

Encouraging Healthy Active Living for Families

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The Institute serves as a translational engine for pediatric obesity prevention, assessment, management and treatment; and moves policy and research from theory into practice in American healthcare, communities, and homes.

Mission

The Institute will empower pediatricians, families and children to:

- Better prevent, assess and treat obesity and its comorbidities;
- Enhance partnerships with families to find and navigate individual pathways to healthy active living; and
- Catalyze stakeholders and communities to build and enhance capacity for healthy active living.



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Priority Focus Areas

Optimizing Health Care

Engaging Parents/Families

Catalyzing Communities

1

Early Obesity Prevention

Potential Targets:

- Parent Skill Building
- Consistency in Messaging

Throughout all endeavors leverage/consider: technology, systematic approaches, data collection/evaluation, and advocacy

2

Treatment

Potential Target:

• Transformation of Primary Care

Today's Discussion

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- Importance of early obesity prevention
- Healthy Active Living for Families Project
- Additional early obesity prevention work

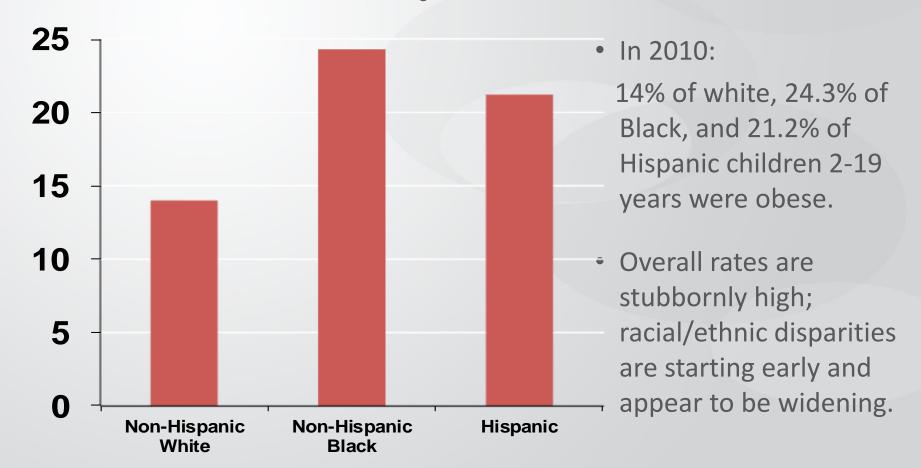


Obesity in Young Children

What are the numbers at the national level?

- Almost 10 percent of infants and toddlers have high weights for length.
- Slightly over 20 percent of children aged 2 to 5 are overweight or obese.
- Approximately one in five children is already carrying excess weight as he or she enters kindergarten.

Obesity Disproportionately Affects Minority Children



Ogden CL, et al. Prevalence and trends in overweight among US children and adolescents. 1999-2010. *JAMA*. 2012.

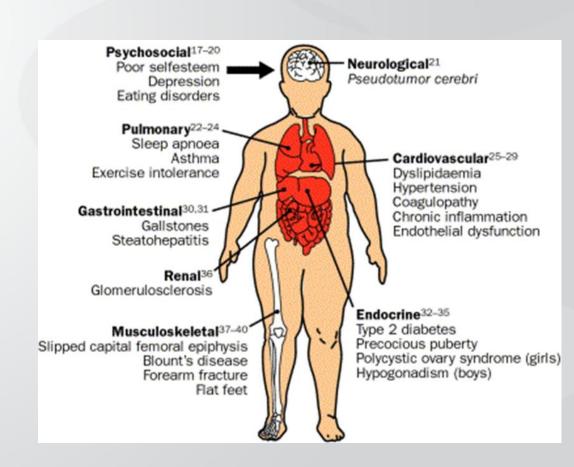
Did you know?

- Overweight preschoolers are more likely to become overweight and obese school students.
- 80% of obese adolescents become obese adults.

- More specifically by two years of age,
 - Children assume the eating practices of the family.
 - BMI is predictive of obesity in childhood and later life.

Why is this important?

- Type 2 diabetes
- Hypertension
- Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease
- Dyslipidemia
- Upper Airway Obstruction
- Sleep Apnea Syndrome
- Blount's Disease
- Polycystic ovary syndrome
- Obesity related emergencies



Psychological Impact

- Obese children:
 - have lower self-esteem;
 - o are more likely to be depressed;
 - o suffer from bullying and teasing; and
 - o have lower academic achievement.

Critical Period







Important Factors in the Onset of Obesity

- Maternal weight gain during pregnancy
- Rate of weight gain during infancy
- Breastfeeding
- Introduction of complementary foods
- Diet quantity and quality
- Parent feeding practices
- TV viewing time
- Physical activity
- Sleep routine
- Family meals





Introduction to the Healthy Active Living for Families (HALF) Project



HALF Focus Groups



What we learned: Parent's Perception

- Parents think obesity is a serious problem.
- However, it is not perceived as a problem in their family.
- Parents are receiving mixed messages about obesity.

