

Publication guidelines for papers based on the Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study (MoBa)

All papers using MoBa data and biological material must be sent to MoBa for approval. This is not a scientific review. The manuscript will be revised to protect confidentiality and ensure that the cohort is described correctly. Mandatory references must be included, and the analyses must comply with the research questions in the signed agreement. MoBa will provide advice and feedback to authors where we think this may be helpful. The Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH) does not take any responsibility for the scientific content of the manuscript.

1. General aim of MoBa

The paper must be **within the general aim of the study**; to find causes of diseases. Other aims include detection of early signs of diseases and description of disease development.

A broader discussion of aims and methods is given in:

- Magnus P et al. Cohort profile: The Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study. *Int J Epidemiol* 2006; 35: 1146-50
- Magnus P et al. Cohort Profile Update: The Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study. *Int J Epidemiol* 2016; 45:382-8.

2. Mandatory text for all manuscripts based on MoBa data and/or biological material

a. Title

Preferably, The Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study (MoBa) should be included in the title or sub-title of the publication.

b. Keywords

Please include the acronym 'MoBa' and/or 'The Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study' as keywords to ensure that the MoBa cohort is identified consistently in scientific papers based on data and biological material from MoBa.

If data from the Medical Birth Registry of Norway (**MBRN**) is used, please include 'MBRN' and/or 'Medical Birth Registry of Norway' as keywords.

c. Abstract

The following text should be included **in all manuscripts**:

This study is based on the Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study (MoBa).

If data from **MBRN** is used the following text should be included:

..and uses data from the Medical Birth Registry of Norway (MBRN).

d. Material and Methods

The following text should be included **in all manuscripts**:

The Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study (MoBa) is a population-based pregnancy cohort study conducted by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. Participants were recruited from all over Norway from 1999-2008. The women consented to participation in 41% of the pregnancies. The cohort now includes 114.500 children, 95.200 mothers and 75.200 fathers. The current study is based on version (to be filled in) of the quality-assured data files released for research on (to be filled in). The establishment of MoBa and initial data collection was based on a license from the Norwegian Data Protection Agency and approval from The Regional Committees for Medical and Health Research Ethics. The MoBa cohort is now based on regulations related to the Norwegian Health Registry Act. The current study was approved by The Regional Committees for Medical and Health Research Ethics (to be filled in).

If data from the **MBRN** is used the following text should be included:

The Medical Birth Registry (MBRN) is a national health registry containing information about all births in Norway.

If **blood samples** were used:

Blood samples were obtained from both parents during pregnancy and from mothers and children (umbilical cord) at birth.

e. Acknowledgement

The acknowledgement section must include the MoBa cohort funders. In addition, the participating families who contributed with data and biological material shall be acknowledged.

All manuscripts

The following text should be included **in all manuscripts**, including consortia manuscripts:

The Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study is supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services and the Ministry of Education and Research. We are grateful to all the participating families in Norway who take part in this on-going cohort study.

Manuscripts based on MoBa Genetics

The following text should be included in **all manuscripts based on the genetic data (MoBa Genetics)**:

“We thank the Norwegian Institute of Public Health (NIPH) for generating high-quality genomic data. This research is part of the HARVEST collaboration, supported by the Research Council of Norway (#229624). We also thank the NORMENT Centre for providing genotype data, funded by the Research Council of Norway (#223273), South East Norway Health Authority and KG Jebsen Stiftelsen. We further thank the Center for Diabetes Research, the University of Bergen for providing genotype data and performing quality control and imputation of the data funded by the ERC AdG project SELECTIONPREDISPOSED, Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen, Trond Mohn Foundation, the Research Council of Norway, the Novo Nordisk Foundation, the University of Bergen, and the Western Norway health Authorities (Helse Vest)”.

Consortia manuscripts where MoBa contributes with metadata

In consortium collaborations, MoBa will only constitute a part of the data presented in a paper and the obligation to refer to the MoBa cohort is less comprehensive. MoBa should be acknowledged (see text above), and the following must be included in the Material and Methods:

This study includes data from the Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study (MoBa) conducted by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health.

If not applicable to include description and reference to MoBa in the manuscript, a minimum description of MoBa with main references must be included in the supplementary part.

3. References

Mandatory references for all publications including consortia manuscripts:

- Magnus P, Birke C, Vejrup K, Haugan A, Alsaker E, Daltveit AK, Handal M, Haugen M, Hoiseth G, Knudsen GP, Paltiel L, Schreuder P; Tambs K, Vold L, Stoltenberg C. *Cohort Profile Update: The Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa)*. *Int J Epidemiol* 2016; 45:382-8.

