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"Ricerca e Innovazione per Ambiente, Salute ed Alimentazione"
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Introduction of the Hokkaido study and impact of PFAS on childhood asthma and allergies and infectious diseases

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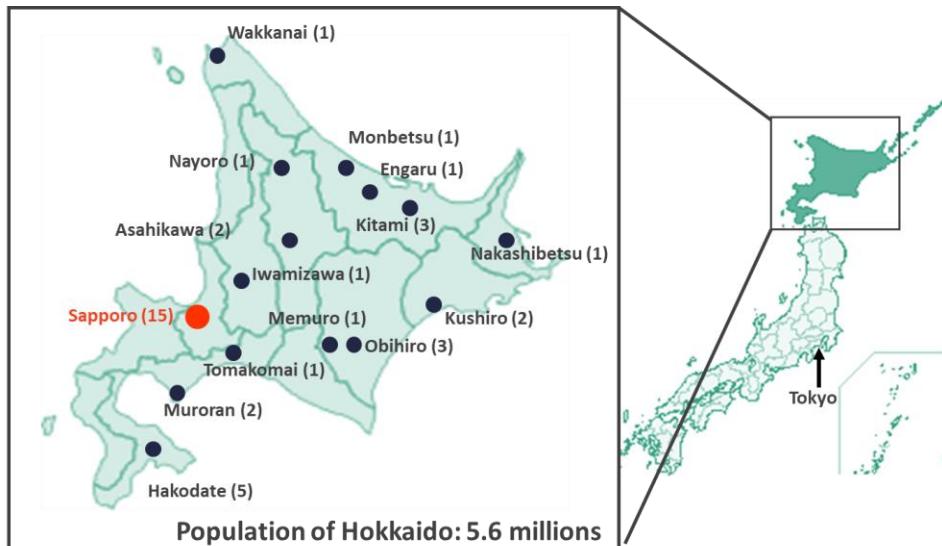
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Outline

- 1. Brief introduction of the Hokkaido Study**
- 2. Findings from the Hokkaido Study**
 - Impact of PFAS on childhood asthma and allergies and infectious diseases

Birth Cohorts: the Hokkaido Study of Environment and Children's Health

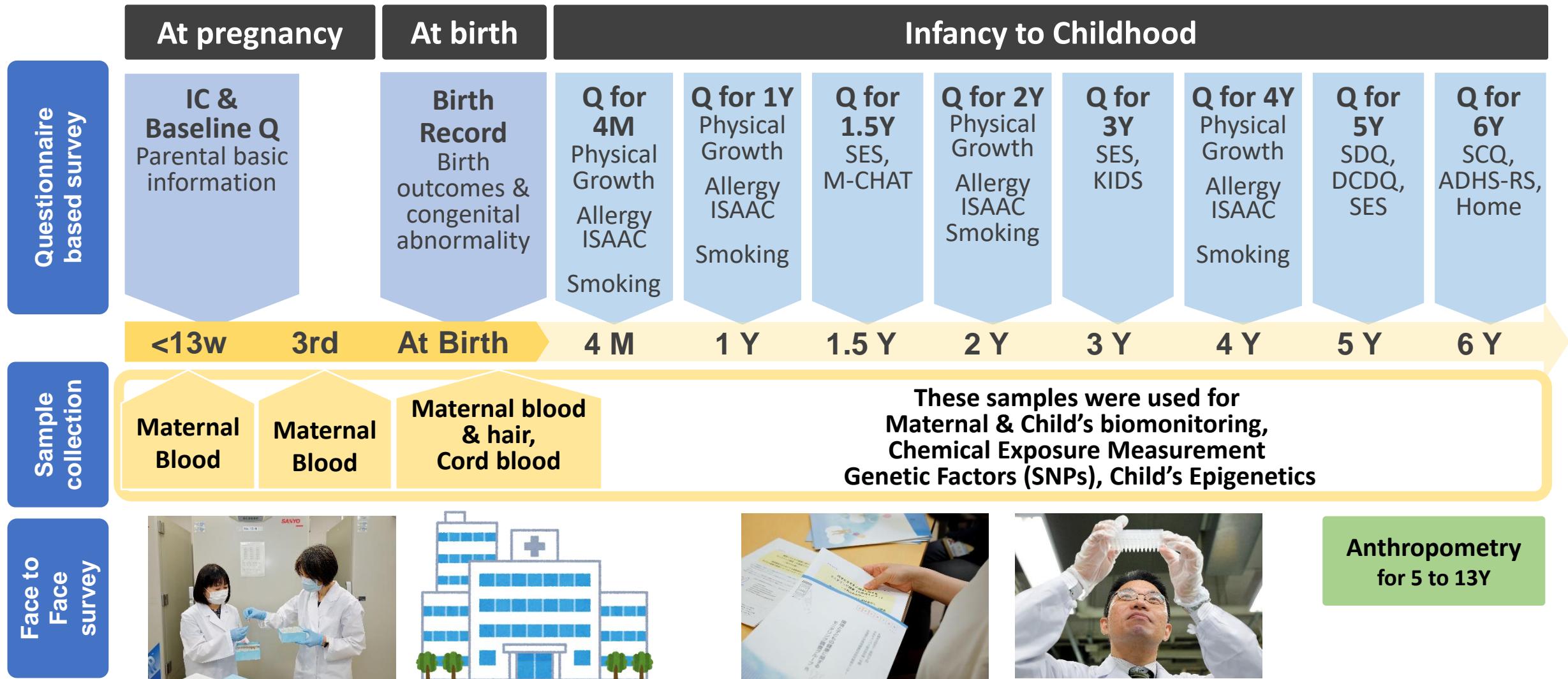


Cohort	Recruitment periods	number recruited
Sapporo	2002-2005	514 (1 hospital)
Hokkaido	2003-2012	20,926 (37 hospitals)

