







What's new in child obesity research?

Professor Rachael Taylor Director, EDOR Deputy HoD, Medicine Healthy Weight theme leader, A Better Start NSC

1 in 3 children are overweight or obese in NZ



























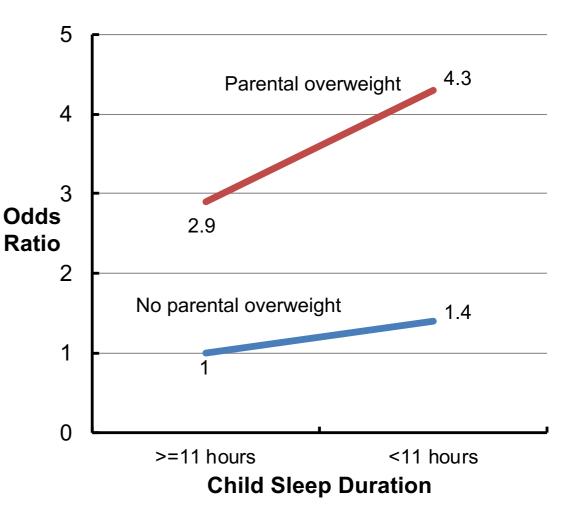
SLEEP



First study linking sleep with body weight in children was in 1992

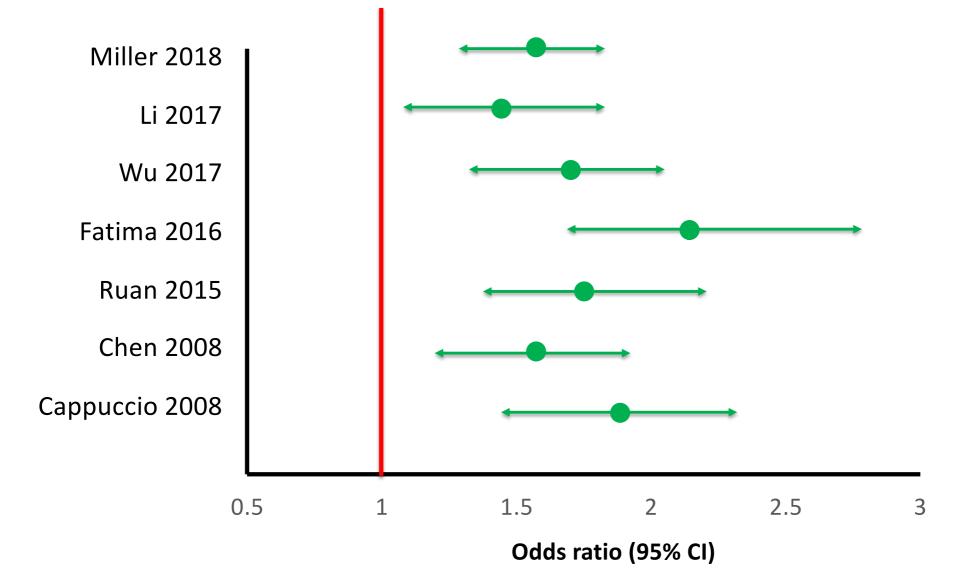
- Case-control study in 327 obese and 704 non-obese 5y olds
- Many factors associated with obesity - snacks, TV
- But only sleep was significant after adjusting for parental weight

Children who slept < 11 hr had a 40% increase in the odds of being obese



IJO 1992;16:721

The observational research is incredibly consistent



802 pregnant women randomised to one of 4 groups for 2-year intervention

- Usual care
- Sleep 2 sessions
- Food, activity and breastfeeding (FAB) 8 sessions
- Combination 9 sessions



Risk of obesity at 5 years of age was halved in children who had received a brief sleep intervention as infants

	Sleep	No sleep	OR (95% CI)
Prevalence (%)	5.4	10.1	0.49 (0.28, 0.84)
	FAB	No FAB	
Prevalence (%)	10.2	5.5	1.52 (0.91, 2.55)



Taylor et al. AJCN 2018;228

BMJ editorial

"The subject of sleeplessness is once more under discussion. The hurry and excitement of modern life is quite correctly held to be responsible for much of the insomnia of which we hear; and most of the articles and letters are full of good advice to live more quietly and of platitudes concerning the harmfulness of rush and worry."



