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The biobank of the Norwegian mother and child cohort study: Experiences after large scale retrieval of samples

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The Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa) is a prospective population–based pregnancy cohort study conducted by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH). The main aim is to find causes of diseases and explain trajectories and variability of health-related traits over a life-course span. MoBa provides a data set with questionnaires and biological samples together with the possibility, if approved by the right authorities, for linkage to other Norwegian registries. The pregnant women and their partners were recruited at 50 hospitals in Norway between 1999 and 2008 with a 40.6% response rate. Almost 1,13,000 pregnancies are included in the study, counting more than 1,14,000 children and 75,000 fathers. The biological samples were collected from both parents during pregnancy and from mothers and children (umbilical cord) at birth. All biological samples were sent to NIPH Biobank for processing and storage. Whole blood, plasma and DNA are available from all sample sets. From mothers at 17-18 weeks of pregnancy also urine and extra whole blood for environmental factors are available, and from approximately 50% of the babies also RNA stored on Tempus tubes. Since the first retrieval in 2006, the number of national and international research groups that base their research on the MoBa Biobank and its comprehensive dataset linkable to national databases, has steadily increased. So far, more than 1,50,000 samples have been retrieved for research purposes and analysis of genetic, epigenetic and environmental biomarkers have been performed.

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Impact of principles of system of root intensification method of crop cultivation in paddy crop grown in Gaya, Bihar

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System of Root Intensification method of crop cultivation are getting important place among small and marginal farmers in Gaya, Nalanda and Munger districts of Bihar. PRAN (Preservation and proliferation of Rural Resources and Nature) through SRI secretariat hosted by Livolink Foundatio, Bhubneshwar organized farmers' field trial on System of Root Intensification method of Paddy cultivation in Gaya district of Bihar. Among three field trials first on age of seedlings and number of plants per hill revealed that single seedling transplanted at 10 days produced maximum yield as a result of high yield attributing characters, the second field trial on age of seedling X spacing revealed that 10 days single seedling transplanted at 25 cm X 25 cm produced higher yield when compared with 16 days double seedlings and 22 days double seedlings, the third trial on contribution of each principle of SRI (young age seedlings, Number of seedlings, spacing and mechanical weeding) reaffirmed the fact that 12 days old single seedling transplanted at 25 cm x 25 cm integrated with three mechanical weeding produced maximum grain yield. The local farmers participated in all research plots during harvesting and crop cutting to have joint understanding of learnings generated.

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