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Impact evaluation of a cash transfer pilot program in the Kara and Savanes regions, Togo: to determine whether distribution of cash during pregnancy and infancy improves the nutritional status of mothers and young children.

Submission date
12/05/2014

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
09/09/2014

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
26/01/2021

Condition category
Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine

[_] Prospectively registered
[X] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[X] Results
[_] Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims
The cash transfer program is tried by the PdC (Projet de Développement Communautaire), Government of Togo, in five districts of the Kara and Savanes regions in Togo. This program will provide cash to women during the first 1000 days of pregnancy, lactation and the childs first 2 years including attending prenatal visits, attending nutrition, health and hygiene education sessions, birth registration and children schooling. The expected result of the program is to improve growth of the baby during pregnancy and early childhood, and improve childrens well-being and social protection. Our aim is to see if the giving cash to women have an impact on childrens growth, well-being and social protection.

Who can participate?
Pregnant/lactating women and infants/young children under 2 years of age can take part.

What does the study involve?
Women and children will be randomly allocated to one of two groups:
Group A (control group): women and children attend education sessions
Group B (intervention): in addition to the education sessions, women receive a cash transfer worth 5000 FCFA (about 8 euros) per month over a maximum of 30 months (about 1000 days).
The children and their mothers will be seen right before the program starts (baseline) and at the end of the program. Women will have to answer questions about what happened during their pregnancy, what they eat, their knowledge of nutrition, hygiene and health, their habits, as well as questions about their childs health and nutrition. The height and weight of both mothers and children will be measured.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
Participants will benefit from the intervention which is expected to promote better nutrition for children and better health monitoring during and after pregnancy. This should result in a reduction of illness and growth retardation in children. The whole community will also benefit from the program since the results of the study will be used to extend the program to other areas in Togo. The study does not present any risk for participants, as only questionnaires and painless and non-invasive measurements will be taken. There should be no side effects .

Where is the study run from?
The program is set up in 162 villages in five districts of the Kara and Savanes regions, Togo: Dankpen, Keran, Doufelgou, Oti, Kpendjal.

When is study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
The study started in June 2014 and will last 2 years.

Who is funding the study?
1. The World Bank (USA)
2. UNICEF (USA)
3. Research Institute for Development (France)

Who is the main contact?
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Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

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Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number
Nil known

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number
Nil known

Secondary identifying numbers
Nil known

Study information

Scientific Title
Impact evaluation of a cash transfer pilot program in the Kara and Savanes regions, Togo: a randomised controlled trial to determine whether cash transfers during the first 1,000 days from conception though to infancy improve the nutritional status of mothers and young children

Study objectives
It is hypothesised that the cash transfers during the first 1,000 days (from conception to the child's first 2 years) will optimize growth in utero and during infancy and early childhood.

The null hypothesis is that there will be no difference in nutritional indicators between treatment groups; this may arise if the value of the transfer is insufficient or if the money received is not used properly.

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Comité de Bioéthique pour la Recherche en Santé, Ministère de la Santé, Lomé, Togo [Bioethics Committee for Research in Health, Health Ministry of Lomé, Togo]; 28/03/2014

Study design
Two-year cluster-randomised controlled trial, with repeated cross-sectional surveys (baseline and endline)

Primary study design
Interventional

Secondary study design
Randomised controlled trial

Study setting(s)
Other

Study type(s)
Prevention

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

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Growth retardation

Interventions

1. Group A (control group): women and children attend education sessions
2. Group B (intervention): in addition to education sessions, women receive a cash transfer worth 5000 FCFA (~8 euros) per month over a maximum of 30 months (~1000 days)

Intervention Type
Other

Phase
Not Applicable

Primary outcome measure
Children's stature after 2 years of intervention, expressed in Height-for-Age Z score

Secondary outcome measures
Current secondary outcome measures as of 28/08/2020:
1. Stunting
2. WHZ, wasting
3. Intermediary outcomes:
3.1. Child’s nutrition: IYCF practices (DDS7, MDD, MMF, MAD, iron-rich food), consumption of Animal source food (ASF)
3.2. Mother’s nutrition: MDD-W, DDS 10, number of meals, consumption of ASF
3.2. Household food insecurity: HFIAS (HHS)
3.3. Household food expenditures (as opposed to non-food expenditures)
3.4. Child’s health: morbidity on the previous 15 days, child’s health since birth as perceived by the mother, vaccination, vitamin A supplementation, deworming, regular medical follow-up and age at last medical follow-up, health-seeking behavior (children taken to a health center if sick)
3.5. Maternal health: prenatal and postnatal care (number of consultations, stage of pregnancy at first antenatal visit, TPI malaria, tetanus vaccine, iron supplementation) delivery in health facilities, delivery assisted by a skill birth attendant, birth weight and LBW of newborns
3.6. Child’s hygiene: hands, face, hair and clothes’ cleanliness
3.7. Mother’s hygiene: hands, face, hair and clothes’ cleanliness
3.8. Yard’s hygiene: animal feces, waste
3.9. Mother’s knowledge on nutrition, health and hygiene
3.10. Decision-making power of women
3.11. Intimate partner violence (IPV)
3.12. Child fostering
3.13. Enrollment in school
3.14 Birth registration

Previous secondary outcome measures:
1. Use of preventive healthcare services during pregnancy, for delivery and during early childhood (pregnancy and post-natal care)
2. Infant and Young Children Feeding practices (IYCF indicators including dietary diversity)
3. Weight-for-Height Z score
4. Child well-being and rights (birth registration, schooling)
5. Knowledge, attitudes and practices towards nutrition, hygiene and health

Overall study start date
17/05/2014

Completion date
30/06/2016

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Children and their mothers willing to participate in the study, living in the villages which have been randomly selected as the treatment or control group. There are two stages to the trial:
1. Cash transfers: Pregnant women and their children up until the child is 24 months old
2. Evaluation: 6-59 month old children and their mothers that have taken part in the trial having received cash transfers and education sessions (treatment group) or as controls (education sessions only)

Participant type(s)
Patient

Age group
Child

Upper age limit
59 Months

Sex
Both

Target number of participants
4208 child-mother pairs

Total final enrolment
4689

Key exclusion criteria
Children and mothers having a mental or physical handicap that could affect growth and well-being.

Date of first enrolment
17/05/2014

Date of final enrolment
30/06/2016

Locations

Countries of recruitment
France

Togo

Study participating centre
IRD
911 av. Agropolis
Montpellier
France
34394

Sponsor information

Organisation
Research Institute for Development [Institut de Recherche pour le Développement] (IRD) (France)

Sponsor details
Immeuble Le Sextant
CS 90009, 44 Boulevard Dunkerque
Marseille
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13572

Sponsor type
Research organisation

ROR
https://ror.org/05q3vnk25

Funder(s)

Funder type
Government

Funder Name
The World Bank (USA)

Funder Name
UNICEF (Togo)

Alternative Name(s)
United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Children's Emergency Fund, Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance, Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia, ,

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype
International organizations

Location
United States of America

Funder Name
Research Institute for Development [Institut de Recherche pour le Développement] (IRD) (France)

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan
Planned publication in a high-impact peer-reviewed journal.

Intention to publish date
31/10/2020

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan
The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study will be stored in a publically available repository. All data files are available from the Zenodo repository: DOI 10.5281/zenodo.3925899 (https://zenodo.org/record/3925899#.XvzMkufgphG) and no accession number is required for access.

IPD sharing plan summary
Stored in repository

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Protocol file		01/02/2014	04/09/2020	No	No
Results article	results	17/11/2020	26/01/2021	Yes	No