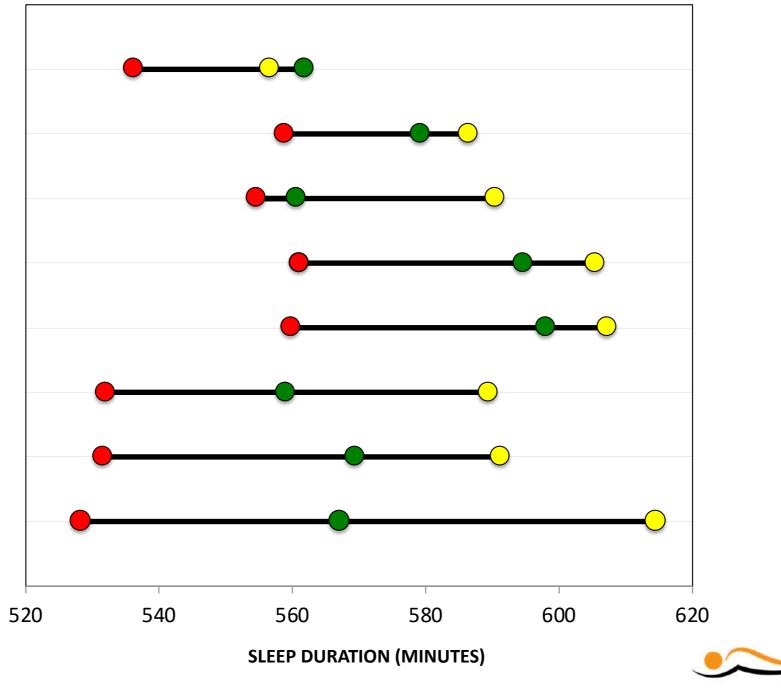
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<u>Why</u> does sleep deprivation cause weight gain?



'What a great diet... I just have to sleep more!'

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DREAM



Eating in the absence of hunger experiment



Eating in the absence of hunger experiment

Use of novel technology to assess eating behaviour



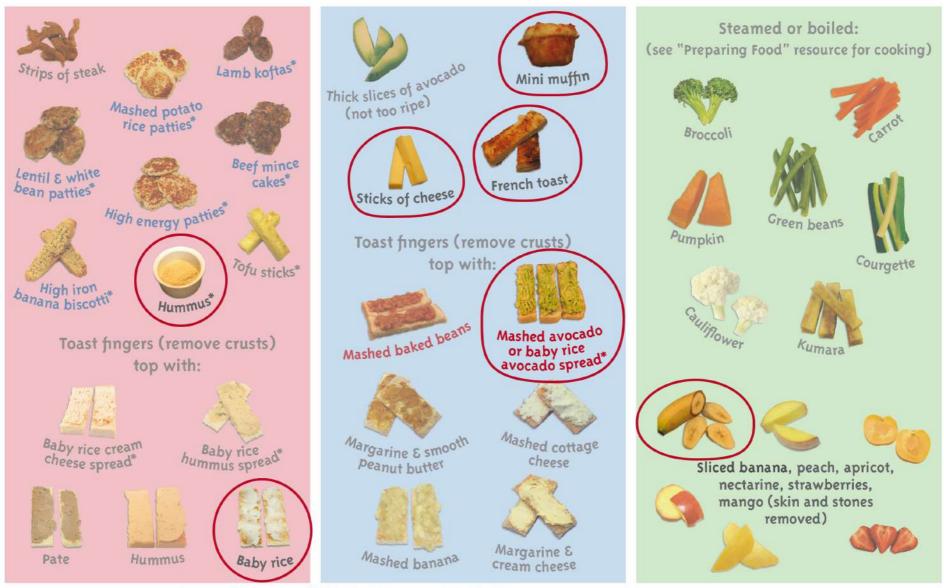


What about the way we introduce infants to foods – does that make a difference?





When your baby is sick offer some of the foods that have been circled, these are energy rich foods that are easy for your baby to eat.



Remember to offer extra milk feeds when your baby is sick.

Your baby's appetite may be reduced when they are unwell so also offer appetizing, favourite foods.

