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Statistik : Statistik in Biologie, Biomedizin, Medizin, Gesundheitswesen

Bammann, K., Lissner, L., Pigeot, I., Ahrens, W. (Hrsg.)

Instruments for Health Surveys in Children and Adolescents

- Provides insights into developing instruments for epidemiological surveys on children
- Offers a toolbox of ready-to-use survey instruments and procedures for data collection
- Describes the correct application of the surveys presented in the book
- Gives practical recommendations for large-scale multicentre field studies

This book describes key methods and instruments for assessing diet-related factors, physical activity, social and environmental factors, physical characteristics and health-related outcomes in children and adolescents. These tools were developed and deployed within the framework of the pan-European IDEFICS and I.Family cohort studies. These population-based field studies were funded within the 6th and 7th European Framework Programme, respectively, and were intended to assess the prevalence and aetiology of lifestyle-related diseases in children, focusing on overweight and obesity, and to develop effective strategies for primary prevention. In the course of a decade we undertook a major research endeavour, collecting standardised data from children, families, neighbourhoods, kindergartens, pre-schools and schools in eight European countries, employing a uniform cross-cultural methodology. This resulted in a rich picture of the daily lives and living contexts of children and their families. Studies encompassing childhood and adolescence face the particular challenge of the transitions from pre-school to primary school and from childhood to adolescence; accordingly, the instruments used need to be adapted to different developmental stages while maintaining their comparability across the age range. In young children, questionnaires have to be completed by proxies, usually their parents, while older children, particularly adolescents, can provide a major part of the requested information themselves.

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