

# Structural Racism and the Obesity Epidemic in Black Youth

Eleanor Mackey, Ph.D. & Elizabeth Getzoff Testa, Ph.D.

#### **Overview**

Intro: who, where, and interests (clinical, research, policy, etc.)



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Raising Kids in a "Cultural Blind Spot" from David Katz

AHA's Laurie Whitsel on Heart Disease Prevention in Children

Development and Validation of the Childhood Obesity Prevention Self-Efficacy Survey

The Relationship between Dietary Patterns, BMI, and Household Food Security in Young Urban Children

Evaluation of a Primary Care Intervention on BMI

Maternal vs. Young Children's Determination of Child Fullness

Effects of a Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy-Based Immersion Program

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. 2 publishers



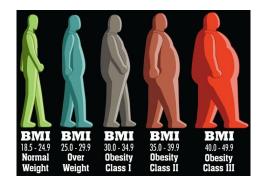


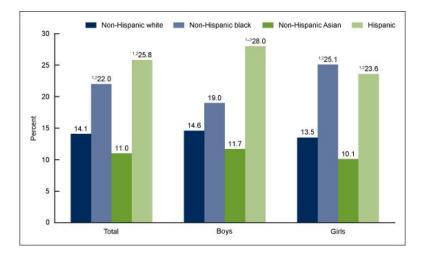


# **Obesity Epidemic**

The most common disease of childhood

- Estimated at 11.2 million
- By 2030, 33% of children and 50% of adolescents affected
- Severe obesity is the fastest growing category





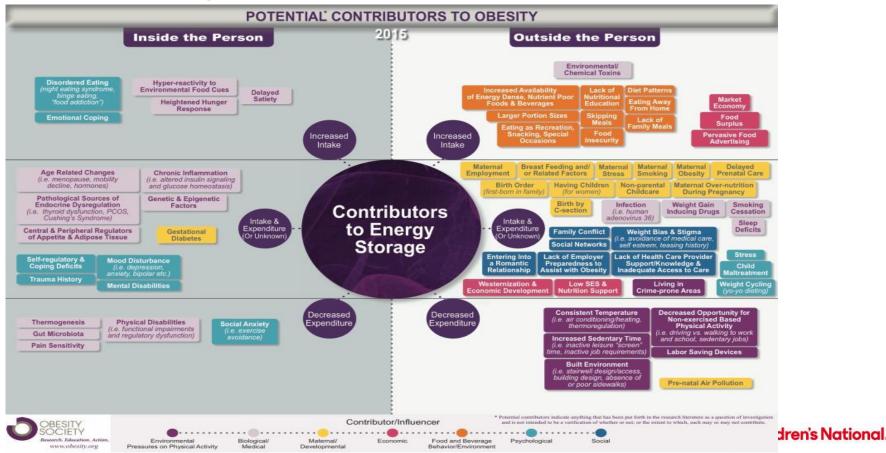
CDC Data Brief No 288, Oct 2017

Wang, Beydoun, Min et al. (2020). Has the prevalence of overweight, obesity and central obesity levelled off in the United States? Trends, patterns, disparities, and future projections for the obesity epidemic. International J of Epidemiology, 49(3).





### Tip of the Iceberg



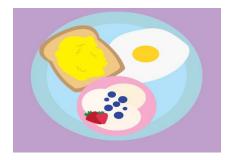
# **Traditional Pediatric Obesity Treatment Recs**

 Table 2. Expert Committee Recommendations for Staged Obesity Treatment

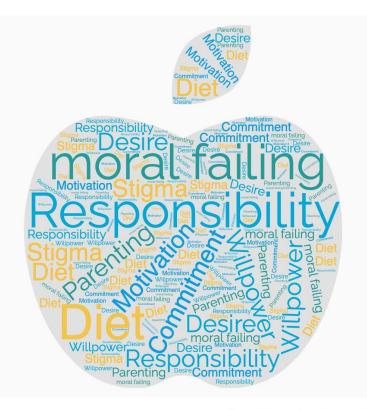
Stage 1 Prevention Plus	<ul> <li>Focus on healthy lifestyle habits to improve BMI</li> <li>Motivational interviewing and frequent follow-up</li> <li>Advance to Stage 2 if no improvement after 3-6 months</li> </ul>
Stage 2 Structured Weight Management	<ul> <li>Increased support and structure to achieve healthy lifestyle habits</li> <li>Specific goals with reinforcement of targeted behavior</li> <li>Monthly follow-up</li> </ul>
Stage 3 Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Intervention	<ul> <li>Increased intervention intensity with maximal support for behavioral changes</li> <li>Multidisciplinary approach including health provider, behavioral counselor, registered dietician and exercise specialist</li> <li>Weekly visits initially</li> </ul>
Stage 4 Tertiary Care Intervention	<ul> <li>Designed for those with severe obesity who fail to improve following successful intervention of initial stages</li> <li>Includes consideration of pharmacologic interventions, restriction diets and weight control surgery</li> </ul>

