

1 **Environmental Health and Preventive Medicine**

2 Title: **Cross-sectional Observation of the Relationship of Depressive Symptoms with**
3 **Lifestyles and Parents' Status among Japanese Junior High School Students**

4 Type of article: **Regular Article**

5 Authors: Aiko Hyakutake^a, Tomoko Kamijo^a, Yuka Misawa^{a, b}, Shinsuke Washizuka^c, Yuji
6 Inaba^{d, b}, Teruomi Tsukahara^{a, b} and Tetsuo Nomiya^{a, b, *}

7 ^a Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, Shinshu University School of
8 Medicine

9 ^b Center for Perinatal, Pediatric and Environmental Epidemiology, Shinshu University School
10 of Medicine

11 ^c Department of Psychiatry, Shinshu University School of Medicine

12 ^d Department of Pediatrics, Shinshu University School of Medicine

13 * Corresponding author

14 Shinshu University of School of Medicine,

15 Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, 3-1-1 Asahi, Matsumoto, Nagano

16 390-8621, Japan

17 Phone:+81-263-37-2622, Fax:+81-263-37-3499, e-mail: nomiyama@shinshu-u.ac.jp

18 Keywords: Adolescents, Depressive symptoms, Mental health, Lifestyle, Stress, Parent
19 status

20 **ABSTRACT**

21 **OBJECTIVES:** Students' depressive symptoms might be related to their own risk factors and
22 to their parents' status. The objective of this cross-sectional study was to examine the
23 relationship of depressive symptoms with lifestyle variables and parents' psychological and
24 socio-demographic status among Japanese junior high school students.

25 **METHODS:** Of 477 students and their parents, 409 (85.7%) students and 314 (65.8%) parents
26 participated in the study. Students answered self-reported questionnaire on depressive
27 symptoms, their heights and weights, subjective stress, body dissatisfaction, lifestyles including
28 sleep duration and extracurricular physical activity in school and other physical activity outside
29 the school, and nutritional intake. Parents responded to questionnaire on depressive
30 symptoms and socio-demographic status.

31 **RESULTS:** The prevalence of depressive symptoms was 24.9%. Students with depressive
32 symptoms were more likely to have stress. Students in shorter and longer sleep duration
33 groups were more likely to have depressive symptoms. The students with depressive
34 symptoms had smaller amount of energy intake than did those without depressive symptoms.
35 Multiple logistic regression analysis revealed significant relationships between students'
36 depressive symptoms and some independent variables. Sex, subjective stress, "almost-
37 never"-categorized extracurricular physical activity in school and other physical activity
38 outside the school, and having a parent with depressive symptoms were significantly associated

39 with students' depressive symptoms.

40 **CONCLUSION:** Reducing mental stress and taking care of lifestyles, especially, “almost-
41 everyday”-categorized extracurricular physical activity in school and other physical activity
42 outside the school, may have benefits for students' mental health, and having a parent with
43 depressive symptoms may be associated with students' depressive symptoms.

44

45 **TEXT**

46 **Introduction**

47 Depressive disorders have become a leading cause of burden in the Global Burden of Disease
48 (GBD) 1990 and 2000 studies [1]. The World Health Organization [2] reported that
49 depression was ranked the third on the list of leading causes of disease burden, accounting for
50 4% or more of all disability-adjusted life years, and that depression was estimated to be ranked
51 the first on this list by 2030. The prevalence of major depression disorder (MDD) in
52 adolescents was reported to be 3% to 6 % [3], and 20 % of adolescents were estimated to have
53 suffered from a depressive episode by the age of 18 years [4], with the large majority
54 experiencing a second depressive episode within 5 years [5], in spite of a reported possibility
55 of racial/ethnic differences in depression [6, 7]. In addition, more than half of depressed
56 adolescents were reported to continue to experience MDD into adulthood [8]. Moreover, 25%
57 of females and 10% of males were estimated to be subclinically depressed [9]. Previous
58 studies showed that adolescents with subclinical depression were at elevated risk for later
59 developing MDD [10], substance abuse, higher levels of neuroticism, academic
60 underachievement, unemployment and early parenthood [11,12]. Therefore, the depression in
61 childhood should be detected early and carefully treated in order to prevent it from continuing
62 into adulthood.

63 Recently, research on depression in children and adolescents and their risk factors has

64 advanced dramatically. It was recognized that major depression in parents significantly
65 contributes to major depression in their adolescents [13, 14], and that low socio-economic status
66 (SES) in childhood is associated with a higher lifetime risk of depression later in life [15]. On
67 the contrary, higher SES in childhood was reported to affect the onset of depression [16].
68 Other factors such as exposure to acute stressful events and chronic adversity, e.g., history of
69 abuse and bullying[17], poor body image [18-21], “almost never”-categorized extracurricular
70 physical activity in school and other physical activity outside the school [22-28], and sleep
71 duration [29,30], were reported to affect depressive symptoms in adolescents. Moreover, an
72 association between depressive symptoms and low levels of eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA),
73 docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), and dietary B vitamins, particularly folate and vitamin B-6 has
74 been suggested in Japanese adolescents [31, 32]. However, only few studies have been
75 focused on the relationships between depressive symptoms in adolescents and those possible
76 risk factors in Japan.

