Safe Start Trial: Preventing Enteric Infections in Young Children in Kenya

Assessing how effective an early childhood hygiene intervention is on enteric infections and growth faltering in Kisumu, Kenya.

**The situation**
Children living in areas with poor WASH infrastructure are at risk from repeated enteric infections which is also associated with poor growth.

**The context**
High-density informal settlements in Kisumu, Kenya.

**What we want to know**
How effective is a household intervention targeted at caregivers of young infants in improving healthy hygiene behaviours?

**Research: Phase 1**
1. Formative/Design Understanding infant exposures, infant caregiving practices and Community Health Volunteer routines & capacity
2. Evaluation/Trial Design and testing of candidate interventions

**Research: Phase 2**
Cluster RCT: children enrolled at 3 months and followed until 18 months in 2 informal neighbourhoods

**What we'll measure**
1. Prevalence & intensity of enteric infections in infants
2. Self-reported hygienic behaviour

**Outputs**
Training guidance for health extension workers; Policy & practice briefing notes; Journal papers

**Relevance**
Generate local and globally generalisable evidence about how to design infant health interventions for unplanned urban settlements

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