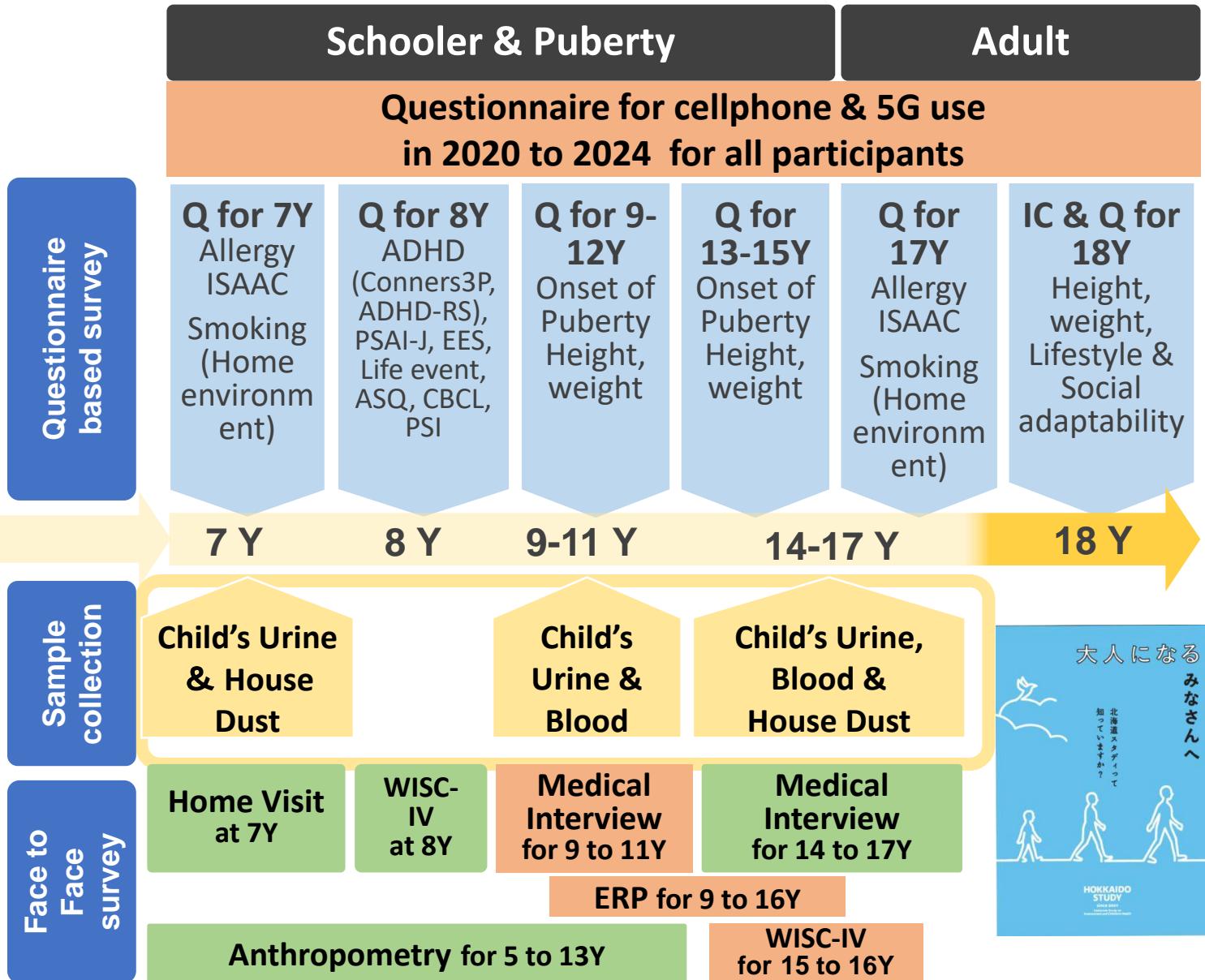
Objectives

1. To find the effects of **perinatal environmental factors** on birth outcomes including congenital anomalies and children's growth.
2. To evaluate the prevalence of **allergic diseases, developmental and neurobehavioral disorders**.
3. To identify a high-risk group classified by **genetic susceptibility (SNPs)** and investigate **trans-generational epigenetic effects** of environmental chemicals.
4. To provide scientific evidence for **health policies** based on epidemiological data.

Follow-up survey and sample collection



Cont.



HOKKAIDO STUDY
since 2001
Hokkaido Study on
Environment and Children's Health

Target environmental chemicals

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

- Dioxins and PCBs (66 congeners)
- Organochlorine pesticides (OCP)
- Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)



Pesticides



PCBs



Fluorinated products



Water resistant products



Food



Food packages

Short half-lives

- Phthalates and alternative plasticizers
- Bisphenols (BP)
- Phosphate flame retardants (PFR)
- Nonyl phenols (NP)



