

Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series (KESS)

...is a forum that encourages debate on a wide range of research findings, with the overall aim of promoting evidence-based policy and law-making within Northern Ireland



Sit Less - Move More

Reducing sedentary behaviour to improve health

Professor Marie H Murphy

Centre for Physical Activity and Health Research Sport & Exercise Sciences Research Institute Ulster University

- Sedentary Behaviour vs Physical Inactivity
- Health effects of Sedentary Behaviour
- How sedentary are the population?
- Reducing / interrupting sedentary behaviour





Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour



"any waking activity characterized by an energy expenditure ≤ 1.5 metabolic equivalents *and* a sitting or reclining posture."







Opportunities for sitting engineered into modern life Work – Rest – Play – Transport



Dunstan et al. 2010 Too Much Sitting and Metabolic Risk-Has Modern Technology Caught Up with Us? European Endocrinology, Vol. 6, p. 20,

Dangers of prolonged sitting



http://www.juststand.org/

Sitting Time and All-Cause Mortality



Patel A V et al. (2010) Leisure time spent sitting in relation to total mortality in a prospective cohort of US adults. Am. J. Epidemiol. 2010;172:419-429

The UK Physical Activity Guidelines 2011



Department of Health (2011) Start active, stay active: a report on physical activity from the four home countries' Chief Medical Officers.

Available at http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_128209

Physical activity guidelines for adults



Adults should aim to be <u>active daily</u>. Over a week, activity should add up to at least 150 minutes $(2\frac{1}{2}$ hours) of moderate intensity activity in bouts of 10 <u>minutes or more</u> – one way to approach this is to do 30 minutes on at least 5 days a week.

Alternatively, <u>comparable benefits can be achieved</u> <u>through 75 minutes of vigorous intensity activity</u> spread across the week or a combination of moderate and vigorous intensity activity.

Adults should also undertake physical activity to improve muscle strength on at least two days a week.

All adults should <u>minimise the amount of time spent</u> <u>being sedentary</u> (sitting) for extended periods.





2018

4 CMOs Reviewing Physical Activity Guidelines Likely to include more specific recommendations on sedentary behaviour



Authorship of this paper is The Sedentary Behaviour and Obesity Expert Working Group: Professor Stuart Biddle, Loughborough University (Chair) Nick Cavil, Cavil Associates & University of Oxford Dr Ulf Ekalund, MRC Epidemiology Unit, Cambridge Dr Trish Goraly, Loughborough University Professor Mark Griffiths, Notingham Trent University Dr Russ Jago, University of Bristol Professor Jean-Michel Oppert, Pitie-Salpetriere Hospital, Paris, France Dr Monique Raats, University of Surrey Dr Jo Salmon, Deakin University, Australia Professor Gareth Stratton, Liverpool John Moores University Dr Germán Vicente-Rodríguez, University of Zaragoza, Spán Dr Bryony Butland, Cross Government Obesity Unit (Knowledge & Evidence) Liz Prosser, Cross Government Obesity Unit (Delivery Manager - Physical Activity) Dabra Richardson, Cross Government Obesity Unit (Programme Manager) (until Dec, 2009)

Report submitted: March 26, 2010

Biddle et al (2010) Sedentary Behaviour and Obesity: Review of the Current Scientific Evidence

http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/

Sedentary Behaviour in NI Primary School Children

by Lynda Hegarty, PhD Researcher, School of Sport

Study 1: Measured amount of time primary school children, their teachers and parents spent sitting in school

Key finding: Children spent 9.6 hours per day sitting – more time sitting than their teachers and parents.

Study 2: Intervention currently being designed to help reduce sitting time of children during school.















UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

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Physical Activity & Sedentary Behaviour

- **Online Survey** n=9197 in 31 higher education institutions
- Classroom-administered survey of a representative sample of students
- **Physical Activity**
- 66.7% of students (73% M, 60% F) meeting current PA guidelines

Time spent sitting

- 71% of students report sitting >7h per day on weekdays
- 56% of students report sitting >7h per day on weekend
- No difference by gender





Stierlin et al. International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (2015) 12:133 DOI 10.1186/s12966-015-0291-4







Correlates of Sedentary Behaviour

Children

- •Age
- Family TV viewing
- •Low SEC
- •Playground density
- Facility/equipment
- •Eating in front of TV

Adults

- •Age
- •Female
- Low physical activity
- Smoking
- Mobile phone use
- Access to green spaces
- Living in rural area

Older Adults

- •Age
- Education
- Unemployment
- Retirement
- Loneliness
- •Obesity
- Ill health

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Ulster

Changing behaviour







V

Ulster University



Digital interventions to reduce sedentary behaviour in the workplace Aoife Stephenson, PhD researcher



- Systematic review and meta-analysis
- Focus Groups (Public/Private employees and employers)
- Intervention and App development
- Feasibility Trial and Process Evaluation

Stephenson, A, McDonough, SM, Murphy, MH, Nugent, Chris and Mair, JL. (2017)<u>Using computer, mobile and</u> wearable technology enhanced interventions to reduce sedentary behaviour: a systematic review and metaanalysis. International Journal of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity, 14 105





Self reporting and feedback

Goal Setting

Prompts to break sitting

Educational "Factoid"



Queen's University Belfast









Environments /Settings

- •Nurseries, Crèches and Childcare facilities
- Primary and Secondary Schools
- •Further and Higher Education
- •Workplaces- including public and private sector
- Residential Care Homes





Changing sedentary behaviour culture

- Height adjustable workstations
- Breaks in school sitting
- Healthy meetings
 - encouraging breaks in sitting
 - normalise standing / moving





Healthy Meetings



Scottish Cancer Prevention Network

Directions to the meeting promoting ACTIVE travel

- Prior to the meeting, provide directions for the best walking and cycling routes
 - Indicate the nearest bike racks
 - Give walking directions from public transport

Opportunities for hourly, brief "comfort breaks" (for stretching and standing etc)

Use natural breaks between agenda items or presentations

Chair encouragement to move, stand and/or stretch during the meeting

Most rooms allow people to stand at the side without causing a disruption or blocking views
Encourage the chairperson to lead by example
Be sensitive to ability and disability level

Healthy Meetings

Please be upstanding!



This meeting is standing friendly. Please feel free to take standing and stretch breaks at the back of the room and break up that sedentary time!



#HealthyMeetings

3 take home messages

- Even for those meeting physical activity guidelines- prolonged uninterrupted sitting produces physiological changes which over time can damage health
- High proportions of the population spend too much time sitting during transport, work, school, college and in their leisure time
- Changing sedentary behaviour requires efforts at individual, interpersonal, environmental and policy levels including a culture change to make standing or breaking up sitting a normal part of the school/work day.





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