Outcomes of the BLISS trial



- Following a baby-led approach did not lead to differences in
 - Weight status
 - Ability eat to appetite
 - Choking, iron deficiency, growth faltering
- But BLISS infants were
 - less fussy about food
 - had more varied diets at 7m



Taylor and Heath et al, JAMA Pediatrics 2017





- Measure dietary intake in 625 infants over two days
- Including accurate measure of breast milk intake
- Each family will video a meal to how they interact with the infant during the meal
- Assess dental health using photographs





— New Zealand —







FIRST FOODS

— New Zealand —



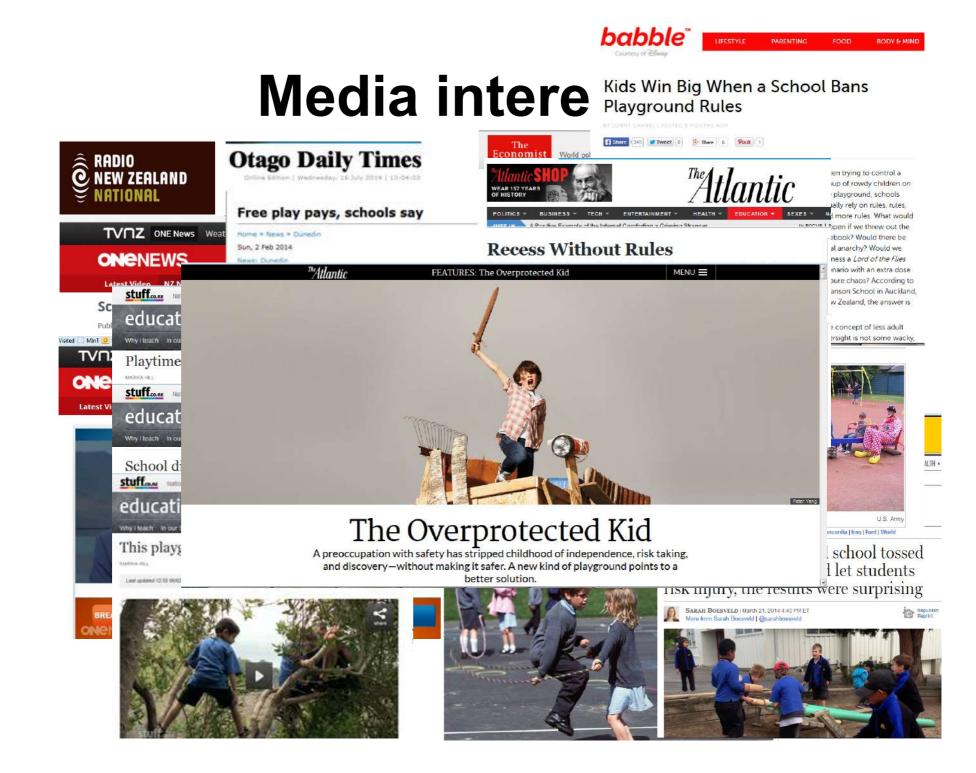
Use of smartphones and Smile Lite to take photos of teeth to check for decay

SMARTPHONES

SMARTPHONES + SMILE LITE

DIGITAL SLR



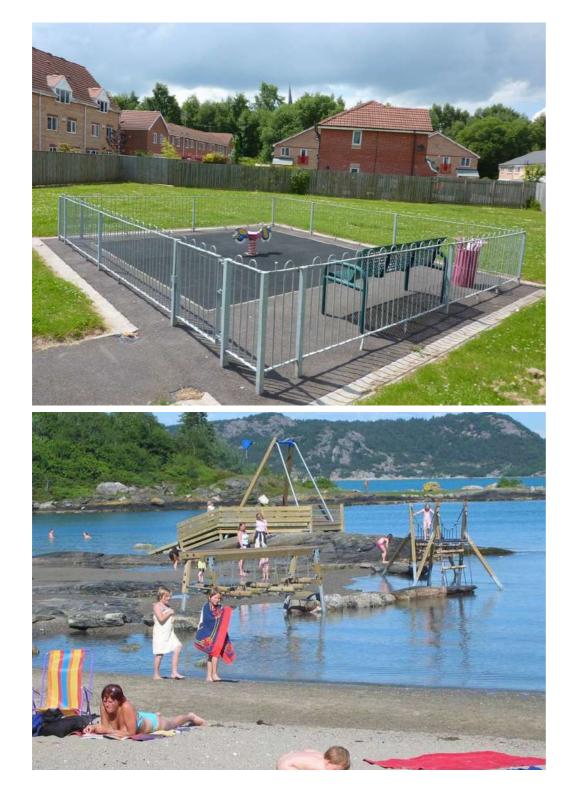


Can bringing back bullrush in schools increase physical activity in kids?



IJO 2017 Pediatrics 2017

"Some bloke wants to know if we've carried out a thorough risk assessment?"