floor materials



Food containers



Polycarbonate goods



floor wax



electronics



toys



cans



Personal care products

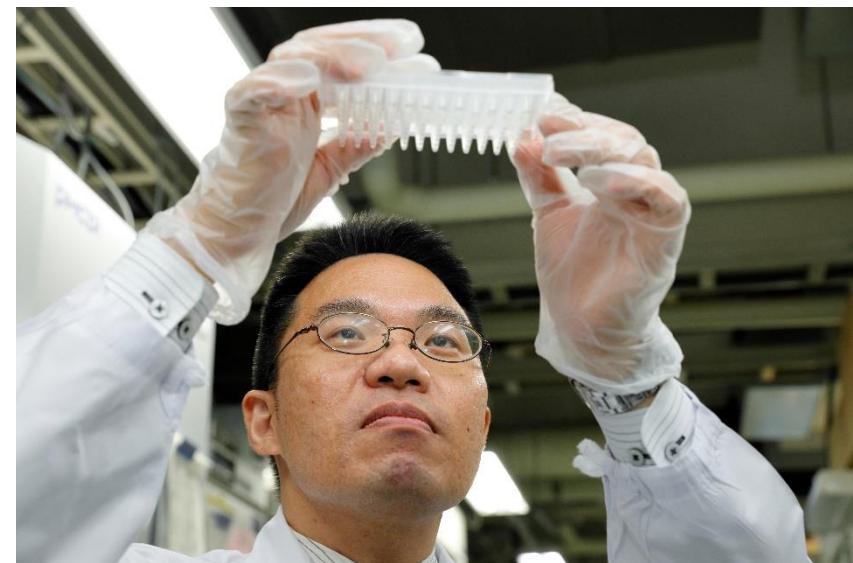


Flammable textile

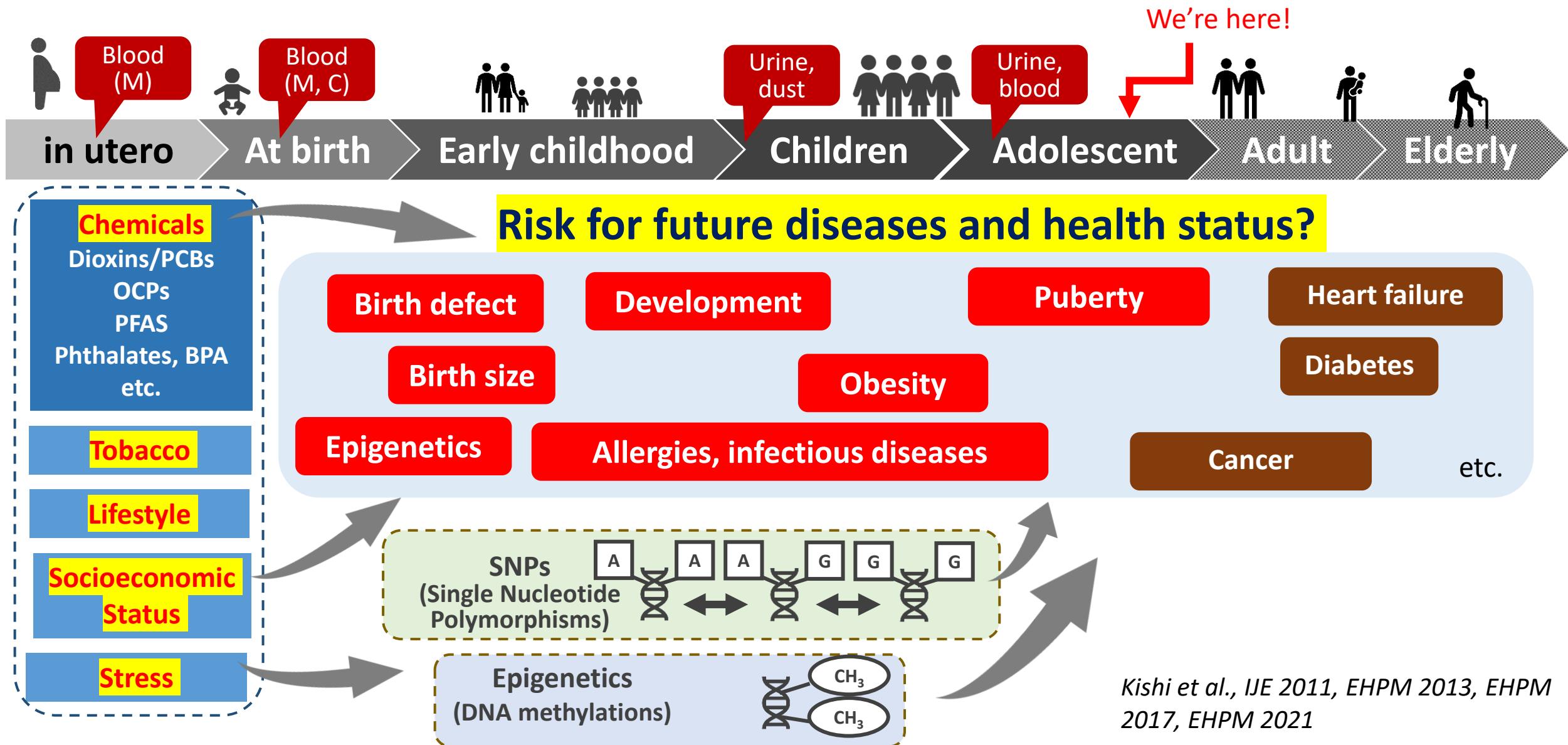
Biological measurements

Variables	Specimen
Cotinine*	Maternal blood
Folic acid*	Maternal blood
Fatty Acids and triglyceride**	Maternal blood
IgE, IgA**	Cord blood
Thyroid hormones: TSH, fT4 fT3*	Maternal and cord blood
Reproductive hormones: steroid hormones, prolactin, LH, FSH, SHBG, Inhibin B, INSL3	Cord blood
Genes (SNPs, DNA methylation)	Maternal and cord blood

*Hokkaido Only, **Sapporo Only



Long Follow-up of the participants



Various outcomes and their risk factors

Outcomes	Associated risk factors (Journal name, year)	
Birth outcomes and Growth	Tobacco smoke (Cotinine) (BMJ Open, 2019) , Caffeine (Pediatric Res, 2017) , Folic Acid (Brit J Nutrit ; JE2019) , Educational level, BMI (IJERPH, 2018; Matern. Child Health J, 2021), Risk score (Clin Pediat Endocrinol, 2019) , Steroid Hormones (Am J Human Biol, 2018) Dioxins (Environ Res, 2009), Perfluoroalkyl substances (EHP, 2009; JESEE, 2017, Env Int 2020), Me-Hg (STOTEN, 2015) , Phthalates (STOTEN, 2017) , Pregnancy Hypertensive Disorder (IJERPH, 2021) ,	
Thyroid hormones	Perfluoroalkyl substances (EHPM, 2016; Environ Int, 2019) , Dioxins (STOTEN, 2018) , OH-PCB (Environ Res 2018) , Organochlorine pesticides (Env Res 2020)	
Reproductive hormones, adipokines Sexual dimorphism	Perfluoroalkyl substances (Environ Int, 2016; EHP, 2017; Environ Res, 2017) , Phthalates (PLOS One, 2014; STOTEN, 2017) , Bisphenol A (Epidemiology, 2017) , Organochlorine pesticides (Environ Int, 2018) , Dioxins (Environ Int, 2018) , Reproductive Hormones (PLOS One 2015; Pediatr Int, 2019)	
Neurodevelopment	Socioeconomic factors (IEA, 2014; Child Care Health Dev, 2017, Pediatr Int 2020) , Dioxins (EHP, 2006; Environ Res, 2017; STOTEN, 2018) , Organochlorine Pesticides (Neurotoxicology, 2018), Perfluoroalkyl substances (STOTEN, 2016) , Bisphenol A (STOTEN, 2018) , Adipokines (IJERPH, 2018)	
Asthma and allergies, infectious diseases	Dioxins (Environ Res, 2011; STOTEN, 2018) , Perfluoroalkyl substances (Environ Res, 2012; Environ Int, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2021) , Phthalates (STOTEN, 2018) , Phosphate Flame Retardants (Environ Int, 2019)	
Gene-Environment Interaction	Tobacco smoke (Mol Human Reprod, 2006; Am J Epidemiol, 2008; J Epidemiol, 2012; Toxicol Lett, 2013; Reproduc Toxicol, 2016; STOTEN, 2017) , Sexual dimorphism (Steroid, 2019) , phthalate and bisphenol A (Steroid 2020)	
Epigenetics	Tobacco smoke (Sci Rep, 2018) , Tobacco smoke and ADHD (Clin Epigenetics, 2021), Folate and allergies (Ped allerg Immunol, 2021), Perfluoroalkyl substances (IJHHE, 2018; Environ Int, 2018), Bisphenol A (Sci Rep, 2019) , Phthalate (STOTEN, 2021)	
Exposure levels and trend	Perfluoroalkyl substances (EI 2014), Phthalates (IJHPE, 2021), Bisphenol A (Env Res 2020), Phosphate Flame retardants (IJHEH 2020)	
Indoor	Asthma and allergies	Dampness, fuel use, ventilation (IAOEH 2013; JE, 2014) , Phthalates (STOTEN 2014; Environ Int 2016) , Phosphate Flame Retardants (Indoor Air, 2014; Environ Int, 2018; Environ Res 2019) , Microbial VOCs (STOTEN 2012)
	Sick Building Syndrome	Formaldehyde and VOCs (IAOEH 2009;2010; STOTEN 2012), Microbial VOCs (STOTEN, 2010) , Phthalates and Phosphate Esters (Indoor Air 2010) , Fungi and dust mite allergen (Indoor Air, 2012) , Lifestyle (EHPM2020)



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2. Findings from the Hokkaido Study
 - Impact of PFAS on childhood asthma and allergies and infectious diseases

Per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS)

- PFAS are an organofluorine compounds with all hydrogens replaced by fluorine on a carbon chain.
- They have unique properties to make materials stain, oil, and water resistant, and their industrial applications are including water-proofing, insulating agents, and in fire extinguishing foam, etc.
- Main exposure sources are drinking water, food, food packaging, house dust (*Hölzer et al. 2008; Halldorsson et al. 2008; Begley et al. 2005; Björklund et al. 2009*)
- Biological half-life in humans are PFOS 5.4 years, PFOA 3.8 years (*Olsen et al. 2007*)



