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Overweight and Obesity among Women at Reproductive age 15-49 Years Old in Cambodia: Data Analysis of Cambodia demographic and Health Survey 2014

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Introduction: Overweight and obesity are known the risk factors for non-communicable diseases (NCDs). They are the leading risks of global deaths with at least 2.8 million adults dying annually. In Cambodia, the prevalence of overweight and obesity among women aged 15-49 years increased from 6% in 2000 to 18% in 2014, becoming a public health burden. We aimed to examine the socio-demographic and behavioral factors associated with overweight and obesity among women of reproductive age.

Methods: We analyzed existing data from Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey (CDHS) 2014 which used a two-stage stratified cluster sampling approach to select samples. Data analysis was restricted to only non-pregnancy with total eligible women of 10,818. Multivariable logistic regressions were performed using STATA V16 to assess the determinants of overweight and obesity, taking into account the sampling weight in the analysis.

Results: Overweight and obesity were 15.2% and 2.8% respectively. Factors independently associated with increased odds of overweight and obesity including women aged 20-29 years with adjusted odds ratio [AOR=2.4; 95% CI: 1.6-3.6], 30-39 years [AOR=4.6; 95% CI: 3.0-6.9] and 40-49 years [AOR=6.6; 95% CI: 4.3-10.1], married women [AOR=1.8; 95% CI: 1.3-2.7], urban residence [AOR=1.3; 95% CI: 1.1-1.5] and women having at least 4 children [AOR=1.7; 95% CI: 1.2-2.5]. However, following factors were found to be associated with decreased odds of overweight and obesity: completed at least secondary education [AOR=0.7; 95% CI: 0.6-0.8], agricultural work [AOR=0.7; 95% CI: 0.5-0.8] and manual labor work [AOR=0.7; 95% CI: 0.6-0.9].

Conclusions: Increased age, married women, living in urban residence and having at least four children were the main predictors of overweight and obesity; while higher education, working in agriculture and working in manual labor were the main predictors associated with less overweight and obesity. Therefore, Cambodia's NCD public health programs should consider those main predictors to further reduce overweight and obesity in the coming years.

Keywords: Overweight, obesity, non-communicable diseases, NCDs, women at reproductive age, CDHS, Cambodia

Recent publications

1. Samnang Um, An Yom and Heng Sopheab, Overweight and Obesity among Women at Reproductive Age 15-49 Years Old in Cambodia: Data Analysis of Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey 2014, Journal of BMJ, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.30.22281706>
2. Um, Samnang & Daraden, Vang & Oy, Sreymom & Sopheab, Heng. (2021). The Descriptive Epidemiology of Covid-19 Linked to Community Transmission and Lockdown Effect in Cambodia. Vol. 2. 9.
3. Samnang Um, Heng Sopheab, The Factors Associated with Under-five Mortality in Cambodia: Data Analysis of the Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey, Cambodia Journal of Public Health. Vol. 2 No. 12 (2021)

Biography

Samnang Um had got MSc in Epidemiology in 2019 and BA in Geography in 2016. He has experience with data collection, develop data capturing by using Epi-Data, KoBotoolbox, REDCap, GoData, data management, data cleaning and data analysis both descriptive and complex analysis with STATA. He had been trained many course such as "Geo-Health", Introduction to Outbreak Investigation & Response, Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases, STATA program, Geographic Information System and Remote Sensing by using Arc GIS, Biostatistics applied for Health Research, GIS applied for Public Health.