



Like Mother, Like Child: Maternal Attitudes and Behaviors on Weight-Related Health Behaviors in Their Children

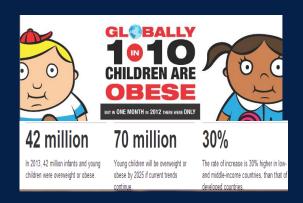
Jyu-Lin Chen, PhD, RN, CNS, FAAN Associate Professor, UCSF TT and WF Chao Presidential Chair in Global Health Nursing Jill Howeiw Esquivel, PhD, RN, NP, Associate Professor, UVA Kit Chesla, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor, UCSF Jia Guo, PhD, RN, Associate Professor, CSU

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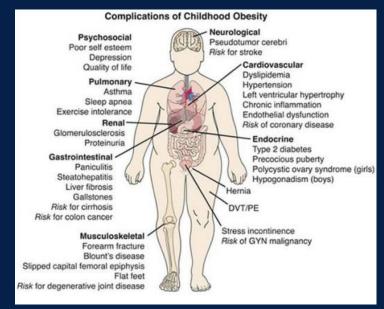




- To describe maternal feeding practices, self-efficacy for healthy eating and physical activity level
- To identify maternal factors that are associated with their children's weight health







In China, 120 million children were overweight or obese:

10% overweight and 12% obese (2-6 yrs old) (Piernas et al. 2015)



Mother's health is the key to family health

Social and health science research consistently demonstrates the crucial role that the mother plays in the well-being of her children and family.

The transition to motherhood is accompanied by additional family responsibilities that place women at risk for unhealthy lifestyles.







Research Approach

Study design: mixed-methods study

Settings: four preschool settings in

Hunan Province

Research team: qualitative and quantitative experts from UCSF and CSU





Inclusion criteria

Women with children between the ages of three and five years old, Self-identified as Chinese Able to attend regular activities Able to read and write Chinese

Data collection

Surveys:

- CVD Risk survey- modified from RISK survey developed by Dr. Jia Guo
- Family Eating and Activity Habits Questionnaire developed by Moria Golan
- Maternal Self-efficacy regarding children's eating and sedentary behaviors developed by Karen Campbell
- Child feeding questionnaire (CFQ) developed by Birth and Fisher

Physiological assessment:

- Parental weight, height, waist circumference
- Child's weight and height









Preliminary results

Father

- Mean age = 33.25 (SD = 4.5)
- Education: 24% high school; 58.8% college

Mother

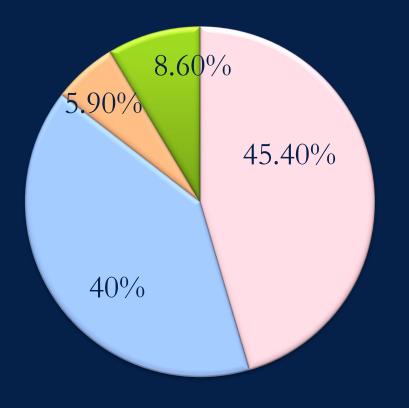
- Mean age= 31.04 (SD = 4.28)
- Education: 29% high school; 54% college

Child

- Mean age = 3.68 (SD = .75)
- 114 boys (51.5%)



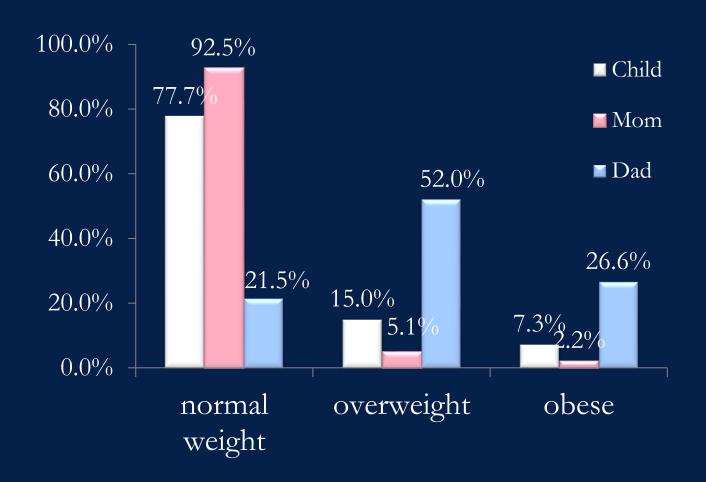
Family Type



- nuclear family
- 3 generations
- single parent
- kids with one parent and other relatives

