

Finnish Platform of Birth Cohorts: Microbial Interactions and Health (FINMIC)



Consortium:

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The FINMIC consortium aims to generate an active, long-term nationwide collaboration and database network by harmonizing 8 of the major birth cohorts across urban and rural, Southern and Northern Finland. The network formation is initiated by our initial goal of creating an integrated data platform to study associations of early-life exposure to microbial and environmental biodiversity and its clinical, environmental and life-style determinants with the prospective development of asthma, allergies, and inflammation. While the importance of early-life microbial interactions on the normal development of the immune system and thereby to health promotion and disease prevention is becoming widely accepted, the critical characteristics of early microbial stimulation remain to be described. The FINMIC network will cost-effectively bring together the critical mass of data, researchers and resources as well as the geographical coverage needed to concretely answer this question.