

Preterm Birth Genome Project (PGP)

PREBIC

WHO

March of Dimes

Goals of PGP

- Create a community of researchers to identify PTB susceptibility genes
- Pool resources from multiple investigators to do Genome Wide Association (GWA) studies from multiple geographic populations
- Replication samples to be organized

PGP Consortium

- Established in Geneva on Sep 4th and 5th, 2007
- Included investigators from 4 continents
- Established Memorandum of Agreement to collaborate on GWA by pooling resources (DNA)
- Established database

Consortium Structure

Coordinated under a Director

- Michael Katz – March of Dimes

Chairman of the Consortium

- Mario Meriardi, WHO

- Management Committee
- Steering Committee
- Scientific Committee

Sample Resources

Cases – ~ 5,000

Hispanic – 2,000 (Mexico, USA)

Caucasian – 2,000 (UK, USA, Australia, Norway, Canada)

African Americans – 300 (USA)

Asians – 400 (Korea)

Controls - ~ 5,000

Hispanic – 2,000 (Mexico, USA)

Caucasian – 2,000 (UK, USA, Australia, Norway, Canada)

African Americans – 600 (USA)

Asians – 500 (Korea)

Funding

- Need to secure funding for short and long term
 - WHO funding for this meeting and preliminary genotyping analyses
- NIH RFA September 17, 2007 LOI
 - Grant deadline Oct 2007
- Alternative sources of funding
 - Other governments
 - Foundations
 - Private donors
 - Industry

Goals of PGP

- Genome-wide study of PTB
 - This will involve the development of proof of principle of use of the diverse collections of samples from various racial groups
 - The will include the definition of and use of a common set of environmental risk factors
- Other studies of pregnancy outcomes
- Deep re-sequencing of genes with significant/interesting findings in GWA