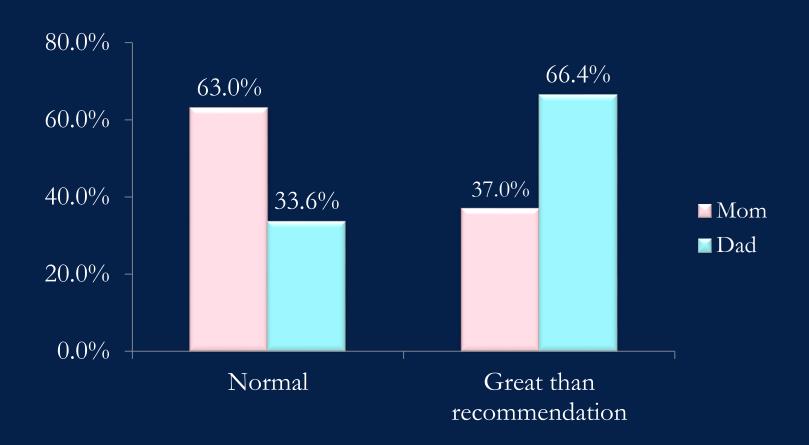


Weight status





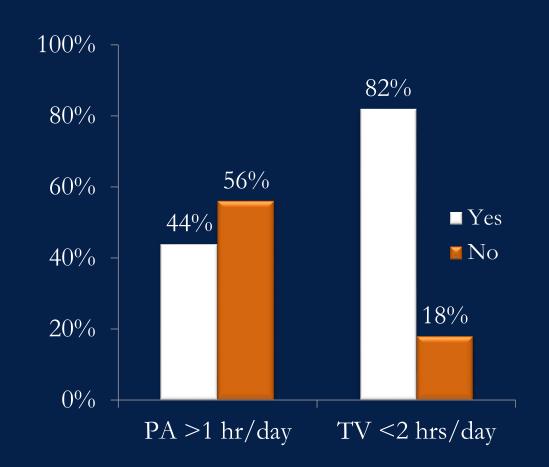
Waist circumference



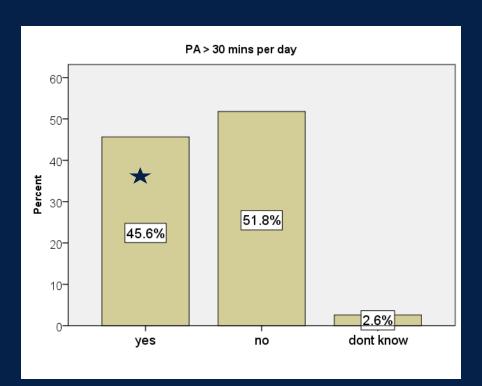


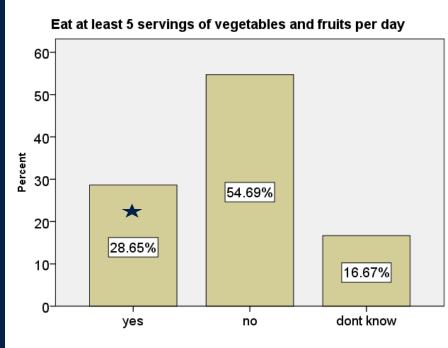
Physical activity/inactivity- Child

- PA = 1.2 h or 72 mine/per day (SD = 1.19)
- SA= 0.76 hr (SD = 0.93) or 45.6 min/per day.











Maternal feeding practices

Mothers reported

- Being responsible for their child's meals most of the time
- perceived their weight and their child's weight as normal.
- mostly neutral on their attitudes towards control and practices in their child's eating behaviors
- Majority of mothers did not report their concern about their weight or their child's weight.



Child physical activity/inactivity

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Outcome	Predictor(s)	Adjusted R ²	В	sr ²	F	P
Physical	Overall	.10			7.11	.01
activity	Child's age		38	.10	7.11	.01
TV and	Overall	.17			10.79	<.001
computer	Mom activity		.02	.14	23.43	<.001
time	Self-efficacy for limiting		17	.04	6.71	.01
	viewing					
	Child's age		23	.04	5.90	.02



Child eating behavior

Outcome	Predictor(s)	Adjusted R ²	В	sr ²	F	p
Eating style	Overall	.44			120.19	<.001
	Mom eating style		.81		120.19	<.001
Eating	Overall	.20			7.53	.001
related	Self-efficacy for healthy		57	.06	10.82	.001
hunger	eating					
	Perceived responsibility		29	.06	9.80	.002
	Child's gender		.50	.03	3.88	.05
	Mom eating related to hunger		.77	.06	8.94	.003
	Child's age		.37	.03	4.62	.033
	Mom eating style		.50	.02	4.12	.044



Conclusion

- Many children and mothers do not meet the recommended dietary intake and physical activity.
- Maternal health-related behavior and attitudes regarding feeding practices and self-efficacy are associated with their child's health-related behaviors including physical activity, sedentary activity, and eating behaviors.
- The influence of maternal behaviors and attitudes are domain specific.



Limitations

- Cross-sectional design
- Self-report on parental weight, height and waist circumference
- One geographical location
- High parental education level



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- Central South University
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- Chen Thapar Family













