A National Institutes of Health Specialized Center of Research grant funds creation of the Arizona Respiratory Sciences Center under direction of Ben Burrows, MD.

The Tucson Children's Respiratory Study begins as a long-term multiethnic study of 1,250 newborns to assess risk factors for asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

The Tucson Children's Respiratory Study finds that infants with wheezing start out with lower lung function, predisposing them to asthma and respiratory disease. The paper is published in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine. It is one of most cited papers in asthma history.

"Asthma begets asthma," a paper based on Tucson Children's Respiratory Study research, publishes in New England Journal of Medicine. With the retirement of Dr. Burrows, Fernando Martinez, MD, steps up to lead the Arizona Respiratory Sciences Center.

Researchers note that COPD prevention needs to start in fetal life in the paper, "Poor airway function shortly after birth should be recognized as a risk factor for airflow obstruction in young adults."

Researchers launch the Oral Bacterial Extracts Study to assess ways to boost the immune system to prevent asthma and wheezing in 6- to 18-month-old children.

The Binational Early Asthma and Microbiome Study launches to test the hygiene hypothesis in children from pre-birth to age 5.

Researchers find that children with older siblings, dogs, and in daycare are less likely to suffer from asthma.

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