



**Maternal and perinatal Health Research collaboration, India (MaatHRI)** is a UK-India collaboration for maternal and perinatal health research. It is a collaboration between the University of Oxford (National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit, Nuffield Department of Population Health) and 15 government and private hospitals across five states in India.

## Impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; 23rd March to 15th December 2020

**Work has resumed since August 2020, but recruitment rates are not up to the pre-pandemic levels**

- Workstream-1 (monthly survey of severe maternal complications) continues in all hospitals and was least affected by the pandemic.
- Workstream-2 (safety of induction and augmentation study) has restarted in all hospitals.
  - Dr Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College Kangra at Tanda, Himachal Pradesh, which joined the project in March 2020, has started recruiting participants this month.
- Workstream-3 (Heart failure in pregnant women) has restarted in all hospitals except one.

## Resilience of the MaatHRI platform

- Despite the adverse effects of the pandemic, research undertaken through the platform continues.
- Motivation of the collaborators and MaatHRI staff remains undeterred.
- The laboratory system had a short down time during the lockdown period, but was back to normal swiftly.

## Research continues in one of the most remote hospitals in the MaatHRI collaboration



Makunda Christian Leprosy and  
General Hospital, Karimganj,  
Assam



Melody Lalsangpui  
(Nursing Superintendent)  
conducting echocardiography



Ruthi Lalremkim  
(Research Nurse)

*Participant consent has been obtained for using the photographs*

## Recapping the key outputs during the year

### We organised two virtual collaborators' meetings

In the December-2020 meeting, we discussed the exciting preliminary findings of the heart failure study.

### MaatHRI Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) meeting was held in November 2020

The Board appreciated the efforts of the MaatHRI team to keep the research going despite the unfavourable circumstances.

### Methodology paper published

A paper describing the methodology for establishing the MaatHRI platform was published in July 2020 <https://f1000research.com/articles/9-683>.

### Paper under review

A paper from the study that examined the differences between the coagulation parameters in pregnant women who have moderate/severe anaemia and those who do not, has been submitted for publication.

### Presentations at scientific conferences

European Society of Cardiology Congress 2020 and American Society of Echocardiography 2020.

## Recognitions in 2020

### MaatHRI was 'Highly commended' in the University of Oxford's Vice Chancellor's Innovation Awards 2020

[www.ox.ac.uk/research/research-impact/maternal-and-perinatal-health-research-collaboration-india-maathri](http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/research-impact/maternal-and-perinatal-health-research-collaboration-india-maathri)

### Impact case study on MaatHRI was published by the Knowledge Exchange and Impact Team, University of Oxford

[www.ox.ac.uk/research/research-impact/collaborating-improve-maternal-health](http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/research-impact/collaborating-improve-maternal-health)

Nuffield Department of Population Health @Oxford\_NDPH · Nov 11  
@MaathRI is an innovative collaboration with Indian hospitals developing evidence and interventions to improve #maternalhealth

Read more about the collaboration [ox.ac.uk/research/resea...](http://ox.ac.uk/research/resea...)

@NPEU\_Oxford



"No woman should suffer preventable death or complication in childbirth; this should be a joyful time. MaatHRI is making a small contribution to improving maternal health and survival and we are extremely motivated to continue this work."

MANISHA NAIR  
Principal Investigator, MaatHRI



# Thank you

to all collaborators, project advisors, mentors, project manager, research nurses, Lal PathLabs, programmers, and DSMB members for making MaatHRI a success in this unprecedented year.

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