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# Focus on the Individual









# Case 1

4 yo Black identifying male on medical assistance Anthropometrics:

- Height: 114 cm (45 in)
- Weight: 40 kg (88lb)
- BMI: 31

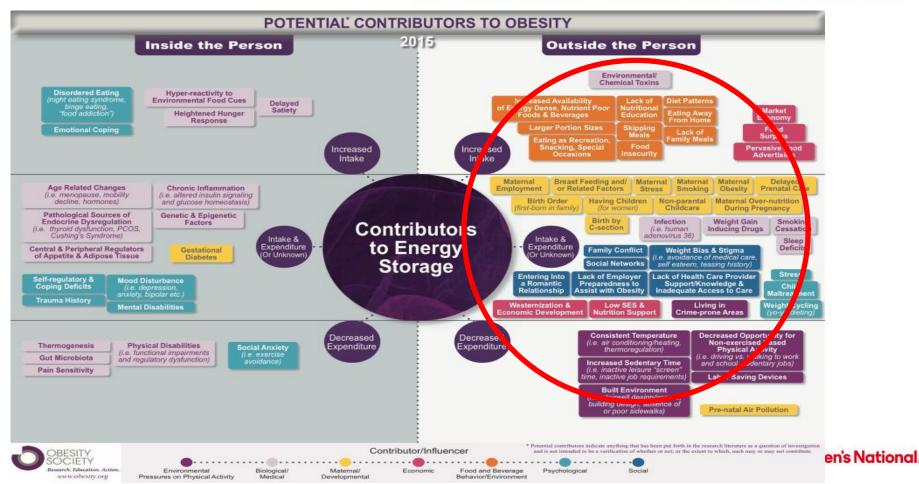
OSA (CPAP noncompliant), acanthosis, ASD

Mom describes her child as a picky eater who does not eat a lot - typical foods: oatmeal, Chef Boyardee, mac & cheese cups, almond milk (lactose intolerance). Has meltdowns when he does not get the food he wants Not very active – starts breathing heavily with little movement; legs bow out when he stands

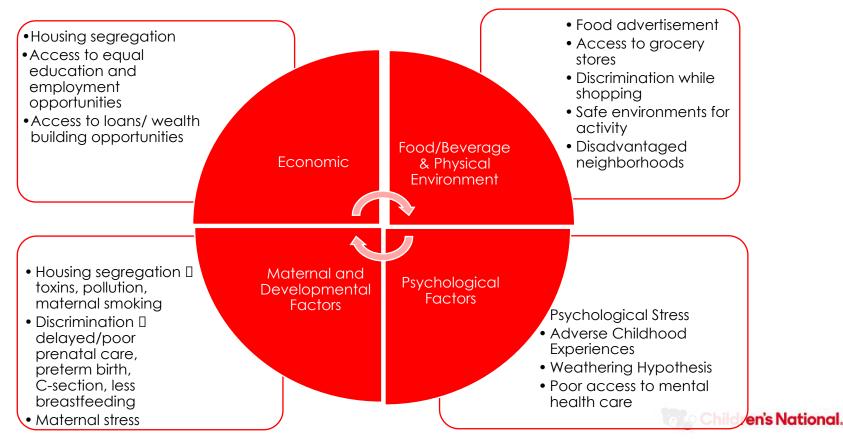
Family believes he will "grow out of it - he's big boned"

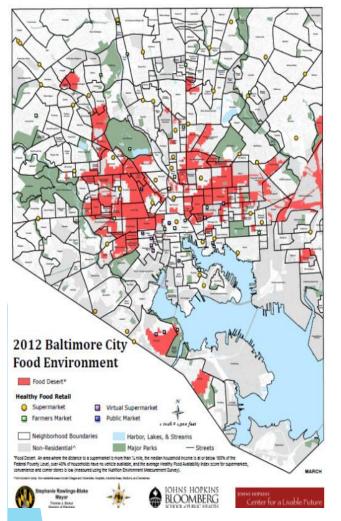


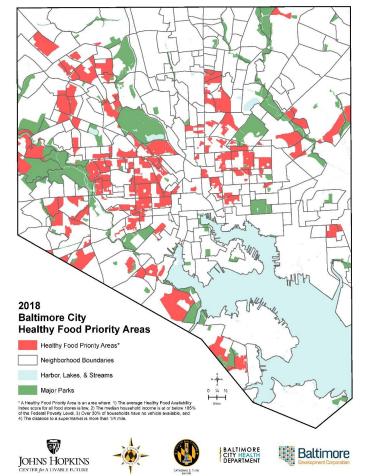
#### **Outside of the Person Contributors**



#### **Structural Racism and Obesity**







# Assess for Social Determinants of Health

#### WE CARE Survey

#### DECLINED 🗖

We want to make sure that you know about the community resources that are available to you and your family. Many of these resources are free of charge. Please answer each question and hand it to your child's doctor at the beginning of the visit. Thank you!