PFOS and PFOA in maternal/cord blood

PFOS/PFOA

R. Kishi et al. / *Science of the Total Environment* 615 (2018) 1143–1154

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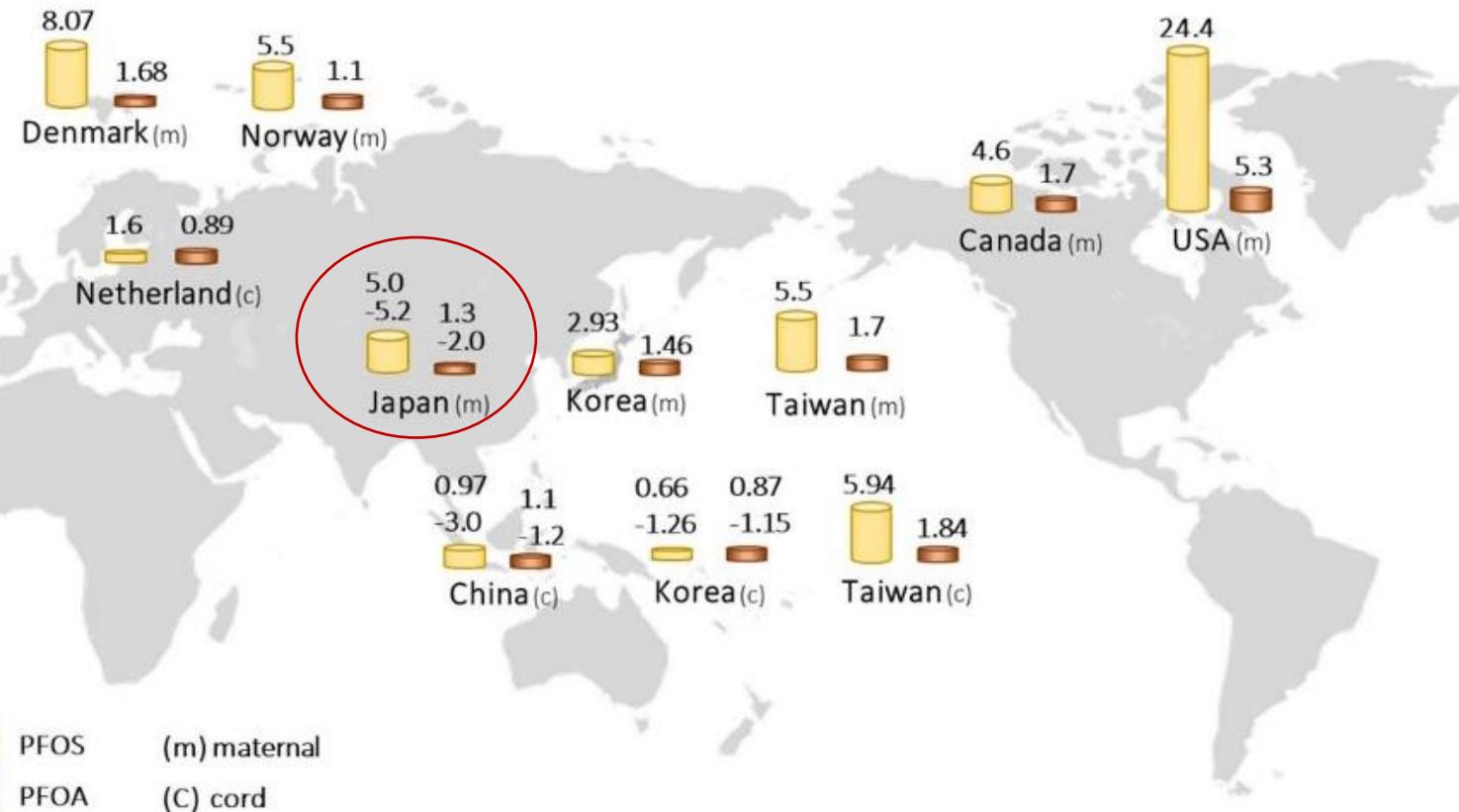
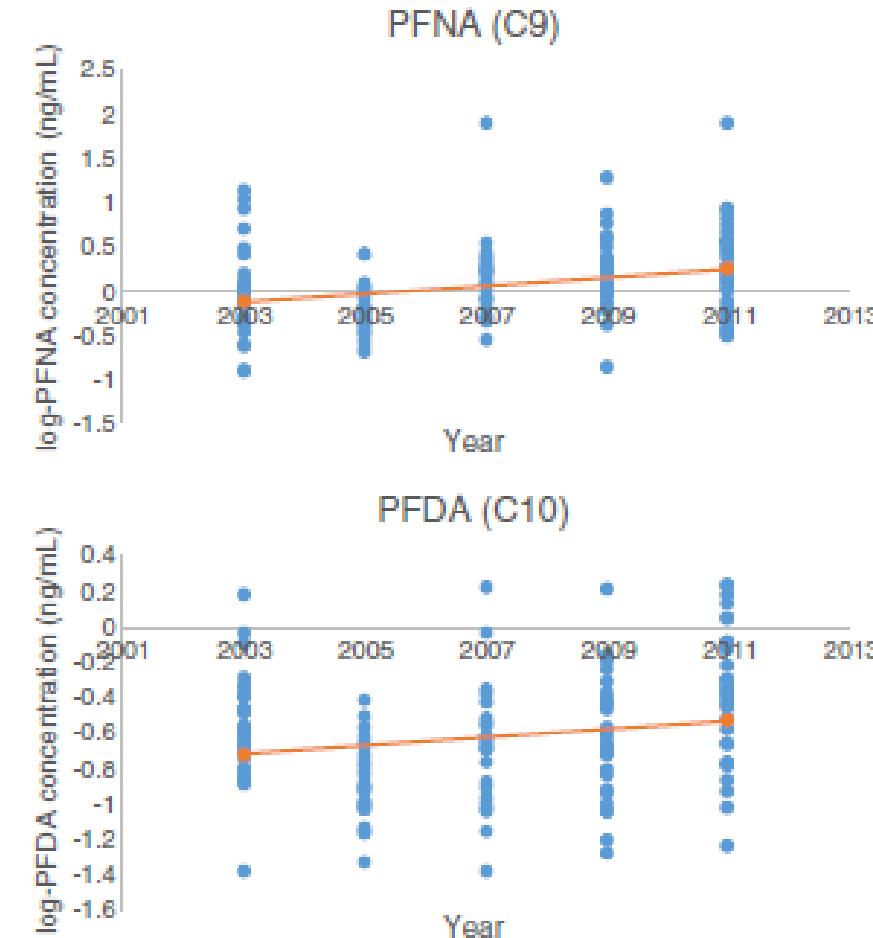
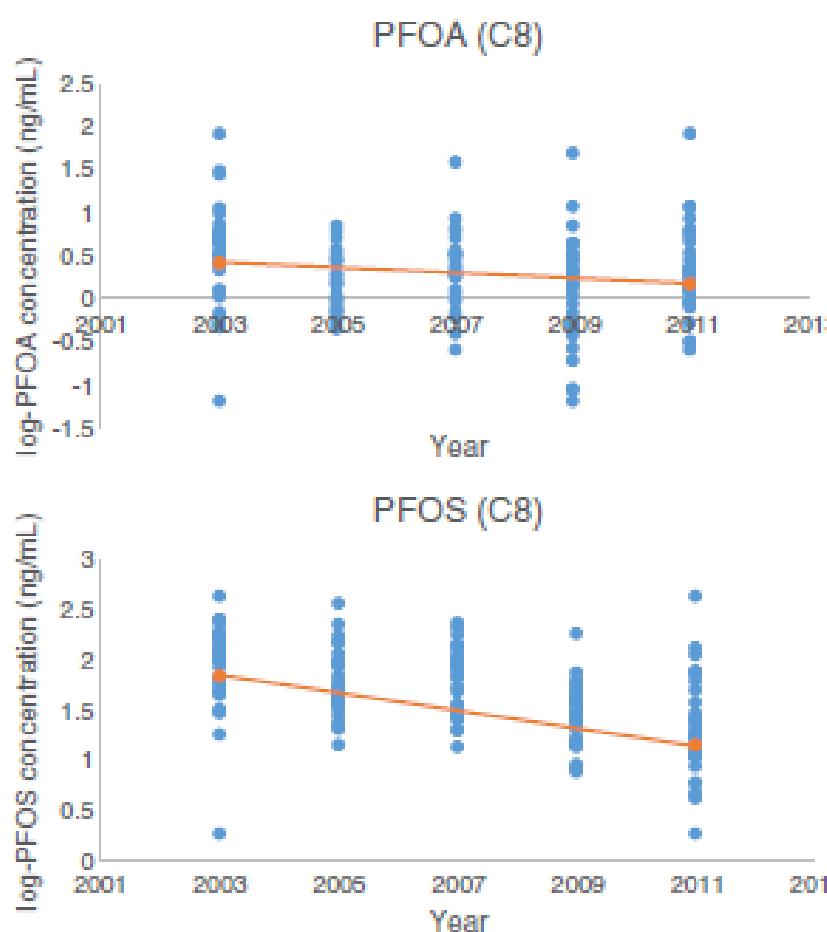


