

Sleep and Adolescent Obesity: Results from the Creating Opportunities for Personal Empowerment (COPE) Randomized Controlled Trial

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Background and Significance

- Pediatric Obesity
 - 32% of US children and adolescents aged 2-19 are overweight or obese.
 - In Arizona, for children between 10-17 years: 50% of Hispanic children; 24% of white, non-Hispanic children; and 30% of Black, non-Hispanic children are overweight or obese.

Background and Significance

- Current school-based prevention interventions have demonstrated variable impact on weight outcomes.
- Those, like COPE, that combine physical activity, nutrition and cognitive/behavioral strategies have demonstrated efficacy.

Background and Significance

- **SLEEP: Effects of Insufficient Sleep**
 - Decreased concentration & impaired academic performance
 - Increased mood disorders, suicide ideation, hyperactivity & drug and alcohol use
 - Impaired motor skills
 - Decreased immune function
 - Increased injuries and accidents
 - **Increased risk of obesity**

Background and Significance

- **Sleep**

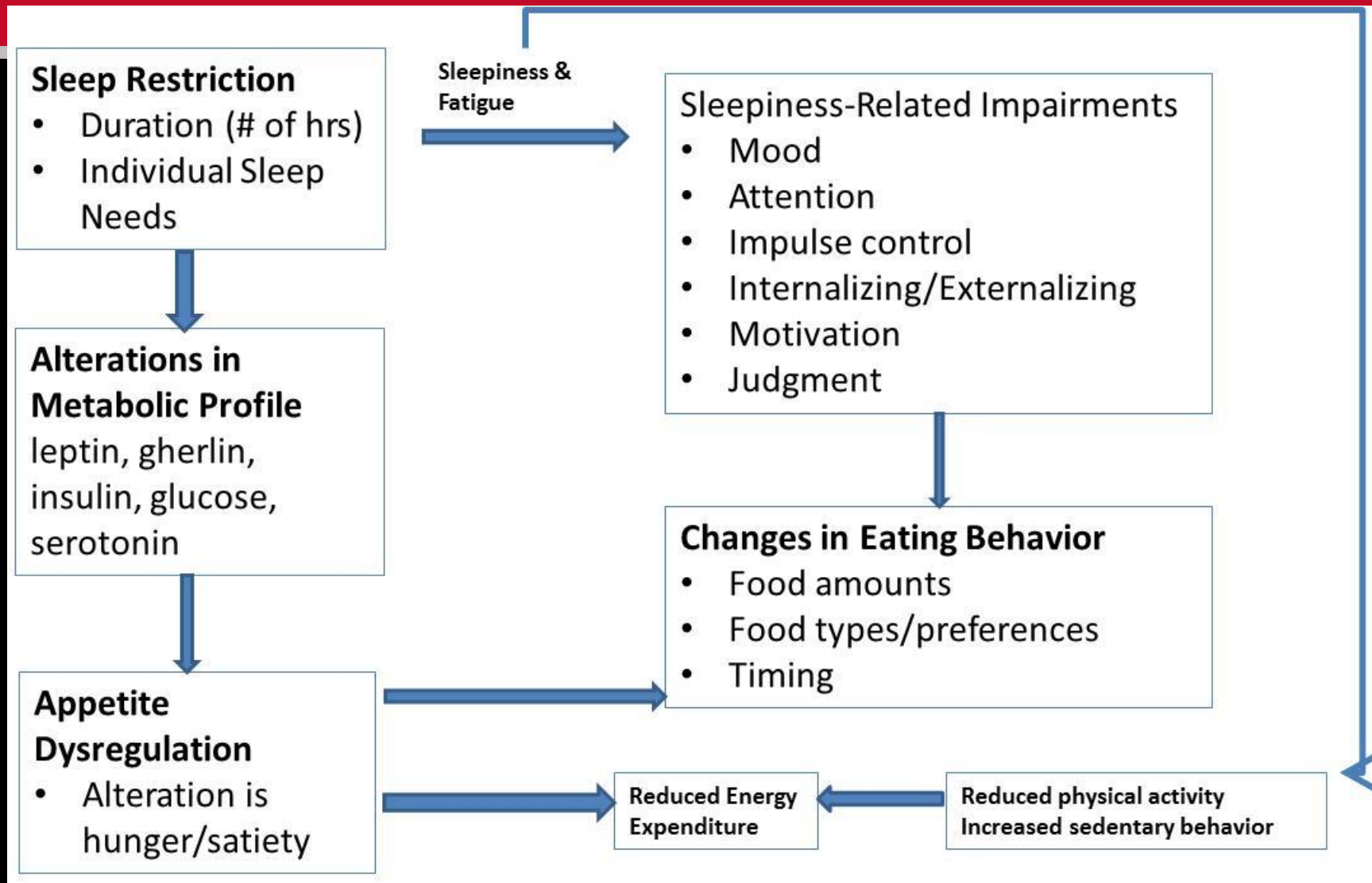
- There is conflicting evidence that child and adolescent sleep duration has decreased.
- The amount of sleep children need differs by child, age and biological functioning.