What we learned: Parent's Preferences

- It is best to ask parents how they prefer to receive their health information
 - In general, it is best to present written health information that is plain language (low literacy, white space, visually appealing, minimal text).
 - Other possibilities parent groups, classes, websites, texting, peer mentoring

What factors <u>detracted</u> from message endorsement by parents?

- Use of "obesity" language, especially related to infants.
- Guidance focused on future outcomes.
- Limited knowledge of recommendations.
- Disconnect between guidance and personal experience.

What factors <u>contributed</u> to message endorsement by parents?



- Respect for the parent and his/her expertise
- Explanation of the "why" behind the recommendations
- Actionable strategies for implementation
- Tailored and personalized information

 Use of healthy active living, healthy habits, growing healthy and healthy weight instead of obesity and overweight.

Start today: Help your child stay at a healthy weight for life.

Yes, it's true! The first years set the stage for healthy habits for the rest of your child's life. It's never too early to start.

 Incorporating immediate outcomes and benefits in addition to future outcomes:

You've probably heard that breastfeeding is best for you and your baby. You may have even heard that breastfed babies get sick less often. But did you know that your baby will benefit from breast milk long after you've stopped nursing?

 Including the "why" to help increase knowledge and add value to statement:

Breast milk and formula are the best choices for your baby. When it's time for him to start using a cup (around 6 to 9 months), give him breast milk, formula, or water.

Soda pop and juice — even 100% fruit juice:

- Add unneeded calories to your baby's diet
- Get your baby used to very sweet, sugary flavors
- Can harm your baby's new teeth

Why: in simple & clear statements

 We incorporated real life experiences and strategies to address disconnect with real life experience:

"My baby is not sleeping well and I need some sleep too! My mom told me to put cereal in his bottle so that he will sleep all night. Is this a good idea?"

Parent 2 Parent

"When my first baby started eating solids, I fed him fruits first, which was a mistake. It was a struggle after that to get him to eat any veggies! With my second baby, we started with veggies and meat, and now she eats almost anything I give her."

Acknowledging their expertise and important role as a parent:

- Being a parent is an important and hard job!
- No one knows your child better than you, tell me a little bit about....

 Including realistic actionable strategies and try to meet parents where they are:

If TV time has gotten a bit out of control in your home, you are not alone! We understand that managing your kids' TV time can be a struggle. Even if you can't cut out TV completely, cutting back on TV will help. Try to limit TV to no more than 2 hours in a day.

- O Skip the ads. Watch TV shows on DVDs or TV On Demand. Shows with lots of ads for unhealthy foods make it harder for your child to learn to make healthy food choices.
- o Try turning off the TV during mealtime, playtime, bath time, and bedtime.
- Watching TV will not help your child fall or stay asleep. It is best to keep the TV out of your child's bedroom so she can get the best rest possible.

- Acknowledge real life experiences and varying sources of information/inputs:
 - Being a working mom is not easy and can be tiring,
 sometimes it can be really hard to ...
 - Grandparents love your baby/child and love to share advice, sometimes it is hard to sort through all the information ...
 - Many cultures have wonderful traditions and sometimes it is hard to figure out how to ...

It is most important to:

- Listen to family.
- Personalize and customize information to their child and family experiences and needs.



Resulting Resources www.healthychildren.org/growinghealthy



Resulting Resources www.aap.org/HALFIG

Healthy Beverages:

Choose milk or water for your child's beverage

click to hide information

For information -> [9











Conversation Starters

Tell me a little bit more about what your child ate and drank yesterday and the day before?

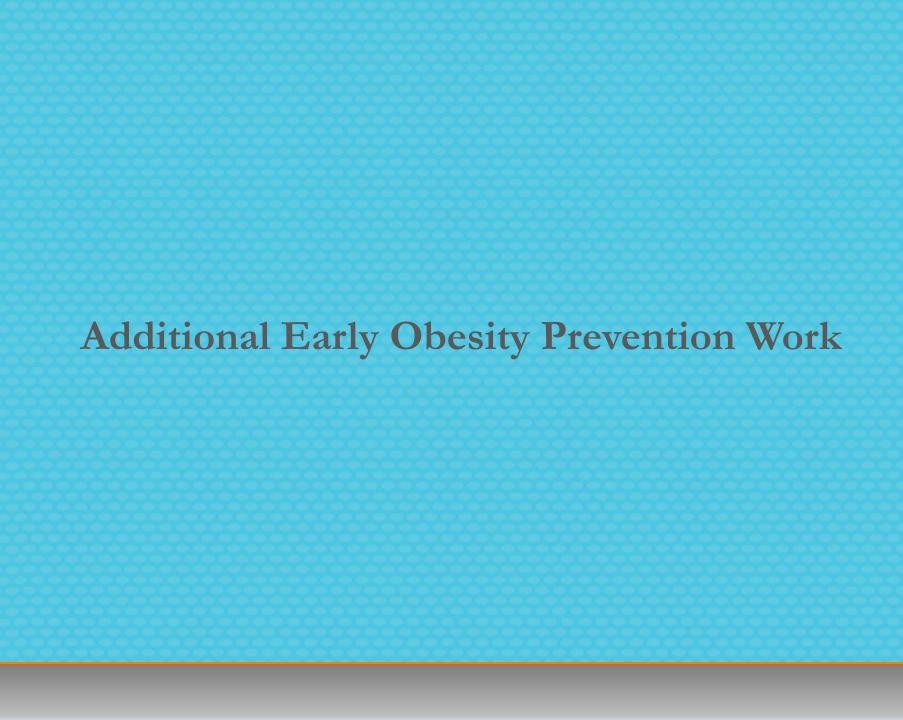
What is your child's favorite drink?