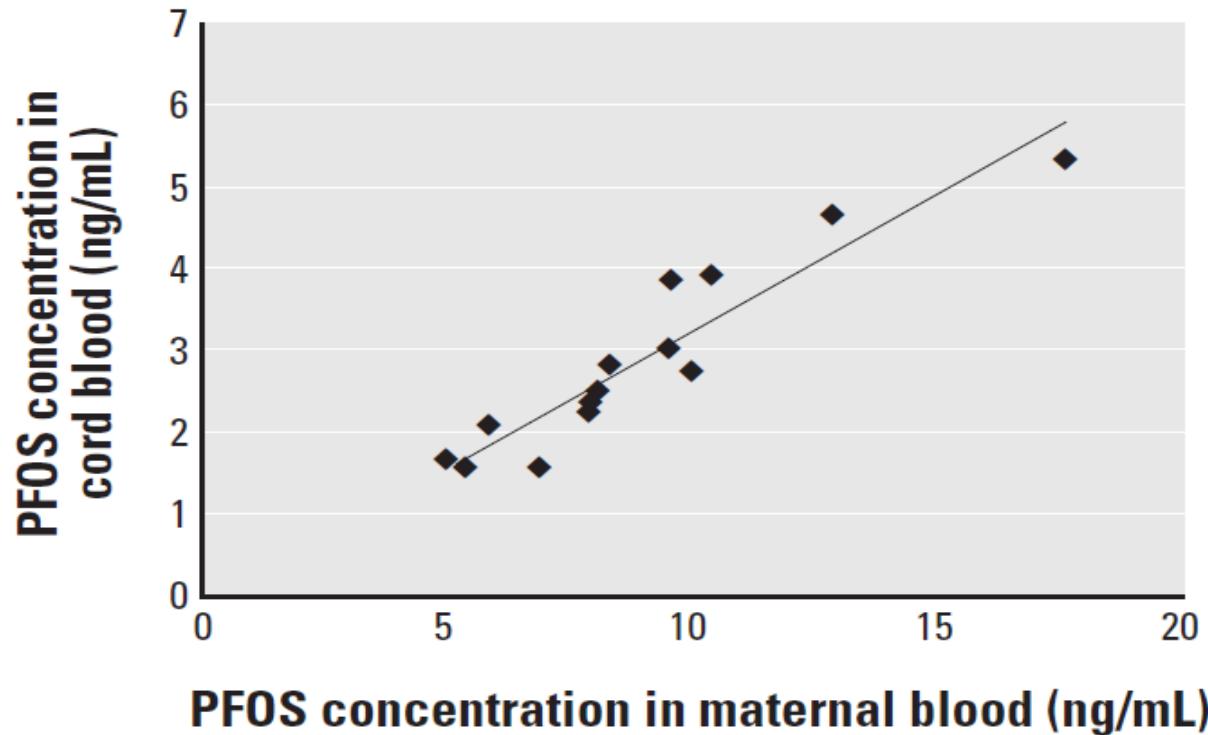
Fig. 2. Maternal/Cord blood levels of PFOS and PFOA in different studies (ng/ml). The bars show either maternal or cord blood levels of PFOS (ng/ml) and PFOA (ng/ml). (m) stands for maternal blood, and (c) stands for cord blood, respectively. Values are mean, median or geometric mean. The followings are Country, Name of the study, sampling period, and reference. Canada: MIREC, 2008–2011 (Ashley-Martin et al., 2017). USA: Project VIVA, 1999–2002 (Fleisch et al., 2017). Denmark: Odense Child Cohort, 2010–2012 (Dalsager et al., 2016). Norway: MoBa, 2003–2004 (Granum et al., 2013); MISA study, 2007–2009 (Berg et al., 2017). Netherland: LINK, 2011–2013 (de Cock et al., 2014). Japan: Hokkaido, 2003–2011 (Kishi et al., 2017); Sapporo, 2002–2005 (Okada et al., 2012). China: Beijing, 2012 (Shi et al., 2017); Gaungzhou Birth cohort, 2013 (Li et al., 2017). Korea: Gyeongbuk, 2011 (Lee et al., 2013); EBGRC, 2006–2012 (Shah-Kulkarni et al., 2016); Seoul, 2008–2009 (Kim et al., 2011). Taiwan: TMICS, 2000–2001 (Wang et al., 2016); TBPS, 2004–2005 (Chen et al., 2012).

Year trends of maternal PFAS 2003 - 2011



- PFOS and PFOA concentrations declined
- PFNA and PFDA levels increased between 2003-2011

