

Title: Impact of low maternal education on early childhood overweight and obesity in Europe

Tables and Figures

Table 1 – Study Characteristics of European Mother-Child Cohort Samples	1
Table 2 – Prevalence of Early Childhood Overweight by Mother’s Educational Level in 11 European Birth Cohorts, by Gender.....	2
Figure 1 – Forest Plot of Combined a) RII and b) SII Analyses of Early Childhood Overweight Risk in Europe, by Gender	3

Table 1 – Study Characteristics of European Mother-Child Cohort Samples

Country ^a	IT	ES	PT	UK	SE	FR	NL	CZ	UA	GR	FI
Birth cohort	GASPII	INMA	G21	MCS	ABIS	EDEN	ABCD	ELSPAC	FCOU	GBC	NFBC8586
Year(s) of birth	2003/ 2004	1997/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2001/ 2002	1997/ 1999	2003/ 2006	2003/ 2004	1991/ 1992	1993/ 1996	1983	1985/ 1986
N of children at ages 4-7 ^b	543	1726	5686	14186	6494	1139	3245	3665	925	1843	5961
Maternal characteristics at childbirth											
Educational classification (ISCED), % ^c											
High	27.5	22.5	16.2	21.4	29.7	57.0	46.7	27.8	33.6	11.0	18.2
Medium	49.6	34.9	23.2	42.9	24.4	34.6	29.8	40.4	62.2	20.7	50.9
Low	23.0	42.6	60.6	35.7	45.9	8.4	23.5	31.8	4.2	68.3	30.9
Mean age (years), (SD)	33.2 (4.3)	31.7 (4.1)	29.5 (5.4)	29.2 (5.7)	30.6 (4.5)	30.1 (4.8)	31.9 (4.6)	25.5 (4.8)	23.8 (5.1)	25.9 (5.0)	27.9 (5.5)
Foreign-born or ethnic minority, %	2.3	4.6	2.7	9.7	0	2.3	19.0	1.1	0	0	0
Child characteristics											
Boys, % (N)	51.6	50.9	50.6	51.0	52.5	53.8	50.4	53.3	53.1	46.2	50.9
Girls, % (N)	48.4	49.1	49.4	49.0	47.5	46.2	49.7	46.7	46.9	53.8	49.1
Mean age (years), (SD)	4.1 (0.2)	4.4 (0.2)	4.4 (0.4)	5.2 (0.2)	5.4 (0.3)	5.7 (0.2)	5.7 (0.5)	6.3 (1.0)	7.0 (0.4)	7.1 (0.2)	7.1 (0.4)
Overweight, % ^d	24.1	19.6	20.8	20.7	17.2	7.7	9.4	11.5	7.6	24.1	17.1

^a Country abbreviations represent Italy (IT), Spain (ES), Portugal (PT), the United Kingdom (UK), Sweden (SE), France (FR), the Netherlands (NL), the Czech Republic (CZ), Ukraine (UA), Greece (GR) and Finland (FI).

^b Sample sizes that health outcome data for the present analyses were ascertained.

^c The distribution of educational levels in each cohort have been age-standardised to the WHO European Standard Population.

^d The proportion of overweight children in each cohort has been based on the IOTF classification of childhood overweight (equivalent to a BMI of 25 kg/m² at age 18 years).

Table 2 – Prevalence of Early Childhood Overweight by Mother’s Educational Level in 11 European Birth Cohorts, by Gender

