



gapps

an initiative of Seattle Children's

GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO PREVENT
PREMATURITY AND STILLBIRTH

The GAPPS Repository

www.gapps.org/repository

Understanding healthy pregnancy is critical to identifying the causes of prematurity and stillbirth. GAPPS has the first standardized source of high-quality specimens from diverse populations of pregnant women. The repository drives research discoveries that will improve maternal, newborn and child health worldwide.

One-of-a-Kind Repository Accelerates Discovery

To accelerate the pace of scientific discovery, researchers must have access to high-quality clinical and biological information from pregnant women and newborns around the world, particularly from regions with the greatest burden of disease. The lack of quality specimens linked with data has been a major impediment to solving the complex problems of preterm and stillbirth. In 2008 GAPPS launched a coordinated and standardized system for collecting, processing, banking and sharing data and specimens.

The repository — the first of its kind — provides a critical resource for researchers striving to understand and prevent preterm birth and stillbirth. With these samples, they can study multiple factors at different points throughout pregnancy.

Growing Collection Network

Launched in Washington State, the GAPPS Repository receives specimens from a growing network of collection sites.



Collection Harmonization

All sites follow GAPPS' protocols and standard operating procedures for collection and processing. GAPPS' standardized collection process enables the comparison and validation of research findings across multiple study sites. And data and specimens are available to researchers worldwide.

Further, the GAPPS Repository supports research in genetics, epidemiology and pathophysiology, as well as translational science and healthcare delivery. The repository enables researchers to:

- Discover biomarkers to identify women and babies at risk for preterm birth and stillbirth
- Create screening tools for potential preterm births or stillbirths
- Understand biological systems associated with pregnancy and birth
- Translate scientific discoveries into promising diagnostic, treatment and prevention strategies
- Conduct studies focused on other poor birth outcomes and the fetal origins of adult diseases, with the potential for determining causes and developing cures for both acute and chronic diseases

Preventing prematurity and stillbirth is ambitious, but possible. A resource fueling innovative studies is an essential step towards preventing these global tragedies.