

## HBEP FORTNIGHTLY LITERATURE REVIEW

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	ALERT SOURCE	KEYWORDS
<b>GENERAL POLICY AND RESEARCH</b>			
<p>Cain, K.L., Millstein, R.A., Sallis, J.F., Conway, T.L., Gavand, K.A., Frank, L.D. et al. 2014. 'Contribution of streetscape audits to explanation of physical activity in four age groups based on the Microscale Audit of Pedestrian Streetscapes (MAPS).' <i>Social Science &amp; Medicine</i> 116(2014): 82-92.  <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24983701">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24983701</a> *</p>	<p>This article presents a microscale audit of pedestrian streetscapes (MAPS). The article focuses on measuring street design, transport stops, footpath qualities, street crossing amenities and aesthetics of the built environment. This objective data was observed in Washington, California, Maryland, and Washington, DC. Recreational and transport activity were measured for four age groups (children, adolescents, adults and older adults) through surveys and accelerometers. Regression analysis shows that the microscale audit was significantly associated with active transport, recreational physical activity and objectively measured physical activity. These findings show that microscale attributes of the pedestrian environment affect physical activity across the lifespan and should be considered in future research measurements.</p>	APAN	Neighbourhood environment; microscale; audit survey; physical activity; lifespan
<b>GETTING PEOPLE ACTIVE</b>			
<p>Li, B., Adab, P. &amp; Cheng, K.K. 2014. 'Family and neighborhood correlates of overweight and obesogenic behaviors among Chinese children.' <i>International Journal of Behavioral Medicine</i> 21(4): 700-709.  <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24057407">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24057407</a> *</p>	<p>This article identifies the environmental attributes linked to weight-related health behaviour among Chinese children (aged 8-10 years). Height and weight measurements were taken for a group of 497 children. Parents completed questionnaires about the walkability of neighbourhood environments, family composition and children's diet and physical activity. Regression analyses report no associations between perceived neighbourhood characteristics and children's weight and physical activity status. Children who lived with at</p>	SS	Neighbourhood walkability; physical activity; weight status; children; China

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	<p>least two grandparents were at higher risk of being overweight as well as consuming more unhealthy snacks and sugar-added drinks. For these groups of Chinese children, the family environment highly influences weight status and thus grandparents should be targeted in future interventions. While questions were adapted from the Neighbourhood Environment Walkability Survey, it is unclear how applicable this tool is to Chinese urban areas, and the extent to which it can provide a full understanding of neighbourhood impacts on these children's health status.</p>		
<p>Halonen, J.I., Kivimäki, M., Pentti, J., Stenholm, S., Kawachi, I., Subramanian, S.V., Vahtera, J. 2014. 'Green and blue areas as predictors of overweight and obesity in an 8-year follow-up study.' <i>Obesity</i> 22 (8): 1910-1917.  <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24771608">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24771608</a></p>	<p>This article examines body mass index and proximity to urban green or blue areas. Weight and height measurements were taken from the Finnish Public Sector study (n=35,213). Distance to blue (lake, river or sea) or green (park, sports area, nature conservation) areas from each participant's residential neighbourhood was measured. Statistical analyses reveal that living greater than 750 m from usable green area and living between 500-750m from blue areas resulted in increased odds for overweight but not obesity. Residents who were within 250m of green space and moved to areas greater than 250m proximity to green space showed increased odds for obesity. These findings suggest that proximity to usable green and blue areas may encourage their use and subsequently maintain or decrease the risk of being overweight.</p>	SS	<p>Green space; blue space; access; body mass index; overweight; obesity</p>
<p>de Sa. E. &amp; Ardern, C.I. 2014. 'Associations between the built environment, total, recreational, and transit-related physical activity.' <i>BMC Public Health</i> 14: 693  <a href="http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-">http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-</a></p>	<p>This article assesses characteristics of the suburban environment and their impact on physical activity. Physical activity data was taken from the 2007-2008 Canadian Community Health Survey. Residential density, building space, green space and intersections</p>	GPAN	<p>Built environment; suburban; active transport; physical activity</p>