Place patient sticker here, or write in:

Name: DOB:

Visit date:

sit. Thank	you!				
6	Do you need childcare for your ch	nild?	Yes	No	Maybe
$\sim$	YES		Silement 21		Later
(*)	If YES, would you like help find	ing it?			
9	NO				
	Do you have a full-time job?				
$\sim$					
(â)				No	Maybe
S					Later
	If NO, would you like help findi	ng employment?			
	Do you think you are at risk of be	coming homeless?	Yes	No	Maybe
$\sim$	YES			_	Later
(4)	If YES, would you like help with	this?			
U	NO				
	Do you always have enough food	for your family?			
$\sim$	YES				
( <b>ě</b> )			Yes	No	Maybe
0	NO	1	_		Later
	If NO, would you like help with the	nis?			
	Do you have a high school degree	?			
$\sim$	YES				
(=)	►)   □			No	Maybe
-	NO				Later
	If NO, would you like help to ge	et a GED?			
	Do you have trouble paying your h	neating/cooling, water or			
electricity bill?		16886 - 16 <del>7</del> 61	Yes	No	Maybe
$(\Omega)$	YES If YES, would you like help with this?		_	_	Later
U					
	NO				
******	FOR F				
If a parent I	has needs and wants help, please give the	Please check off below if you provided and/or referral(s) for the following need		normatio	n sneet(s)
appropriate WE CARE information sheet(s) from your Childcare Housing			Education	1	
practice's Family Resource Book. 1 screener per family. Employment Food				Utilities	
store copy	in patient EMR or chart.	Referral provided by:  Provider		urse 🗆 I	Other
					in Gara. MD. I

Children's National.

# Learn

Anti-racism Daily emails have learning and action items

Learn about anti-oppression <u>https://black-butterfly-academy.teachable.com/</u>

Implicit bias training and awareness



# Action

Policy and structural changes

- Built environment
- Housing desegregation
- Focus on health of marginalized communities
- Black maternal health
- Improved access to food
- Improved access to quality health/mental health care

Be an advocate

- Momnibus Bill
- Know your own community



# **Local action**

Social Care Network - national resource to find supports <a href="https://www.findhelp.org/">https://www.findhelp.org/</a>

American Academy of Family Physicans - EveryONE Project https://www.aafp.org/family-physician/patient-care/the-everyone-project/neighb orhood-navigator.html

Involvement of Black communities in policy making Trauma Informed Care Taskforce <u>https://health.baltimorecity.gov/trauma-informed-care</u>

Community organizations that are doing the work <a href="https://www.buildiaf.org/">https://www.buildiaf.org/</a>

Urban farming



# Action to take

Institutional support for and destigmatization of obesity treatment across debts

Access to all treatments (e.g., bariatric surgery)

Implicit bias training and awareness

Acknowledgement of racism's role in obesity

Addressing racial trauma

Delivery of interventions in accessible spaces



# Now how would treat? What would we change? What policies or research do we did to add?

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Expert Committee Recommendations Regarding the Prevention, Assessment and Treatment of Child and Adolescent Obesity. Pediatrics,				

Dec. 2007

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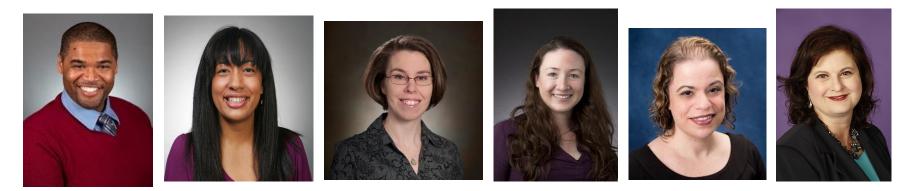
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# **Acknowledgments**

**Co-first author:** E. Thomaseo Burton, Ph.D. (Le Bonheur Children's Hospital) **Senior author:** Amy R. Beck, Ph.D. (Children's Mercy Hospital)

**Co-authors:** Adelle Cadieux, Psy.D. (Helen DeVos Children's Hospital), Elizabeth Getzoff, Ph.D. (Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital), Melissa Santos, Ph.D. (Connecticut Children's Hospital), Wendy Ward, Ph.D. (University of Arkansas Medical Center)





# **Thank You!**

