

June 2023 State-of-the-Science Speaker Bios

Title: Putting into Practice the New AAP Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) to Treat Child Obesity

Description: This presentation will provide a brief overview of the new AAP Clinical Practice Guidelines on the treatment of childhood obesity. Gaps in evidence will be highlighted.

Speaker bio:

Amanda Staiano, Ph.D., M.P.P., M.S., is associate professor and director of the Pediatric Obesity & Health Behavior Laboratory at LSU's Pennington Biomedical Research Center. She earned her doctorate in developmental psychology and Master of Public Policy at Georgetown University, followed by a Master of Science in Clinical Research at Tulane University. Her primary interest is developing and testing family-based healthy lifestyle interventions that utilize innovative technology to decrease pediatric obesity and its comorbidities. Her research has involved more than 2,500 children and adolescents, including randomized controlled trials and prospective cohorts, to examine the influence of physical activity and sedentary behavior on body composition and cardiometabolic risk factors. She served as co-author on the clinical practice guidelines committee on child obesity treatment for the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Title: Utilization of the CDC Extended BMI-for-Age Growth Charts

Description: This presentation will give a primer to describe the Extended BMI-for-age growth charts, as well as highlight areas that need further clinical and research attention. Myths and misconceptions will be addressed.

Speaker Bio:

Alyson Goodman, M.D., M.P.H. is a board-certified pediatrician and medical epidemiologist in the Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, & Obesity at CDC, and a Commander in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. Dr. Goodman's role as lead of the Population Health & Healthcare Team includes improving access and uptake of evidence-based interventions for child obesity prevention & treatment, and a robust informatics and health services research portfolio.

Title: Integrating Obesity Treatment and Prevention

Description: The focus of this discussion will be the need to consider obesity prevention and treatment together when considering comprehensive approaches to obesity and related chronic diseases.

Speaker bio:

Jason Block, M.D., M.P.H. is the Director of Research and an Associate Professor in the Department of Population Medicine at Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute and Harvard Medical School. He is also a practicing general internal medicine physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital. His primary research interests are the evaluation of governmental and institutional nutritional policies, the clinical epidemiology of obesity and related chronic diseases, and surveillance of chronic disease and infectious disease using electronic health records. He has served as a Senior Advisor in the Assistant Secretary for Health's Office at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.