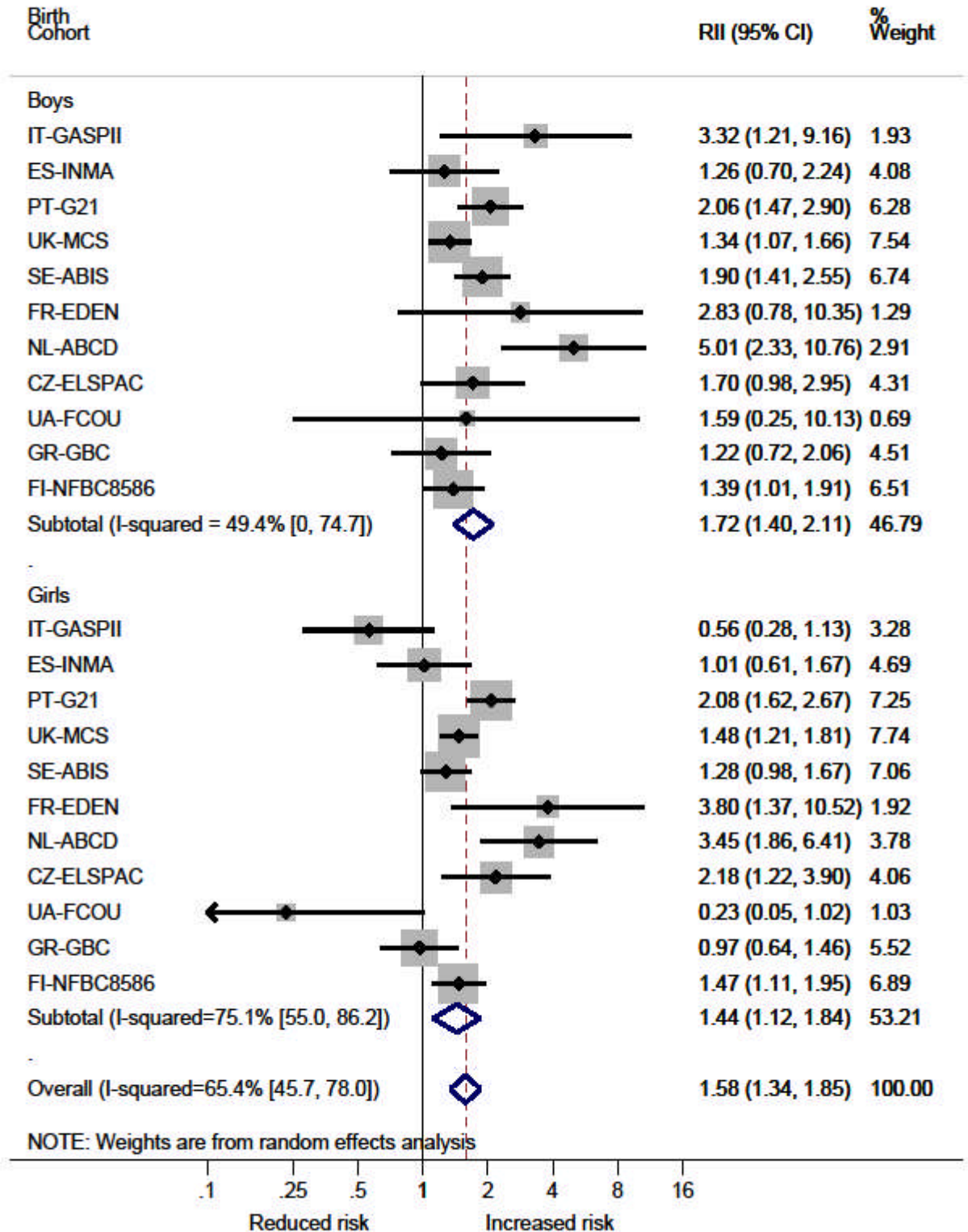
Country ^a	IT	ES	PT	UK	SE	FR	NL	CZ	UA	GR	FI
Birth cohort	GASPII	INMA	G21	MCS	ABIS	EDEN	ABCD	ELSPAC	FCOU	GBC	NFBC8586
Overweight, %											
Boys											
High	13.7	14.6	10.7	16.3	11.9	4.2	4.5	8.1	7.1	22.1	12.7
Medium	18.8	19.1	15.5	19.6	15.3	8.1	10.2	11.4	5.8	19.6	15.7
Low	29.4	17.5	18.4	19.3	18.2	3.8	21.2	11.9	11.1	22.5	16.6
p for trend ^b	0.047	0.414	<0.001	0.017	<0.001	0.160	<0.001	0.047	0.761	0.597	0.041
Girls											
High	37.8	22.3	17.4	20.0	18.4	7.2	7.2	9.6	16.7	25.2	16.0
Medium	24.2	22.6	27.8	23.7	18.8	13.5	16.5	11.2	8.1	27.1	19.2
Low	33.3	21.1	30.5	26.1	21.5	21.7	25.3	15.2	3.7	26.1	21.5
p for trend ^b	0.208	0.755	<0.001	<0.001	0.075	0.003	<0.001	0.005	0.022↑	0.980	0.008

^a Country abbreviations represent Italy (IT), Spain (ES), Portugal (PT), the United Kingdom (UK), Sweden (SE), France (FR), the Netherlands (NL), the Czech Republic (CZ), Ukraine (UA), Greece (GR) and Finland (FI).

^b P-values below or equal to 0.05 are embolded. ↑ denotes a positive association between maternal education and risk of overweight.