Mandatory reference if biological material is used:

- Liv Paltiel, Anita Haugan, Trine Skjerden, Kari Harbak, Siri Bækken, Nina Kristin Stensrud, Gun Peggy Knudsen and Per Magnus. The biobank of the Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study – present status *Nor J Epidemiol* 2014; 24 (1-2): 29-35

Other references, if relevant:

- Biele, G., Gustavson, K., Czajkowski, N. O., Nilsen, R. M., Reichborn-Kjennerud, T., Magnus, P. M., Stoltenberg, C., & Aase, H. (2019). Bias from self selection and loss to follow-up in prospective cohort studies. *European Journal of Epidemiology*, 34(10), 927–938.
- Nilsen RM, Vollset SE, Gjessing HK, Skjærven R, Melve KK, Schreuder P, Alsaker ER, Haug K, Daltveit AK, Magnus P. Self-selection and bias in a large prospective pregnancy cohort in Norway. *Paediatr Perinat Epidemiol* 2009; 23: 597-608
- Magnus P, Irgens LM, Haug K, Nystad W, Skjaerven R, Stoltenberg C and the MoBa Study Group. Cohort profile: The Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa). *Int J Epidemiol* 2006; 35:1146-50.
- Rønningen KS, Paltiel L, Meltzer HM, Nordhagen R, Lie KK, Hovengen R, Haugen M, Nystad W, Magnus P, Hoppin JA. The biobank of the Norwegian Mother and Child cohort study. *Eur J Epidemiol* 2006; 21:619-25.
- The Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study, End of Enrolment – Protocol II, Revised October 2012 www.fhi.no/moba-en
- Duale, N., et al., Human blood RNA stabilization in samples collected and transported for a large biobank. *BMC Res Notes*, 2012

- Duale N., et al., Long-term storage of blood RNA collected in RNA stabilizing Tempus tubes in a large biobank – evaluation of RNA quality and stability. BMC Res Notes, 2014
- Meltzer HM1, Brantsaeter AL, Ydersbond TA, Alexander J, Haugen M. Methodological challenges when monitoring the diet of pregnant women in a large study: experiences from the Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa). Matern Child Nutr 2008;4:14-27.
- Brantsaeter AL1, Haugen M, Alexander J, Meltzer HM. Validity of a new food frequency questionnaire for pregnant women in the Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa). Matern Child Nutr 2008;4:28-43.

4. Syntax file used in the manuscript or data description

The manuscript must be accompanied by a syntax file showing how the study population was selected and how the main variables were defined. The syntax will only be used to reproduce the results or to comment on them in a letter to the editor of the journal in which the manuscript is published.

Manuscripts from meta-analysis and consortium studies must be accompanied by a description of what MoBa data and variables are included in the analyses.

The syntax or data description must be sent to MorBarnData@fhi.no including project title, MoBa reference number as well as the manuscript title. Stored syntax files and data descriptions will be treated confidentially, and cannot be distributed to others without a written permit from the Principal investigator.

5. Confounding effects

MoBa has a restrictive policy when it comes to publishing the direct effects of confounding variables, in order to avoid infringement on other research projects. Such information should not be published, but can be submitted to referees/editors if required.

6. Open data practice

No MoBa data on an individual or aggregated level may be uploaded into any repository or database at any time. Researchers cannot make any data on an individual level available to others at any time.

Suggested standard text to journals that want access to the research file:

“The consent given by the participants does not open for storage of data on an individual level in repositories or journals. Researchers who want access to data sets for replication should submit an application to datatilgang@fhi.no. Access to data sets requires approval from The Regional Committee for Medical and Health Research Ethics in Norway and an agreement with MoBa.”

Summary data from ‘omics’ studies (GWAS, EWAS etc.) in MoBa may be made available on the NIPH website (<https://www.fhi.no/en/studies/moba/for-forskere-artikler/gwas-data-from-moba/>) if required by the journal. Please contact the MoBa administration as soon as possible if this is required by the journal.

7. The final paper

Once your manuscript is accepted and published, please send a copy in PDF format to mobaadm@fhi.no. This includes consortia manuscripts.

Media coverage of MoBa publications

We encourage media coverage when appropriate to increase knowledge of MoBa and to show participating families and others that MoBa generates valuable results. All contact with journalists should be based on results accepted for publication in scientific journals, or as printed abstracts at scientific conferences. MoBa encourages all researchers to credit The Norwegian Mother, Father and Child Cohort Study. If a researcher wants assistance with media relations, he or she may contact the MoBa communications offices.

Please send a copy of press release or media coverage to mobaadm@fhi.no. Press releases can be made public on the NIPH website www.fhi.no/moba with the publication list of MoBa papers.

Brief popular science summary of the accepted article

We may ask you to submit a brief popular summary of the paper to be used for communication and dissemination purposes to mobaadm@fhi.no, if required.

Version	Date	Changes	Document owner
1.0	September 2013		FHI/MoBa/
2.0	April 2016	Updates according to Reference publication on MoBa	FHI/MoBa
3.0	December 2017	Corrected text in acknowledgement Included section on consortia manuscripts.	FHI/MoBa
4.0	December 2018	Updated information on approvals for MoBa and Open access	FHI/MoBa
5.0	February 2019	Corrected text in the Acknowledgement section and reviewed formulation and language in the text	FHI/MoBa
6.0	April 2019	Added text regarding acknowledgement of MoBa Genetics. Changed text regarding open data practice. "Checklist" removed from the "Publication guidelines".	FHI/MoBa
6.1	June 2019	Changed name of cohort - Father included in name	FHI/MoBa
6.2	August 2019	Changed layout. Added text on data description.	FHI/MoBa
6.3	November 2019	Corrected text throughout.	FHI/MoBa
6.4	Juni 2020	Lagt til referanse	FHI/MoBa