

The Global Network for Women's and Children's Health Research (GNRU)

Department: Community Health Sciences

Project Sponsors: Columbia University, with funding from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), USA

Duration: May 2005 – Apr 2018

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Summary:

The Global Network for Women's and Children's Health Research is the flagship research collaboration of the Reproductive Health research group. This NICHD-funded Network is a partnership between US institutes and centers in developing countries in Asia (Pakistan and India), Africa (Kenya, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zambia) and Latin America (Guatemala).

The Network aims:

1. To conduct multi-center trials of interventions for pregnant women, newborns and children to age three to reduce maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity in Pakistan and other developing countries.
2. To stimulate the development and growth of Pakistani researchers and promote collaborations between AKU researchers and those from Columbia University and other US sites.
3. To attract new U.S. and Pakistani investigators to the field of international MCH research by systematic mentoring of junior investigators and recruiting senior scientists from related fields.
4. To enhance the research environment at AKU by providing high quality administrative, statistical and research support services within a scientifically stimulating multidisciplinary setting.

In order to meet these objectives, CHS Department maintains a research site in Thatta District with 20 geographic clusters where studies, both randomized controlled trials and cluster randomized trials, of interventions to improve maternal and child health are carried out. (203 words)