Family Nutrition & Physical Activity

THE FNPA TOOL IS DESIGNED TO ALLOW YOU TO EVALUATE YOUR HOME ENVIRONMENT AND PARENTING PRACTICES RELATED TO YOUR CHILD'S RISK FOR OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY.

FOR	<b>EACH QUESTION,</b> PLEASE SELECT T	THE ANSWER THAT I	REST REDR	ESENTS VC	NIB CHILDA	/FAMII V
ron	EACH QUESTION, I LEASE SELECT I	IIL ANSWER IIIAI I	Almost	Some-	Usually	Almost
			Never	times	osaany	Always
1.	My child eats breakfast					
2.	Our family eats meals together					
3.	Our family eats while watching TV					
4.	Our family eats fast food					
5.	Our family uses microwave or ready to ear	t foods				
6.	My child eats fruits and vegetables at mea	lls or snacks				
7.	My child drinks soda pop or sugar drinks					
8.	My child drinks low fat milk at meals or sna	acks				
9.	Our family limits eating of chips, cookies, and candy					
10.	Our family uses candy as a reward for good	od behavior				
11.	My child spends less than 2 hours on TV/g	games/computer per day	у <u>П</u>			
12.	Our family limits the amount of TV our chil	d watches				
13.	Our family allows our child to watch TV in	their bedroom				
14.	Our family provides opportunities for physic	ical activity				
15.	Our family encourages our child to be active	ve every day				
16.	Our family finds ways to be physically active together					
17.	My child does physical activity during his/her free time					
18.	My child is enrolled in sports or activities with a coach or leader					
19.	Our family has a daily routine for our child	's bedtime				
20.	My child gets 9 hours of sleep a night					
Scori	ng: Add up scores for each scale (items	s should be scored 1.2	3.4 from lof	t to right ex	cont for item	s that are
	se coded (3,4,5,7,10, and 13), These sho					
Famil	y Meal Patterns	Item 1 +	Item 2		=	
	y Eating Habits	Item 3 +	Item 4		=	
	Choices	Item 5 +	Item 6		=	
	rage Choices	Item 7 +	Item 8		=	
	iction / Reward	Item 9 +	Item 10		=	
Scree	en time behavior and monitoring	Item 11 +	Item 12		=	
	hy Environment	Item 13 +			=	
Famil	y Activity Involvement	Item 15 +			=	
	Activity Involvement	Item 17 +				
	y Routine		Item 20		=	

**Total Score** 

# A HIGHER SCORE ON EACH ITEM IS CONSIDERED THE "HEALTHIER CHOICE". A LOW FNPA SCORE MAY INDICATE AN INCREASED RISK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OBESITY. RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR EACH QUESTION ARE OUTLINED BELOW.

# **Family Meals (Recommended Practice)**

It is important that children not skip breakfast as breakfast skipping has been linked to increased risk of overweight, particularly among older children and adolescents. Eating together as a family is also important for establishing positive family interactions related to eating.

# **Family Eating Practices (Recommended Practice)**

Regular consumption of food away from home, particularly at fast food establishments, has been associated with increased risk for overweight, especially among adolescents. It is harder to make healthier choices when eating out so reducing meals out can promote healthier eating. It is also important to not watch television while eating meals as this may cause children to eat too much or to eat less healthy foods.

#### Food Choices (Recommended Practice)

Prepackaged foods generally contain more fat and salt than freshly prepared meals, and dietary fat intake is associated with higher overweight levels in youth. Eating more fruits and vegetables reduces a child's risk for overweight. The effect may be direct or indirect (by reducing consumption of other foods).

# **Beverage Choices (Recommended Practice)**

Intake of sugar-sweetened beverages is related to increased risk of overweight in children. Studies also suggest that a child with a low intake of calcium may be at increased risk for becoming overweight.

### **Restriction/Reward (Recommended Practice)**

It is important that parents not restrict highly palatable foods (such as snack food and candy) as this promotes a child's desire for such forbidden foods. It is important to monitor consumption of foods (but not to restrict it) since moderate consumption lets children learn to regulate their behavior. Foods should generally not be used as rewards because it causes children to value these foods over other healthier options.

## **Screen Time and Monitoring (Recommended Practice)**

Excessive television viewing and video game use is associated with increased overweight in youth. Children should have 2 hours or less of screen time (television, video games, and computer time) per day. Parents should monitor and limit screen time.

#### **Healthy Environment (Recommended Practice)**

Creating a healthy environment is important for physical activity. Remove televisions from bedrooms is a good practice since it reduces likelihood of excess television viewing. Provide opportunities to be active.

#### Family Activity Behavior (Recommended Practice)

Parents are important role models for their children, so it is important to remind children about the importance of being physically active. By being active as a family you can help establish healthy lifestyle practices that promote and reinforce physical activity as a family value.

## **Child Activity Behavior (Recommended Practice)**

A child's participation in regular physical activity is associated with a reduced risk of overweight. Parents can plan activity into their day but kids may need reminders or specific opportunities to help them be active every day.

# Family Schedule/Sleep Routine (Recommended Practice)

It is important that a child has a daily routine or schedule for bedtime.

Research suggests that lack of sleep and irregular routines may increase a child's risk for overweight.