales for postage outside the UK make this impractical.
4. Participants who are flagged as deceased, withdrawn, no to questionnaires and no to contact.

Date of first enrolment

16/09/2020

Date of final enrolment

14/10/2020

Locations

Countries of recruitment

England

United Kingdom

Study participating centre**At participants homes**

ALSPAC (Children of the 90s)

Population Health Sciences

Oakfield House

Bristol

United Kingdom

BS8 2BN

Sponsor information

Organisation

University of Bristol

Sponsor details

Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC) (Children of the 90s) Core funding

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Sponsor type

University/education

Website

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/alspac/>

ROR

<https://ror.org/0524sp257>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Research council

Funder Name

Medical Research Council

Alternative Name(s)

Medical Research Council (United Kingdom), UK Medical Research Council, MRC

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

National government

Location

United Kingdom

Funder Name

University of Bristol

Alternative Name(s)

Universitas Bristolensis, bristoluniversity, bristoluni

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

Universities (academic only)

Location

United Kingdom

Funder Name

Wellcome Trust

Alternative Name(s)

Wellcome, WT

Funding Body Type

Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype

Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

Location

United Kingdom

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan

Planned publication in a high-impact peer-reviewed journal

Intention to publish date

22/05/2022

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

Through numerous media types, the ALSPAC communications team continue to summarise and describe the footprint of ALSPAC research (<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/alspac/covid-19/>). This includes usual social media routes and looks to acknowledge the diversity of the study. This is an essential addition for a volunteer participant group like ALSPAC as it provides an important route to disseminate results aimed specifically at population-based or epidemiological findings. Please find a link to ALSPAC's Access Policy - [ALSPAC_Access_Policy.pdf](#) (bristol.ac.uk).

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Funder report results	version 0.1	24/01/2022	07/08/2023	No	No
Participant information sheet			07/08/2023	No	Yes
Preprint results	version 2.1	22/05/2022	07/08/2023	No	No
Protocol file		01/08/2020	07/08/2023	No	No
Results article	results	24/01/2023	07/08/2023	Yes	No