

439 OUTCOME OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTION ON DROP-OUT RATE DUE TO PREGNANCY AMONG RURAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN SW NIGERIA

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Background and Aims In Nigeria, many in-school adolescents engage in risky sexual behaviour, which predisposes them to social and health consequences, including unwanted pregnancy, school drop-out, STIs and HIV/AIDS. This study addressed drop-out rate due to pregnancy among female high school students in rural SW Nigeria.

Methods The study utilized quasi-experimental design which consisted of four experimental schools in one rural local Government Area (LGA) and four control schools in another rural LGA which were randomly selected from the 30 existing LGAs in Osun State (One of the six states in SW Nigeria). The experimental schools received the intervention strategies (reproductive health educational messages including contraceptive services) while the control ones did not.

The intervention strategies were implemented for two and half school calendar terms (a calendar term in Nigeria lasts approximately thirteen weeks), from November 2008 to June, 2009. Drop-out rate due to pregnancy were collected in both groups at pre- and post- intervention using school attendance records and home visits.

Results The results showed a sharp reduction in the average proportion of students who dropped out due to pregnancy in all the intervention schools compared with the control group which recorded a slight change. The change was from 57.3% to 26.2% in the intervention group, while the control was from 64.5% to 55.0%.

Conclusions The study showed that the intervention strategies had an impact on reduction of school drop-out rate due to pregnancy.

440 LINGUISTIC ACCULTURATION AND PARENTAL MONITORING ON THE SUBSTANCE USE OF MEXICAN-HERITAGE ADOLESCENTS IN PREDOMINANTLY MEXICAN ENCLAVES OF THE SOUTHWEST US

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The present study, from an ecological perspective, examines the relationship of linguistic acculturation and perceived parental monitoring of the adolescent's behaviors as predictors of youth substance use.

Methods The data are drawn from a longitudinal study of the effectiveness of a Parent Education supplement called "Families: Preparing the New Generation." This supplement was designed to increase the efficacy of the established *keepin' it REAL* primary prevention intervention in reducing substance use among adolescents. Data were drawn from the pre-intervention Wave 1 assessment of 388 youths (189 boys, 204 girls) 7th grade participants who were recruited from nine middle schools, and youths who reside within two school districts that are densely populated with Mexican heritage youths.

Results: In general, greater perceived parental monitoring did significantly predict a lower likelihood (frequency) of substance use both for boys and girls. Furthermore, among boys, there was a significant acculturation by parental monitoring interaction effect which predicted lifetime use of alcohol. Among boys relative to girls, the effects of parental monitoring were more pronounced in terms of lower levels of alcohol use, among the most highly

acculturated boys. Results are discussed in terms of how levels of acculturation impact family processes and the drug use behaviors of Mexican-heritage adolescents who live primarily within Mexican enclaves (barrios) and who attend schools that have a high proportion of Mexican heritage youths. The present findings are also discussed in terms of the interface of community-based prevention with pediatrics as a means to enhance the overall adolescent health outcomes.

441 IMPACT OF OBESITY ON BONE MINERAL CONTENT AND DENSITY IN A GROUP OF EGYPTIAN ADOLESCENT GIRLS

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Recent studies suggest conflicting findings regarding association between obesity and adolescent bone mineral content (BMC) and bone mineral density (BMD).

Aim To determine the impact of being obese on whole-body (WB) BMC and BMD in a group of Egyptian adolescent girls.

Methods Study included 35 obese adolescent girls (13.5±1.8 years) with body mass index (BMI) ≥ 95th percentile and 35 maturation-matched (14.4±1.7 years) controls with BMI 15th - 85th percentile for age and gender. Bone mineral areas (BMA), BMC, BMD at the WB and body composition (lean mass, fat mass and fat %) were assessed by dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA). Calculations of the BMC/height ratio and bone mineral apparent density (BMAD) were computed for the WB.

Results BMD, BMC, BMAD and BMC/height ratio were highly significant higher in obese adolescent girls compared to controls. Body weight, height, BMI, lean mass, fat mass and fat% had highly significant positive correlations with BMD, BMC, BMAD and BMC/height ratio. BMA had highly significant positive correlations only with weight, height, lean and fat mass. After adjusting for either body weight or total fat mass, BMD, BMC, BMAD, BMC/height and even BMA became highly significant higher in control than obese girls. After adjusting for total lean mass, the same was observed but the differences were only highly significant between the two groups in BMC and BMA.

Conclusion This study suggests that there is positive effect of obesity on BMC, BMD, BMAD and BMC/height ratio due to body weight, while obesity has no effect on BMA.

442 RESILIENCE AS A WAY TO COPE WITH BULLYING IN BRAZILIAN VULNERABLE STUDENTS

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Bullying is an intentional aggressive behavior, involving imbalance of power. Bullied children are at risk for chronic multiple risks, social, emotional, and behavioral problems. Resilience is a positive predisposition towards difficulties, despite adverse experiences. It strengthens self esteem and empowers students to face adversities.

The main goal of this research was creating safer learning environment for students. Specific objectives were detecting bullying incidence in Brazilian schools, teachers' reaction to the aggressions and implement anti bullying programs, based on encouraging resilience in children.

255 children and teenagers, from both sexes, from public and private schools (8-16 years old) and 10 teachers filled a Bullying and Resilience Questionnaire. Discussions between teachers and students started activities designed to promote participants' resiliency skills, reduce bullying behavior and create safer classroom environments.