

## Multicenter Allergy Study (MAS)

### Summary:

The Multicenter Allergy Study (MAS) is a publicly funded long-term observation of children, tracking development of allergic diseases. In total, 1314 newborns of 1990 from Berlin, Düsseldorf, Mainz, Freiburg and Munich were recruited in this birth cohort and assessed in regular intervals. Besides questionnaire data, these follow-ups included clinical investigations, blood and skin tests as well as lung function measurement.

A major aim of this study is to investigate the influence of environmental factors such as tobacco exposure and living environment, behavioural aspects such as diet and breastfeeding, and the parental history of allergic diseases on the development of allergies in childhood.

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#### *Project coordination office:*

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#### *Publication:*

Keil T, Lau S, Roll S, Grüber C, Nickel R, Niggemann B, Wahn U, Willich SN, Kulig M. Maternal smoking increases risk of allergic sensitization and wheezing only in children with allergic predisposition: longitudinal analysis from birth to 10 years. *Allergy* 2009;64(3):445-51

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