Maternal to child transfer of PFOS



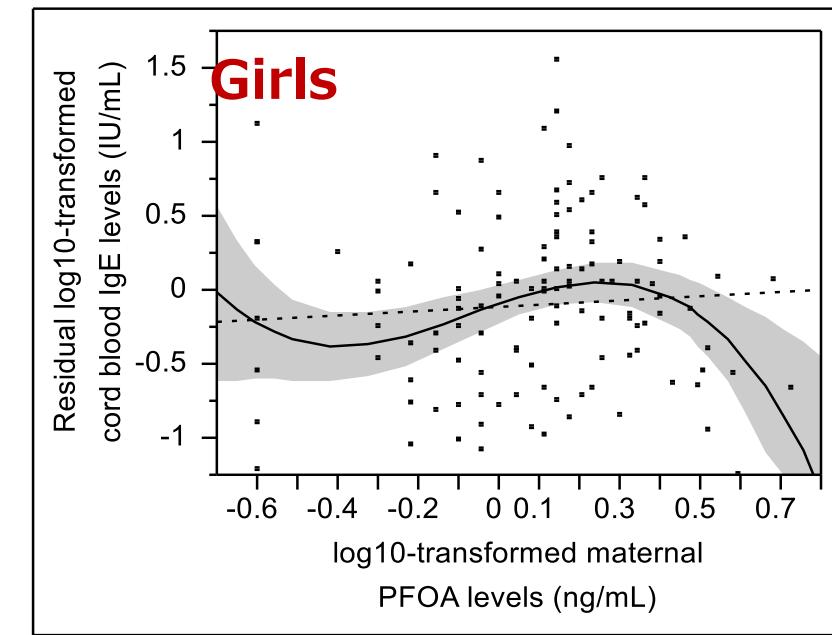
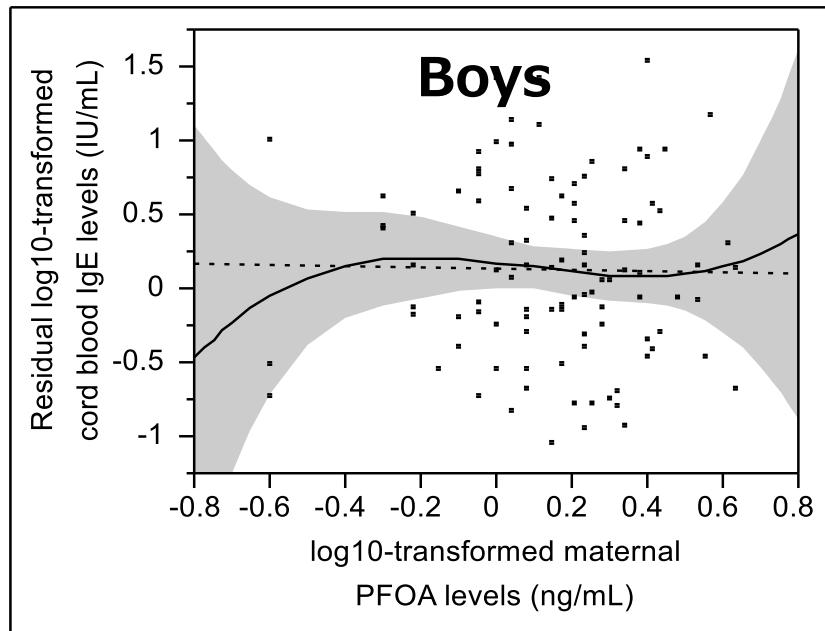
- Maternal PFOS level was positively correlated with cord blood PFOS level
- Suggesting that trans-placental transport



Maternal PFOA and cord blood IgE

Prenatal exposure to perfluorinated chemicals and relationship with allergies and infectious diseases in infants[☆]

Emiko Okada^a, Seiko Sasaki^a, Yasuaki Saito^b, Noriaki Washino^a, Chihiro Miyashita^a,
Sumitaka Kobayashi^a, Kanae Konishi^a, Yoichi M. Ito^c, Rie Ito^d, Ayako Nakata^d, Yusuke Iwasaki^d,
Koichi Saito^d, Hiroyuki Nakazawa^d, Reiko Kishi^{e,*}



- Cord blood IgE levels decreased significantly with high maternal PFOA concentration among female infants
- Our result was in line with C8 Health Project (US), which are exposed to higher level of PFOA

Prenatal PFAS on allergies and infectious diseases at age 4

Environment International 94 (2016) 124–132

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Environment International

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Full length article

Effects of prenatal exposure to perfluoroalkyl acids on prevalence of allergic diseases among 4-year-old children



Houman Goudarzi ^a, Chihiro Miyashita ^a, Emiko Okada ^b, Ikuko Kashino ^{a,c}, Sumitaka Kobayashi ^a, Chi-Jen Chen ^{a,d}, Sachiko Ito ^a, Atsuko Araki ^a, Hideyuki Matsuura ^a, Yoichi M. Ito ^e, Reiko Kishi ^{a,*}



Environment International 104 (2017) 132–138

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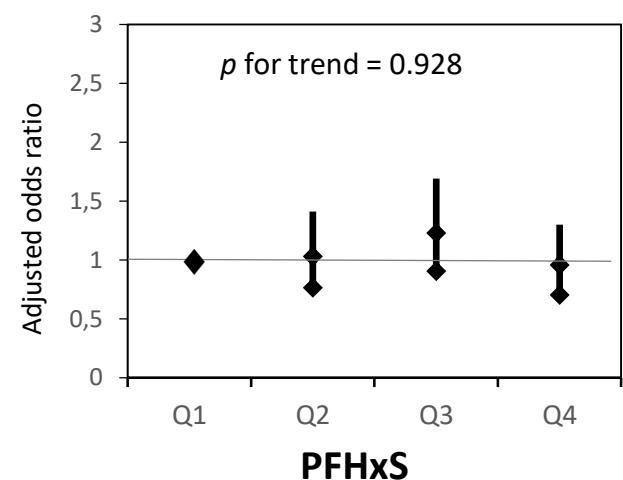
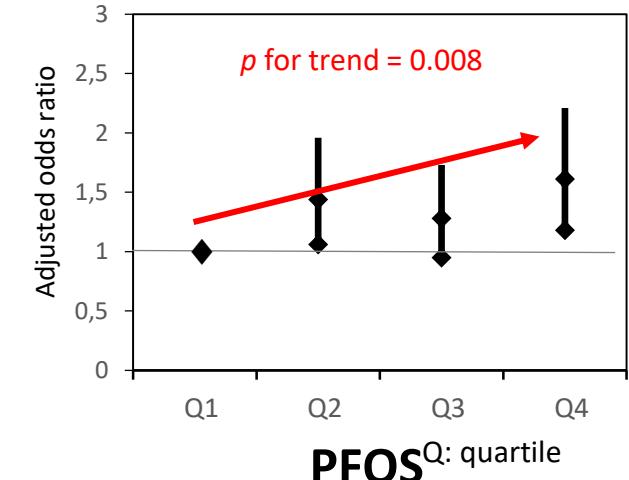
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



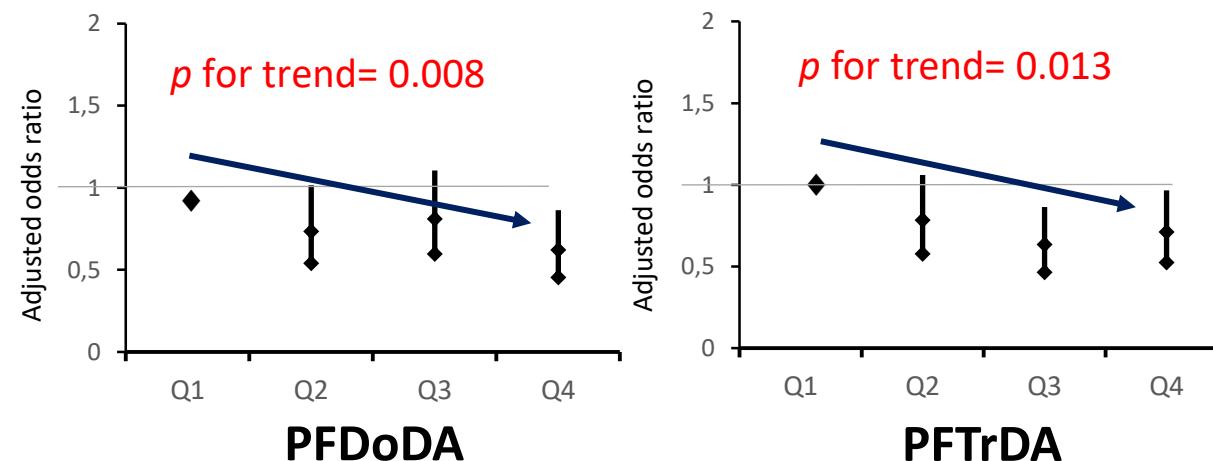
Prenatal exposure to perfluoroalkyl acids and prevalence of infectious diseases up to 4 years of age

Houman Goudarzi ^a, Chihiro Miyashita ^a, Emiko Okada ^b, Ikuko Kashino ^{a,c}, Chi-Jen Chen ^{a,d}, Sachiko Ito ^a, Atsuko Araki ^a, Sumitaka Kobayashi ^a, Hideyuki Matsuura ^a, Reiko Kishi ^{a,*}

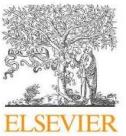
Infectious diseases



Allergy



Adjusted ORs in the highest quartile vs lowest quartile for total allergic diseases were significantly decreased for PFTDoDA (C12) and PFTrDA (C13). Associations were prominent among boys. Q: quartile. Logistic models were adjusted for maternal age, maternal educational level, parental allergic history, parity, children gender, day care attendance and ETS exposure in at 4-year-old, and breast feeding.

