

Introduction: Obesity is a public health crisis in the US. Childhood obesity is associated with multiple comorbidities in the adulthood, including metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular diseases, and premature death. A recent study found that the prevalence of childhood obesity varied according to age and ethnicity. This study aims to evaluate the long-term trends and the underexplored socioeconomic factors associated with childhood obesity.

Method: From the US National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey from 1999 to 2018, 35 907 children aged 2–19 with body mass index (BMI) data were included. Prevalence of obesity and severe obesity, defined as BMI \geq 95th percentile and \geq 120% of 95th percentile of US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention growth charts, respectively. Trends in prevalence of obesity and subgroup analyses according to age group, sex, ethnicity, language used in interview, household education level, and household income level, were analyzed. Data analysis was performed using the R statistical package “survey” (version 3.6.3).

Results: The prevalence of obesity and severe obesity increased from 14.7 [95% CI: 12.9–17.0] % to 19.2 [17.2–21.0] % and 3.9 [2.9–5.0] % to 6.1 [4.8–8.0] % in 1999–2018, respectively ($p=0.001$ and $p=0.014$ for obesity and severe obesity, respectively). In 2017–8, the prevalence of obesity among children from Spanish-speaking households was 24.4 [22.4–27.0] %, higher than children from English-speaking households ($p=0.027$). Children from households with high education level and high income level had a lower prevalence of obesity compared to those with low education level and low income level ($p=0.003$ and $p=0.002$ for education level and income level, respectively). Compared to girls, boys had higher prevalence of obesity ($p=0.002$) and severe obesity ($p=0.004$).

Conclusion: The prevalence of childhood obesity in America kept increasing during the period 1999–2018 despite various public health initiatives. The problem is worse in children with lower socioeconomic status, and in children from Spanish-speaking households. Public health interventions are urgently needed to halt the rising trend of childhood obesity, and measures specifically catering to children from Spanish-speaking families should be put in place.

Adipose Tissue, Appetite, and Obesity INTEGRATED PHYSIOLOGY OF OBESITY AND METABOLIC DISEASE

Profile of Intestinal Microbiota and Anxiety Level in Overweight Children and Adolescents

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Justification: Obesity is considered a worldwide epidemic, with a significant increase in its prevalence in the last 30 years in both children and adolescents. Anxiety disorders can be considered both a cause and a consequence of obesity. The intestinal microbiota has been identified as a participant in the inflammatory process of both obesity and depression / anxiety disorders. **Objective:** Describe and compare the intestinal microbiota profile of overweight/obese children/teenagers with and without signs of

anxiety. **METHODOLOGICAL PROCEDURES:** descriptive, observational, cross-sectional study with an analytical character (comparison of groups), carried out during the months of January to October of the year 2019. 30 overweight/obesity children/teenagers (BMI greater than P85 – WHO 2007), between seven and 17 years old, convenience sampling. None of the participants had taken antibiotics during the past eight weeks of participation on the study or had chronic or endocrine disease that was not being adequately treated. The participants were divided into two groups: the first group consists of children/adolescents with excess weight without signs of anxiety ($n=16$) and the second group consists of children/adolescents with excess weight with signs of anxiety ($n=14$), assessed by a Screen for Child Anxiety Related Emotional Disorders (SCARED) screening questionnaire. **Results:** The group with signs of anxiety showing higher HOMA IR compared to the group without signs of anxiety with values of 5.05 ± 2.08 and 3.47 ± 1.6 ($p=0.041$), respectively. There was a statistically significant difference for beta diversity of the intestinal microbiota profile using the CHAO method ($p=0.025$) and the Jackknife method ($p=0.01$) between the groups with signs of anxiety and without signs of anxiety. **Conclusion:** difference was found between the intestinal microbiota diversity of obese children / adolescents with signs of anxiety in relation to the intestinal microbiota diversity of obese children / adolescents without signs of anxiety. This finding suggests a possible involvement of the imbalance of the intestinal microbiota with anxiety disorders and depression in children/adolescents with weight excess.

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Relationship Between Metabolic Syndrome Components and Proinflammatory Molecules

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We aimed to study the associations of 5 adipocytokines, two endothelial damage markers, and hs-CRP with the MetS components to distinguish the most significant cytokines likely related to distinct metabolic profiles. **Methods:** Cross-sectional study with 202 Chilean subjects (18–65 years old), categorized by MetS, and No-MetS according to Harmonizing ATP III. Adipocytokines profiling included adiponectin, leptin, hs-CRP, CTRP-1, PAI-1, FABP4, and metalloproteinase (MMP)-9 and MMP-2 activity. **Results:** Subjects with MetS showed higher levels of the most proinflammatory molecules but significantly lower adiponectin than subjects with No-MetS. Among the studied adipocytokines, PAI-1 and adiponectin showed the strongest associations with most of MetS components. PAI-1 was associated with MetS OR 1.107 [1.065–1.151], $p<0.0001$, and adiponectin inversely associated with MetS OR 0.710 [0.610–0.825], $p<0.0001$. Following adjustment by