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## Abstract

Adolescence is a critical period for the development of obesity. Youth with disabilities, in particular, are especially vulnerable as many environmental and physical barriers often undermine their health, well-being, and participation in life activities. Despite the significantly higher rate of obesity among youth with disabilities compared to their peers, there is an absence of literature on the antecedents and consequences of obesity in this at-risk population. Understanding the antecedents and consequences associated with obesity can lead to better self-management skills for managing weight in adulthood.

In order to fill this void of information, we have developed a national, online survey for teens 12-18 years with physical or cognitive disabilities and their parents. The goal of this survey is to better understand the potential risks and consequences associated with overweight/obesity in adolescents with disabilities. The survey addresses environmental (e.g., sports opportunities in school and the community) and behavioral (e.g., sedentary activity and eating habits) factors in an adolescents' daily life, as well as his/her health conditions (e.g., secondary conditions, chronic conditions and mental health). In this presentation we will discuss the preliminary results of this ongoing survey.