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Title: Young children admitted with LRTI have ongoing respiratory morbidity after 1 year

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Body: Aim To trial an intervention programme to reduce the development of chronic respiratory disease in high risk children after admission for early, severe lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI). Methods Children <2yrs of age admitted with pneumonia or bronchiolitis with no co-morbidities between March 2011 & September 2012 were randomised to a 24 month 'intervention' programme or 'control' with usual care. Based on a cystic fibrosis model, intervention involves regular community clinics, ensure recovery from the index admission and institute early treatment for deviation from normal health. Outcome assessments will be complete by October 2014. Results 2146 children <2yrs were admitted with respiratory illness, 667 eligible and 400 enrolled, mean age 8 months. Ethnicities included 55.3% Pacifica and 31.8% Maori. Interim results in intervention group; 72% (87/121) attended the fourth clinic visit 1 year after index event 20% (17/87) with moist cough. To date 36 children have been referred to secondary paediatric clinic, 9 to paediatric respiratory clinic with 5 children demonstrating bronchiectasis on HRCT. Conclusions This trial has exposed significant respiratory morbidity and early bronchiectasis in some which we believe could be potentially reversible. Results will be compared with the control group next year to determine if the intervention is successful. Supported by: HRC NZ grant 10/510 & Lotteries Grant 230954.