Safety assessor's dream?

Safety assessor's nightmare?

© David Ball. United in Play conference 2010.

Increasing risk and challenge in the school playground











Can bringing back bullrush in schools increase physical activity in kids?

- 800+ children from 16 schools for 2-year intervention
- Did not increase physical activity
- But did "reduce" bullying increased resilience



Screen time: good, bad, or ugly?

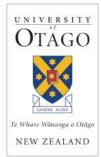




Screen time

- Is associated with increased risk of obesity
- Interventions to reduce screen time do work
- Using screens before bed is of interest for the impact on sleep





Nationwide Facebook survey

> 4500 adolescents 13-17y

Assessed screen use before bed and sleep

Throughout NZ

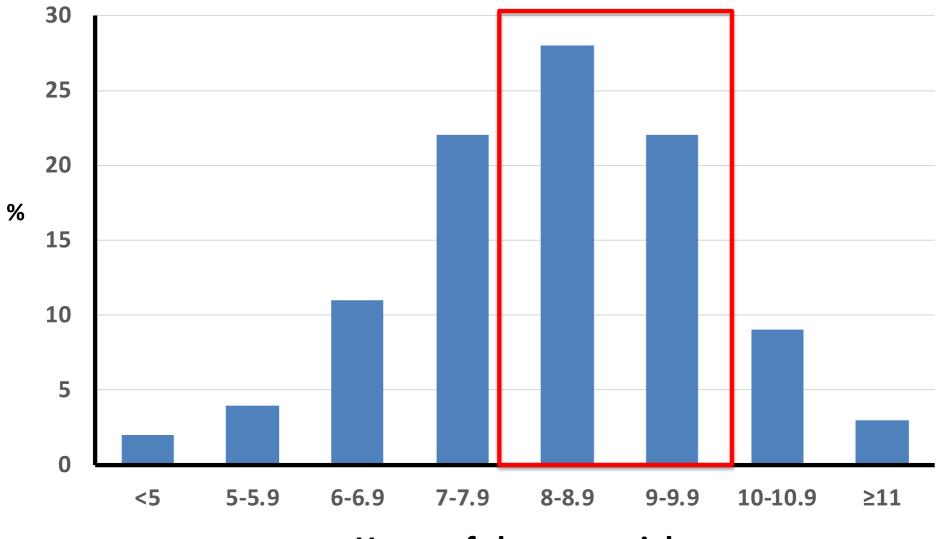
Range of household deprivation and ethnicity

Led by Claire Smith





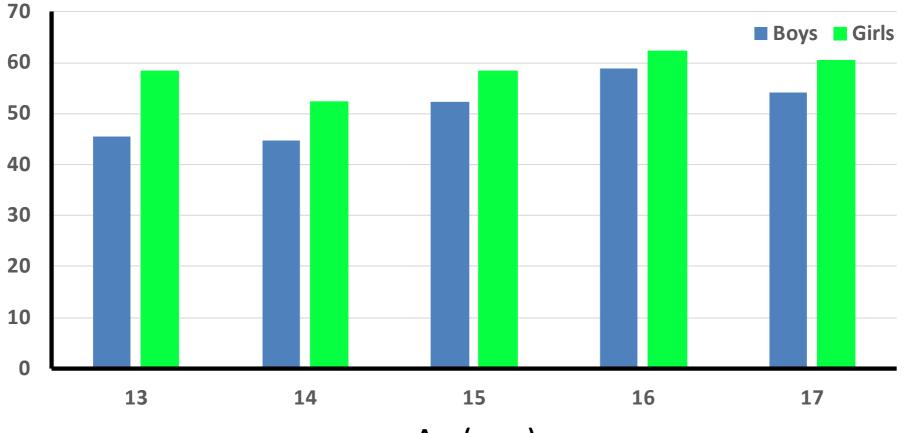
Only ~ 50% meet sleep guidelines



Hours of sleep per night

And half report poor sleep quality

% reporting PSQI global score > 5



Age (years)

	% most nights	Difference in sleep (mins)	OR for poor sleep quality
Social media	88	-12	1.3
Web browsing	78	-22	1.5
Texting	77	-6	1.2
Watching TV	64	-11	1.2
Listening to music	60	-19	1.4
Gaming	34	-19	1.4
Family	65	13	0.7
Schoolwork	38	-7	0.8
Exercise	33	9	0.7
Reading	19	4	0.9
Caffeine	15	-28	1.8

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