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<a href="#">2458/14/693</a>	were geocoded within a 500m buffer zone of each postal code address. Regression models suggest that those living in areas with the highest number of intersections were more likely to cycle or walk for leisure. Those living in higher residential areas were more likely to engage in active transport. Building area was negatively associated with physical activity. These findings suggest that specific aspects of the suburban environment may promote physical activity. However, it should be noted that building area was not qualified so it is unknown what types of destinations may hinder or facilitate activity.		
Cain, K.L., Millstein, R.A., Sallis, J.F., Conway, T.L., Gavand, K.A., Frank, L.D. et al. 2014. 'Contribution of streetscape audits to explanation of physical activity in four age groups based on the Microscale Audit of Pedestrian Streetscapes (MAPS).' <i>Social Science &amp; Medicine</i> 116(2014): 82-92. <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24983701">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24983701</a> *	This article presents a microscale audit of pedestrian streetscapes (MAPS). The article focuses on measuring street design, transport stops, footpath qualities, street crossing amenities and aesthetics of the built environment. This objective data was observed in Washington, California, Maryland, and Washington, DC. Recreational and transport activity were measured for four age groups (children, adolescents, adults and older adults) through surveys and accelerometers. Regression analysis shows that the microscale audit was significantly associated with active transport, recreational physical activity and objectively measured physical activity. These findings show that microscale attributes of the pedestrian environment affect physical activity across the lifespan and should be considered in future research measurements.	APAN	Neighbourhood environment; microscale; audit survey; physical activity; lifespan
<b>CONNECTING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES</b>			
Carter, M. & Horwitz, P. 2014. 'Beyond proximity: The importance of green space usability to self-reported health.' <i>EcoHealth</i>	This article examines how neighbourhood green space influences self-reported health. Residents (n=440) living in four Perth neighbourhoods completed survey	SS	Green space; general health

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<p>11(3): 322-332.  <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24947739">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24947739</a></p>	<p>questions about green space perceptions, residential quality and self-reported health status. Interviews explored attitudes to nature, perceptions of green space, neighbourhood attachment and health. Analyses of the data suggest that people reporting nearby green space as usable were twice as likely to report better general health as those who did not. Proximity to play and social spaces, retention of green spaces, usability and visitation generated a significant positive effect on self-reported health. These findings suggest that in addition to proximity, parklands need to be useful to generate better health outcomes</p>		
<p>Foster, S., Knuiman, M., Villanueva, K., Wood, L., Christian, H., Giles-Corti, B. 2014. 'Does walkable neighbourhood design influence the association between objective crime and walking?' <i>International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity</i> 11: 100.  <a href="http://www.ijbnpa.org/content/11/1/100">http://www.ijbnpa.org/content/11/1/100</a></p>	<p>This article assesses associations between levels of crime and walking. A group of 3,487 adults reported walking frequencies through the Western Australian Health and Wellbeing Survey. Objective measures of burglary, personal crime in public space, residential density, street connectivity and local destinations within 400m and 1600m of participants' neighbourhoods were taken. Regression models show that for every 10 additional crimes within 400m of a participant's home, walking frequency increased. This finding suggests that a more walkable environment, due to destinations, can both attract crime and promote walking. However, for this group of residents, crime does not deter walking.</p>	GPAN	Walking; crime; destinations; street connectivity
<b>PROVIDING HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS</b>			
<p>Vivian, E. M., Le, J., Ikem, P. &amp; Tolson, Y. In press. 'Health needs and neighbourhood concerns of low income households vulnerable to food insecurity.' <i>Public Health</i>.  <a href="http://www.publichealthjrnl.com/article/S">http://www.publichealthjrnl.com/article/S</a></p>	<p>This article describes the health needs and neighbourhood needs of 502 participants of a local food pantry program (where participants select their own food choices). Participants were administered a 16 short closed-ended questionnaire about their health and neighbourhood needs. The results of the survey indicate</p>	SS	Food access; health needs; neighbourhood needs

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<a href="http://0033-3506(14)00117-6/abstract">0033-3506(14)00117-6/abstract</a>	<p>that the five most frequent health conditions of participants were obesity, depression, hypertension, diabetes and asthma. Safety and crime was identified as the most salient neighbourhood concern. Top identified needs include physical activity classes in safe environments as well as nutrition classes. These findings suggest that in addition to access to healthy food, neighbourhood amenities such as safety and recreation classes can create the conditions in which participants choose to frequent food pantries. An assessment survey can also help practitioners to develop healthy eating strategies relevant to the community.</p>		
<p>Li, B., Adab, P. &amp; Cheng, K.K. 2014. 'Family and neighborhood correlates of overweight and obesogenic behaviors among Chinese children.' <i>International Journal of Behavioral Medicine</i> 21(4): 700-709.  <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24057407">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24057407</a> *</p>	<p>This article identifies the environmental attributes linked to weight-related health behaviour among Chinese children (aged 8-10 years). Height and weight measurements were taken for a group of 497 children. Parents completed questionnaires about the walkability of neighbourhood environments, family composition and children's diet and physical activity. Regression analyses report no associations between perceived neighbourhood characteristics and children's weight and physical activity status. Children who lived with at least two grandparents were at higher risk of being overweight as well as consuming more unhealthy snacks and sugar-added drinks. For these groups of Chinese children, the family environment highly influences weight status and thus grandparents should be targeted in future interventions. While questions were adapted from the Neighbourhood Environment Walkability Survey, it is unclear how applicable this tool is to Chinese urban areas, and the extent to which it can</p>	<p>SS</p>	<p>Neighbourhood walkability;  physical activity;  weight status;  children; China</p>

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	provide a full understanding of neighbourhood impacts on these children's health status.		

\* denotes an item which has been placed in a number of different categories