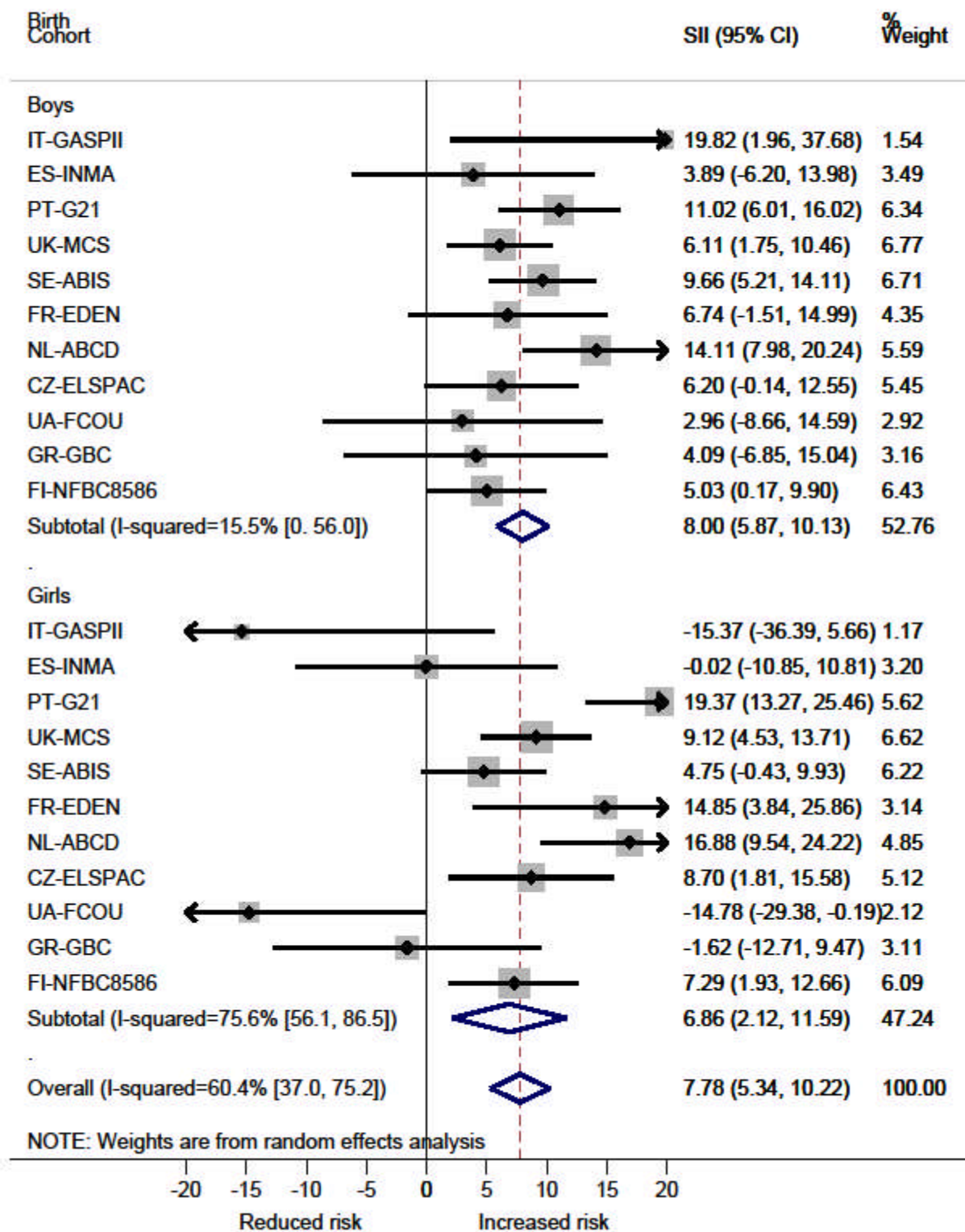
Figure 1 – Forest Plot of Combined a) RII and b) SII Analyses of Early Childhood Overweight Risk in Europe, by Gender

a) Relative Inequalities in Overweight by Low Maternal Education



Note: A score greater than 1 (RII, risk ratio) and 0 (SII, risk difference) indicates inequality between low and high positions of maternal education.

b) Absolute Inequalities in Overweight by Low Maternal Education



Note: A score greater than 1 (RII, risk ratio) and 0 (SII, risk difference) indicates inequality between low and high positions of maternal education.