

## Abstract:

Improving the health and nutrition of young children is important for immediate well-being, and because it is believed to reduce poverty in the long-run through improved human capital development and better labor market outcomes. Many program such as Head Start and Conditional Cash Transfer programs rely on this postulated link. Little, however, is known about the long-term effects of programs targeted to improve health and nutrition in early childhood on human capital and labor market in adulthood. This study exploits a quasi-experimental design and phasing-out of Mother and Child health and Family Planning program in rural Bangladesh in the 1970-80s to examine the effects on children born during program roll out 35 years later. Previous research shows the program led to important improvement in height and cognitive functioning in early and late childhood (ages 8-14) for those in the treatment area. When these same people are aged 22-29, effects on height persist but the cognitive functioning effects fade out. In addition, those in the treatment area are less likely to migrate, but incomes are still similar between the two groups.