

The STRONG Kids Initiative: A Cells to Society Perspective on the Early Determinants of Childhood Obesity

Presentation for the Early Childhood Working Group

November 19, 2018

Brent A. McBride, PhD

Department of Human Development and Family Studies

Division of Nutritional Sciences



College of Agricultural, Consumer
& Environmental Sciences

Overview of Presentation

- How I became an obesity researcher
- Overview of the **STRONG Kids** Research Team
- Overview – 6-Cs model of the determinants of early childhood obesity
- Overview – SK I longitudinal Study
- Overview of SK II Birth Cohort Study
- Questions





Pour Some Sugar On Me:

Children, Television, and Nutrition

Kristen Harrison
Dept of Speech Communication
University of Illinois



Synergistic Theory and Research on Obesity and Nutrition Group STRONG Kids

I ILLINOIS

College of Agricultural, Consumer
& Environmental Sciences

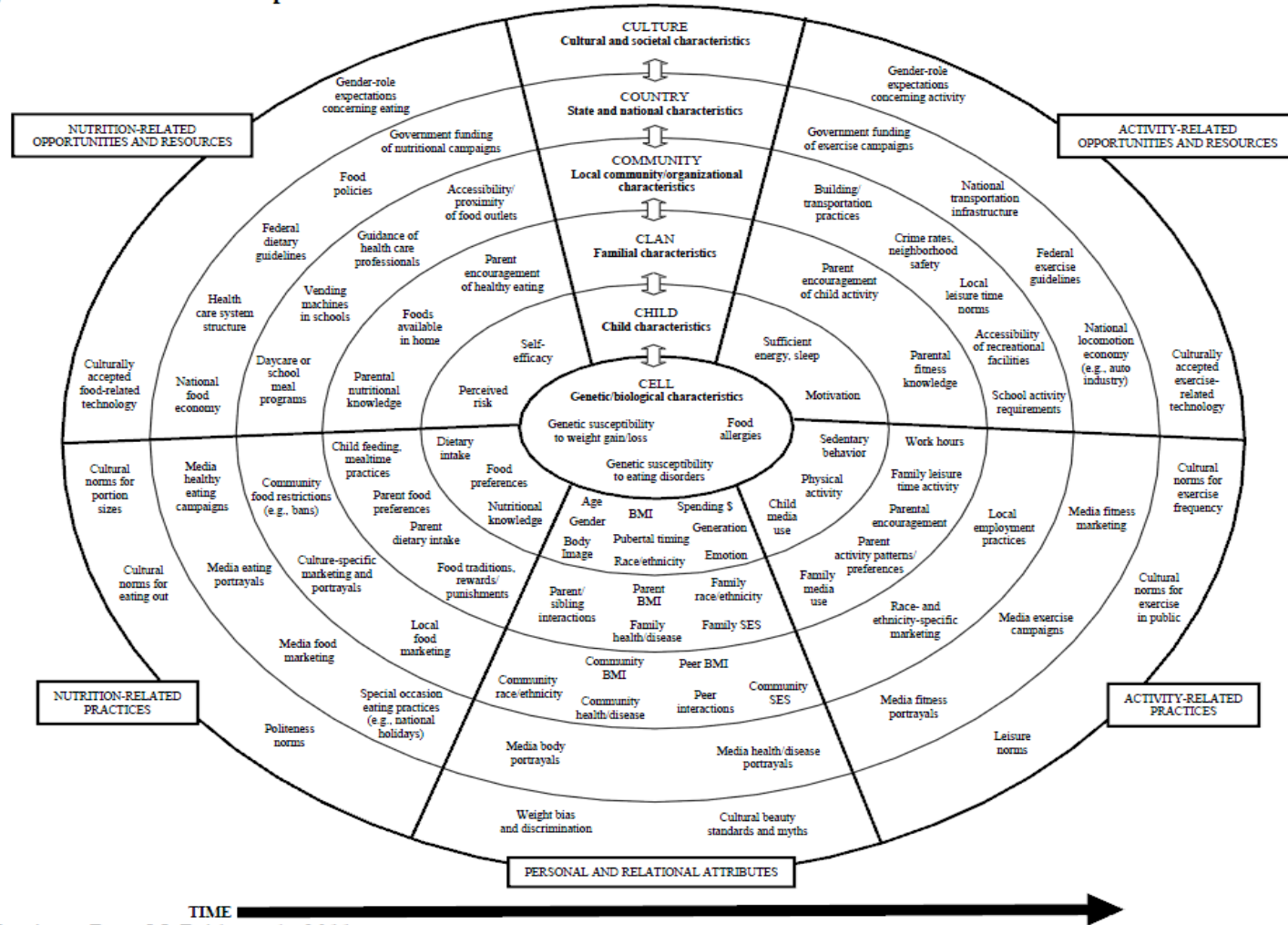
STRONG Kids Research Team

- Multiple disciplines represented
- Transdisciplinary team
- Multiple research paradigms represented
- Emphasis on combining research and education efforts
- SK 1 and SK 2



6-Cs Model – Determinant of Childhood Obesity

Figure 1. The Six-C's Developmental Model



STRONG Kids I Longitudinal Study

- 300+ children aged 2
 - 36 centers in East Central Illinois
 - Yearly data collection
- Followed Children 3 years
 - Anthropometric data each year
 - BMI
 - Saliva samples – genetic markers
- Focus – teachers in centers
 - Dr. Dev's dissertation data from these teachers



