

WHY SHOULD YOU DONATE TO PREBIC?

PREBIC'S MISSION: PREBIC is an international NOT FOR PROFIT collaborative of clinicians and scientists seeking to identify innovative and trans-disciplinary ways to combat **PRETERM BIRTH**. Preterm birth is a major socioeconomic problem that impacts ~12% of all births world wide and it is associated with devastating lifelong consequences that impacts the health of both women and children.

WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF PRETERM BIRTH? The cause is **complex**, but for the past **20 years** members of PREBIC have performed research to identify the underlying physiology that controls the timing of human birth. This includes studies to identify causes of preterm birth from a “Life Course Perspective” beginning at birth and spanning through childhood and adolescence and adulthood that includes factors such as family history, genetics and behaviors that may confer risk for preterm birth. Risks may also arise unexpectedly during pregnancy. PREBIC scientists are in the forefront to identify risk factors and mechanisms that can lead to preterm birth.

How is the above related to PREGNANCY: Pregnancy is “**A Test Period**” that defines future health of the infant, the mother and for subsequent pregnancies. **How does this happen?**

*Pregnancy is a **critical** time when there are tremendous changes in all major physiologic systems. These include the immune system whereby complicated changes occurs to balance the need to protect against infection and the need to tolerate the immunologically distinct fetus as would occur in organ transplantation. Significant changes in the mother's cardiovascular and nutritional systems also occur to increase blood and nutrient flow to the fetus to assure adequate fetal growth. Failure to adapt to these changes results in the risk of preterm birth and a continuum of poor pregnancy outcomes, including preeclampsia, intrauterine fetal demise and possibly crib death. Moreover, preterm birth and other poor pregnancy outcome are major risk factors for both the mother and her child later in the life course perspective. Several adult onset diseases (cardiovascular, diabetes, certain cancers etc.) seen in children are now linked to preterm birth. These diseases are also seen in women who deliver preterm or have poor reproductive outcomes. Currently, there is active debate over whether poor reproductive outcome is a marker or a mediator of this increased risk. Thus, understanding and preventing preterm birth is critical for the long-term health of women and their families. It is also a matter of health equity and societal justice.*

How is PREBIC meeting this Challenge? PREBIC promotes world-wide **Collaborative Research efforts, Educational meetings** and **provide a platform to work together to improve the Health of Women & Children World-Wide.**

How your donations will be spent?

- **PREBIC organizes scientific workshops to identify knowledge gaps in combating preterm birth. PREBIC promotes young investigators around the globe in their research by providing mentorship, guidance and other resources required for their activities.**
- **PREBIC organizes educational symposiums for a wide range of stakeholders and practitioners.**
- **PREBIC publishes high impact scientific manuscripts based on discussions and provide guides for research.**
- **PREBIC promotes translational science and research – Bench to bedside – Identify risk, develop early diagnosis, generate multiple intervention approaches, and start clinical trials to reduce the risk of preterm birth.**
- **PREBIC advocates for support of preterm birth research around the world**

Thank you for your donation to PREBIC