

Impact of a comprehensive multi-component health literacy module on dietary and physical activity patterns of adolescents studying in schools of Delhi, India

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Propositions

Impact of a comprehensive multi-component health literacy module on dietary and physical activity patterns of adolescents studying in schools of Delhi, India

- 1. Weight problems are common amongst Indian urban adolescents, and their knowledge of dietary and physical activity behaviours is low. (*This thesis*)
- 2. Unhealthy diet and physical inactivity among adolescents worsened during the COVID-19 lockdown and were associated with sociodemographic characteristics, including parents' education and occupation. (*This thesis*)
- 3. A comprehensive theory-based intervention comprised of audio-video films showed positive effects on school-going adolescents' diet and physical activity-related knowledge and behaviours. (*This thesis*)
- 4. Both audio-visual films with messages from endocrinologists aimed at teachers and films with an animation component for school-age adolescents can reinforce preventive messages and improve unhealthy lifestyles (*This thesis*).
- 5. The relationship of lifestyle-related diseases and associated risk factors is complex. Evidencebased intervention along with strengthening of policies are effective for fostering a healthy school environment.
- 6. By further exploring the implementation of the intervention in times of non-COVID-19, a more efficient impact on nutrition and physical activity-related behaviour of school-aged adolescents can be achieved.
- "Beginning nutrition education in early childhood is an important part of helping to ensure that children will achieve healthful lifestyles." – Robert Earl
- "Children are like wet cement. Whatever falls on them makes an impression".
 Dr. Hiam Ginnot

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Maastricht, March 2023