New Initiative **STRONG Kids II**

I ILLINOIS
Family Resiliency Center
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

- Birth cohort study
- Focus – intersect of biology and family environments in promoting healthy eating habits
- Multiple data collection points
- Extensive data collection
- Naturally occurring experiment – intent to breast feed during the first year of life



Preliminary Findings – SK II Data

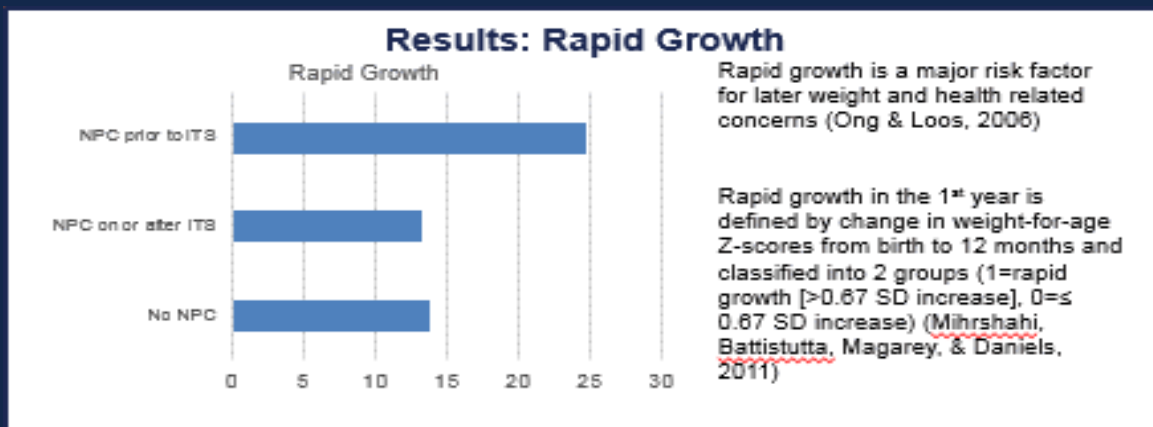
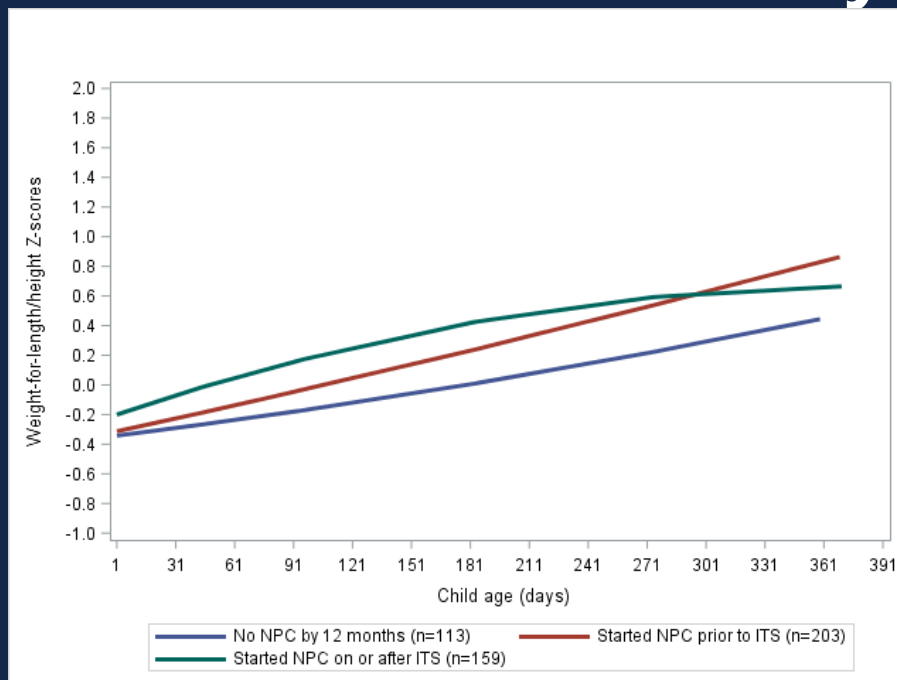
Early Childcare Attendance as a Risk Factor for Later Childhood Obesity

- Mixed results – early childcare attendance & later obesity
- SK2 Participants – 3 groups
- Growth curves calculated
- Significant findings
- Troublesome results



Preliminary Findings – SK Data

Early Childcare Attendance as a Risk Factor for Later Childhood Obesity



Funding Partners



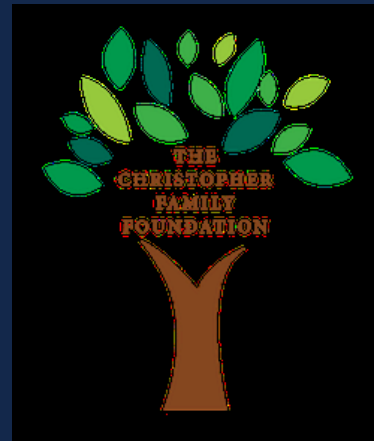
I ILLINOIS

Office of the Vice Chancellor
for Research



I ILLINOIS

College of Agricultural, Consumer
& Environmental Sciences



NDRI

National Dairy
Research Institute

aglaem.com



Challenge for Early Childhood Working Group

Break Down Silo Approach
- Research, policy and practice



Questions