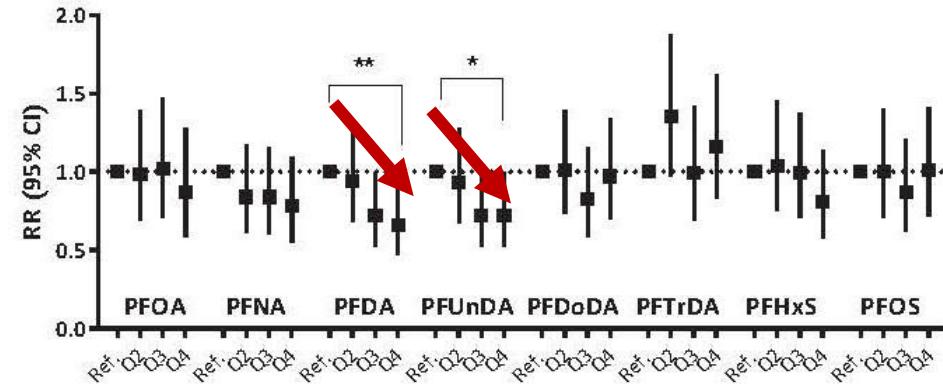


Prenatal PFAS on allergies and infectious diseases at age 7

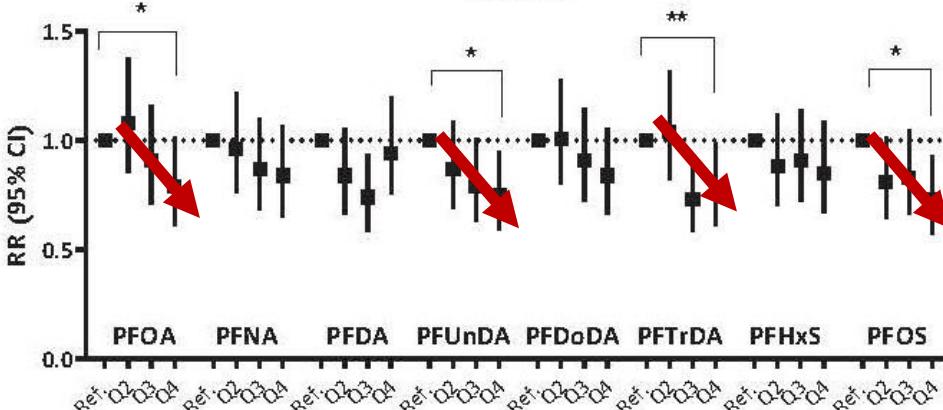
Effect of prenatal exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances on childhood allergies and common infectious diseases in children up to age 7 years: The Hokkaido study on environment and children's health

Yu Ait Bamai^a, Houman Goudarzi^{a,b}, Atsuko Araki^a, Emiko Okada^{a,c}, Ikuko Kashino^a, Chihiro Miyashita^a, Reiko Kishi^{a,*}

