

The Establishment

of The Malaysian Cohort (TMC) Project

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In APEC*

2002

The economic leaders request for the establishment of **Life Science Innovation Forum (LSIF)** to develop a plan for life science innovation.



Life Sciences
Innovation Forum

Framework

2003

was developed in an inaugural forum. The body values **research, development, manufacturing and marketing**, as well as **health services for the forum**.

LSIF

2004

Prof. Dr. Leland Hartwell (Nobel laureate of Physiology or Medicine, 2001) suggested to initiate **research on revealing early onset of chronic diseases** via cohort studies.

Prof. Dr. Rahman Jamal was appointed by the government as the leader **to initiate the health study project** in Malaysia.



2005

TMC Plan

Budget of TMC project was **drafted and approved** at the Ninth Malaysia Plan (RMK-9).

TMC committee was **formed**. It consists of **67 Malaysian experts** from various background, together with Prof. Dr. John Potter and Prof. Dr. Alan Kristal from Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

Committee meeting with the advisor of the **Asia Cohort Consortium**.



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TMC Meetings

2006

Two committees meetings were carried out in January and July respectively, to establish the **working framework** for TMC.



2007

Pilot Study

Malaysian aged between 35-65 years old are eligible to participate TMC study. The **pilot study was started** at UKMMC and MTDC. TMC **host** the Asia Cohort Consortium meeting.

UMBI was established as the main center for the study.



Field Study

2008

Two teams of crew were formed to work at the field to recruit fellow Malaysian from every places in Malaysia.



Field at East Malaysia

2010

TMC started to recruit participant at Sabah (2010) & Sarawak (2011).

TMC is participating in the [MyGenome project](#), that yield 26 complete genomes of Malaysian from various ethnicity.

The 100K!

2012

TMC has successfully recruited reached 100,000 participants since the project is established.

In 2013, participants who join 5 years ago (in 2007) are eligible for a follow-up screening. [Follow-up phase of recruitment](#) has started.

TMC Profile Published!

2015

The first publication on the profile of TMC study was published on [International Journal of Epidemiology](#).

> [Int J Epidemiol.](#) 2015 Apr;44(2):423-31. doi: 10.1093/ije/dyu089. Epub 2014 Apr 11.

Cohort Profile: The Malaysian Cohort (TMC) project: a prospective study of non-communicable diseases in a multi-ethnic population

Home Recruitment

2019

For those who [unable](#) to return to our recruitment center and reside in Selangor or Kuala Lumpur area, we [visit their resident](#) to follow-up their health status.



2011

Accreditation

TMC's laboratory start to receive [MS ISO 15189](#) accreditation from Standards Malaysia.

First scientific study using cohort samples on dengue seroprevalence was [published](#).

> [BMC Res Notes.](#) 2011 Jun 29;4:216. doi: 10.1186/1756-0500-4-216.

Dengue epidemic in Malaysia: Not a predominantly urban disease anymore

2014

INFOSYS

On the information system (INFOSYS), a [network-based eCIMS](#) was launched to replace CIMS, the old computer-based system.

[HeDIMS](#) and [TSIMS](#) were developed.



2018

3rd Follow-up

Participants who matures from recruitment since 2013 are eligible for a third follow-up.

[WhatsApp](#) was used to communicate and connect with participants.

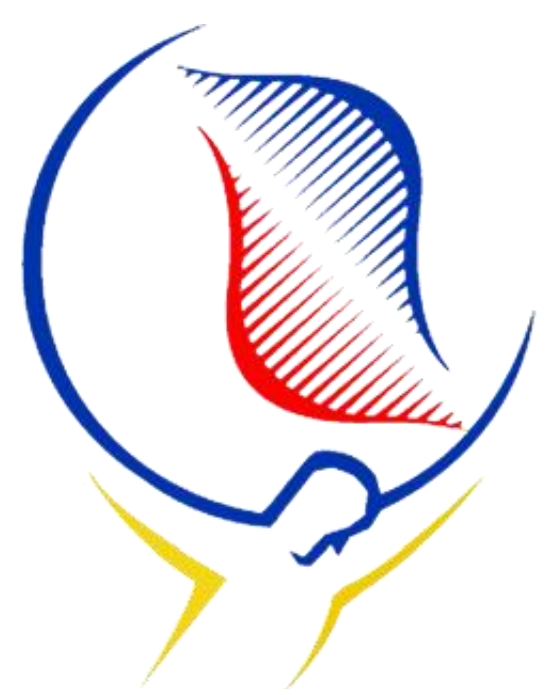
Planning and validating [Food Frequency Questionnaire \(FFQ\)](#).



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THE
MALAYSIAN
COHORT

Our Gift To The Future Generation

The Malaysian Cohort is very [unique](#) because it has populations from three distinct ethnicities-India, China, and Malaysia that makes it a very [valuable resource](#) to probe the effect of environment and discover biomarkers of complex diseases.

- Professor Samir K. Brahmachari

Founder Director of Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, New Delhi, India.