Sleep duration in adolescents has decreased	Sleep duration in adolescents has remained stable
Iglowstein et al. (2003)	Calamaro, C. J. (2010)
Dollman et al. (2007)	Williams, J. A. et al. (2013)
Matricciani, L. & Williams, M. (2011)	

Background and Significance

- **Evidence to support link of decreased sleep duration and obesity:**
 - Leads to decreased leptin
 - Leads to increased ghrelin
 - Secretion of growth hormone, prolactin, cortisol, thyrotropin, and insulin are influenced by sleep.

Pathways to Risk (Hart et al., 2011)



Background and Significance

- **Inadequate Sleep and Psychiatric Symptoms:**
 - Sleep problems disproportionately present in many psychiatric conditions.
 - Direction of causation seems to be reciprocal rather than unidirectional.
 - ↑ deprivation predicts psychiatric symptom severity and functional impairment.

Purpose

- Analyze baseline findings related to:
 - Sleep
 - Gender
 - Weight

Methods

- Chi Square
- t-tests
- Frequencies
- Pearson's Correlations

Results

Teen Demographics (N=779)		
	Mean	SD
Age (years)	14.74	0.73
Body Mass Index	24.43	5.92
Body Mass Index Percentile	70.59	27.11

Results

Teen Demographics (N=779)			
		n	%
Gender	Female	402	51.6
	Male	377	48.4
Grade	9 th grade	389	49.9
	10 th grade	295	37.9
	11 th grade	89	11.4
	12 th grade	6	0.77
Race	Hispanic	526	67.5
	White	110	14.1
	Black	77	9.9
	Amer. Native	27	3.5

Results

Teen Demographics			
		n	%
BMI Categories	Underweight	14	1.8
	Normal weight	433	55.6
	Overweight	148	19.0
	Obese	182	23.4
Depression	Average	645	82.8
	Mildly	52	6.7
	Moderately	47	6.0
	Extremely	24	3.1
Anxiety	Average	597	76.6
	Mildly	81	10.4
	Moderately	58	7.4
	Extremely	29	3.7

Results

How many hours on average do you sleep at night?			
	n	Mean (SD)	p
Males	267	7.43 (1.36)	0.03
Females	249	7.16 (1.34)	
Underweight and Normal Weight	301	7.47 (1.30)	0.00
Overweight and Obese	213	7.05 (1.41)	

Results

Correlations between Sleep, Depression and Anxiety

	Hours of Sleep at Night?	Beck Depression T Score	Beck Anxiety T Score
How many hours on average do you sleep at night?	1		
Baseline Beck Depression T Score	-.314**	1	
Baseline Beck Anxiety T Score	-.294**	.776**	1

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Implications for Research & Practice

- Objective measurement of sleep with actigraphy in future intervention studies
- Multicomponent interventions should include sleep education/hygiene as well as physical activity and nutrition.
- Assessment of sleep patterns is necessary in all children who are overweight or obese.

Sleep Interventions

- **Educational Programs should include:**
 - The importance of sleep and its impact on cognitive functions and emotional regulation;
 - Signs of child/teen sleep deprivation;
 - Development of basic sleep processes and sleep regulation;
 - Environmental factors that affect sleep; and
 - Specific strategies to facilitate healthy sleep.

Conclusion

- Short sleep duration is associated with obesity and increased depressive and anxiety symptoms in adolescence.
- Comprehensive school-based healthy lifestyle interventions should include sleep education in addition to physical activity, nutrition and cognitive behavior skills building.

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Contact Information

- Thank you!
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