What kind of beverages is your child drinking between and with meals?



Can you tell me what happens when you try to set limits on sugared beverage consumption?

What are your feelings about juice?



Partnership with the Head Start National Center on Health





GROWING HEALTHY: TODDLERS (1-3 Years)

FEEDING TODDLERS IN A HEALTHY WAY

Why Is This Important?

- Many parents know what foods are healthy but they may have difficulty feeding children in a health way due to food insecurity, lack of confidence with meal prep or questions about portion sizes and anacks.
- Picky eating frustrates and discourages so many parents!
- Many parents find it hard to set limits on sugary beverages, including juice. Some parents view juice as a way to provide their toddler with the recommended servings of fruit/ vegetables. Even 100% fruit juice has sugar that can damage teeth.

Talking Points About Healthy Eating

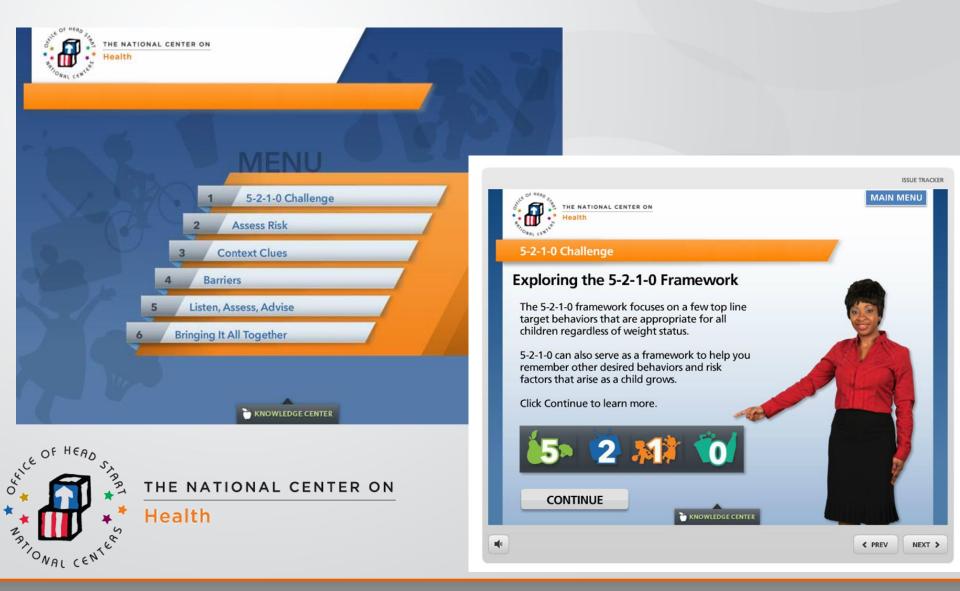
- Serving sizes for toddlers are very small. A serving size of veggies is only 1–2 tablespoons, about the size of a quarter.
- Lots of parents say their child is picky, especially when it comes to new foods or eating fruits and vegetables. You are not alone!
- Did you know that a young child might need to try a new food 10–15 times over several months before she'll set it?
- If possible, give your toddler a couple healthy choices at mealtimes but let her decide when and how much to eat.

Talking Points About Healthy Beverages

- Water and low-fat milk are the best beverage choices for your toddler. Toddlers never need soda pop or sports drinks.
- Toddlers need about 3 servings (1/2 cup for this age) of milk each day.
- Skip the juice and stick with water. Sometimes young children fill up on juice and then don't want to get healthing foods.
- Try letting your child pick out a favorite, special cup for water only.
- If you choose to give other drinks, limit it to 4–6 ounces a day of 100% juice or low-fat, low-sugar, flavored milk.



Online Module



Healthy Active Living Grants

- Partnering AAP chapters, pediatric residency programs, and community-based organizations
- Focus of grants:
 - Physical Activity promotion for children birth 5
 - Parenting skill around early obesity prevention



MetLife Foundation

Policy Roundtable Series

- Purpose: Help to align diverse stakeholders around a P-5 obesity prevention policy agenda to improve maternal and young child nutrition and physical activity in the U.S., especially among at-risk populations.
- Goal: Identify and prioritize the most strategic and impactful obesity prevention policy opportunities in the window between pregnancy and a child's fifth birthday (P-5)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Partnerships in Early Prevention





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