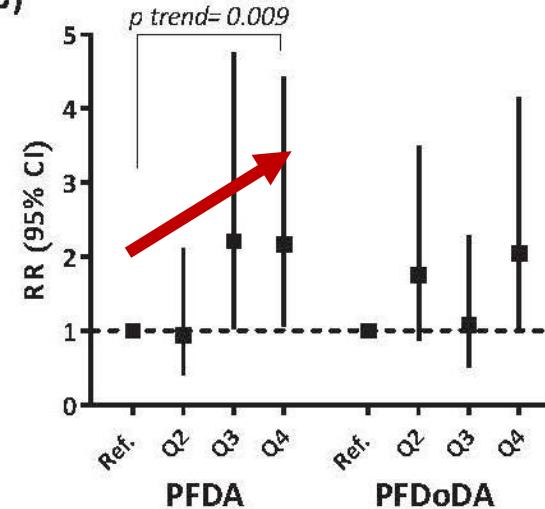
Rhinoconjunctivitis



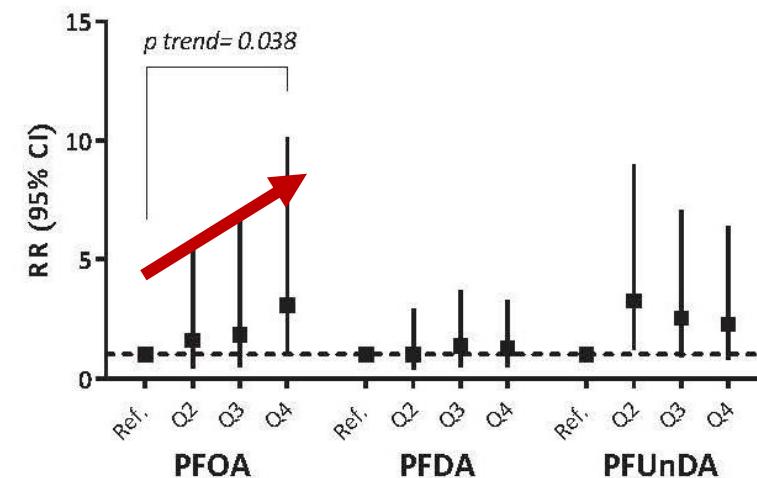
Eczema



Pneumonia

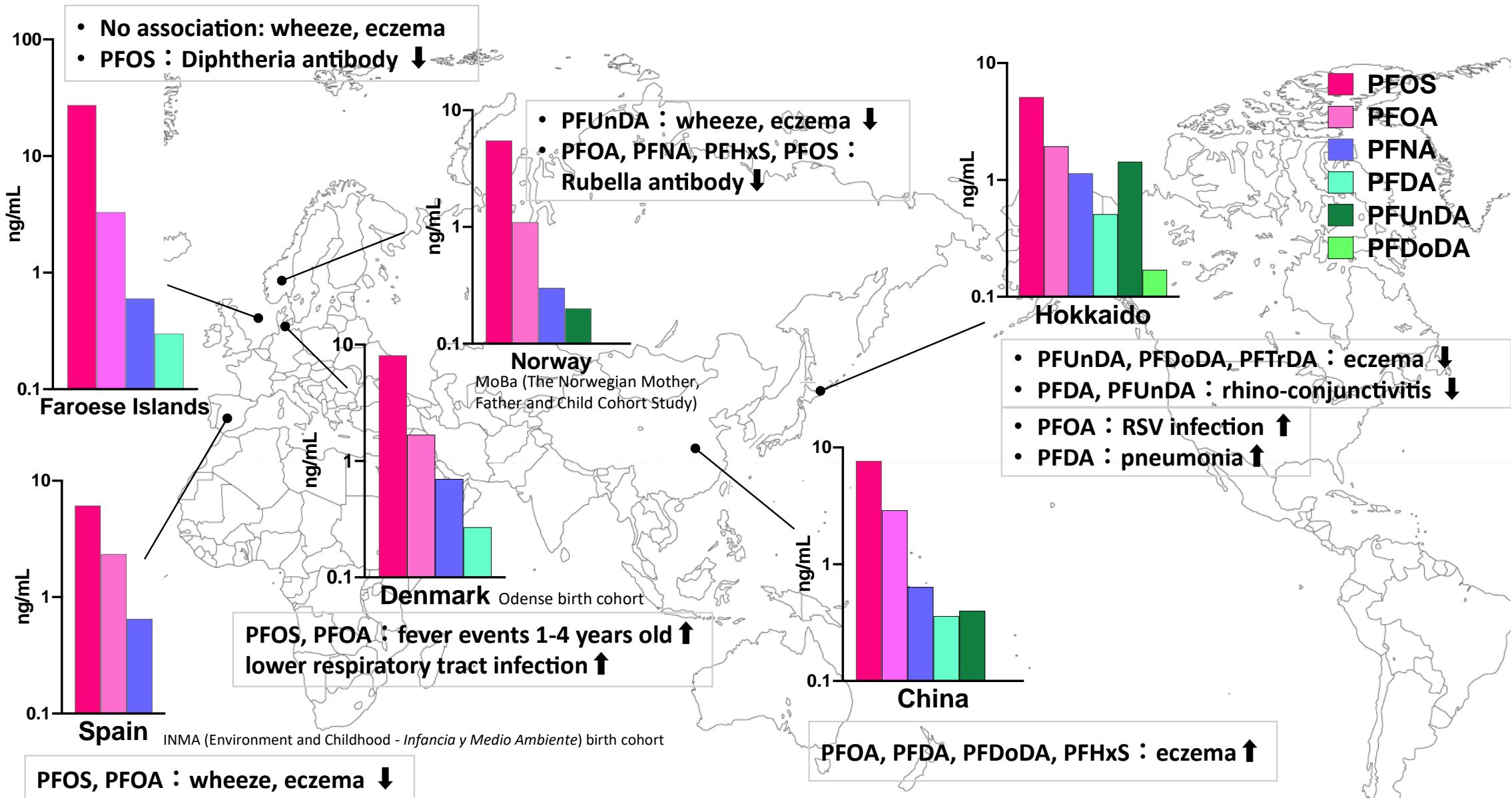


RSV

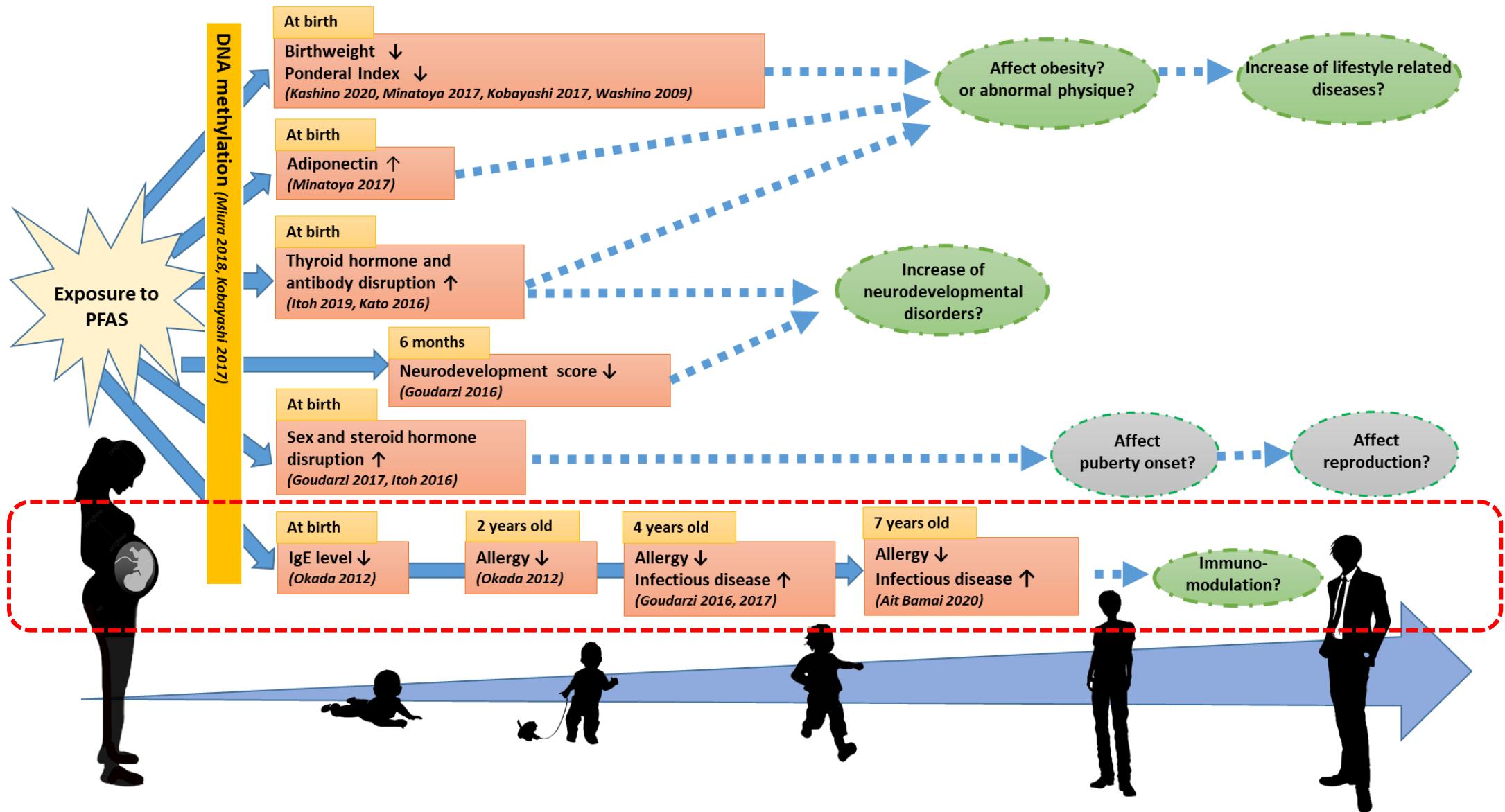


- Prenatal PFAS exposure reduced asthma and allergies, whereas increase infectious diseases
- *Immunosuppression (immunotoxicity) effects?*

Prenatal PFAS levels and childhood immune functions in different birth cohorts



How long the effect continue?



Further studies

1. Long term follow-up
2. Examination of antibodies (*Diphtheria* and *Tetanus*)

Children's face-to face examination (9-11y)

- Informed consent/assent
- Anthropometry measures
- FeNO (respiratory inflammations)
- Blood and urine sampling



Adolescents' face-to face examination (14-17y)

- Informed consent/assent
- Anthropometry measures,
- Tanner stage, blood pressure
- blood and urine sampling



in utero

At birth

childhood

Adolescent

Adult

Elderly

Now we are at this stage

Thank you very much for your kind attention!



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