77 The present study aimed at examining the relationship of depressive symptoms with their
78 life styles and parents’ psychological and socio-demographic status among Japanese junior high
79 school students.

80 **Materials and Methods**

81 **Subjects**

82 In 2013, a cross-sectional study was conducted in the national university-affiliated junior high
83 school in Matsumoto city in Nagano prefecture. Of the 477 students and their parents, 409
84 (85.7%) students and 314 (65.8%) parents participated in the present study. We handed out
85 the questionnaire to all the students and parents through the teachers, together with a briefing
86 note on the survey, informing them of the objective and method of the survey, publication of
87 the results and option to refuse participating, and obtained informed consent by their returning
88 the questionnaire. This study and protocol including the procedure of informed consent from
89 the participants were also approved by the Ethics Review Committee of Shinshu University
90 School of Medicine.

91 **Procedures**

92 Students and their parents were requested to respond to self-administered questionnaires which
93 had been handed out to them in advance through teachers. Students responded to their own
94 questionnaire while they were in school. Parents were asked to respond to the questionnaire
95 at home.

96 Student's depressive symptoms were assessed with the Japanese version of the Children's
97 Depression Inventory (CDI) developed by Kovacs [33]. Adolescents self-reported their
98 heights and weights. Body mass index (BMI) was calculated as body weight (kg) divided by

99 the square of body height (m). The lifestyle questionnaire included information on subjective
100 stress, body dissatisfaction, sleep duration, and extracurricular physical activity in school and
101 other physical activity outside the school [34]. Nutritional intake during the preceding month
102 was assessed with a brief self-administered diet history questionnaire for Japanese adolescents
103 (BDHQ15y) known as the Food Frequency Questionnaire [35]. The values of the dietary
104 intake were energy-adjusted using the density method (i.e., percentage of energy provided by
105 energy-providing nutrients and amount per 1000 kcal of energy provided by other nutrients)
106 [36].

107 Parents' depressive symptoms were assessed with the Japanese version of Kessler's K6 scale
108 [37, 38]. The K6 scale consisted of six-item self-report questionnaire, asking how frequently
109 respondents experienced symptoms of psychological distress during the past 30 days. The
110 response options ranged from 0 = none of the time to 4 as = all of the time (the range of the
111 scale score was 0 – 24). In the present study, the parent participants were classified into two
112 groups: those with and without depressive symptoms (a total K6 score of 5 or more and a total
113 K6 score of 0-4, respectively) according to the recommended cut-off point [39]. The internal
114 consistency reliability of K6 as well as its sensitivity and specificity were acceptable at the
115 present cut-off point of 4/5, as suggested by Sakurai et al [40]. Parents' educational levels and
116 living arrangements were collected using the self-reported questionnaire.

117 **Statistical analysis**

118 In the analysis of depressive symptoms in the students, the results were divided into two main
119 groups employing the summed score of 16 as a cut-off point: “with depressive symptoms” (\geq
120 16) and “without depressive symptoms” (<16). Boys’ and girls’ data were pooled together for
121 the present analysis, since there was no significant gender difference in the present study. In
122 the analysis of nutritional intake, we excluded 37 students who reported extremely low or high
123 energy intake, i.e., ‘less than half the estimated energy requirement for the lowest or more than
124 1.5 times the estimated requirement for the highest physical activity category according to the
125 Dietary Reference Intakes for Japanese [41]; 1,000-1,225 kcal/day or 3,750-4,650 kcal/day [31,
126 32]. In addition, two students with missing data of body weight and BMI were excluded in
127 the analysis. Univariate associations between depressive symptoms and variables regarding
128 the students’ characteristics (sleep duration on weekday and physical activity), and parents’
129 status (educational levels, living arrangements, and depressive symptoms) were assessed with
130 the chi-square test for categorical variables and with the t test and Mann-Whitney U test for
131 continuous variables. Multiple logistic regression analysis was carried out to evaluate the
132 odds ratio with a 95% confidence interval for associations between the presence of a potential
133 risk factor for or protective factor against depression and the variables for which significant
134 relationships were observed in the univariate analysis. Covariates included in the adjusted
135 multivariate model (Model 1) were sex and age, while the covariates in Model 2 were sex, age,
136 living arrangements, stress, sleep duration, extracurricular physical activity in school and other

137 physical activity outside the school, and parents' variables (sex, educational levels, depressive
138 symptoms). All analyses were conducted using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences
139 (SPSS) version 22.0 by IBM (SPSS Inc, Chicago, Illinois, USA).

140 **RESULTS**

141 A total of 409 students and 314 parents agreed to participate in the present study. There was
142 no gender difference in the rates of response to the questionnaire for students or parents. Data
143 were available for 241 matched parent-child pairs after excluding 95 students and 73 parents
144 due to incomplete data. Characteristics of the participants are shown in Table 1. The mean
145 age of the students was 13.6 years. The mean total CDI score was 12.4, and 60 students
146 (24.9%) were categorized as “with depressive symptoms”. Of the 241 parents, 23 (9.5%) were
147 males and 218 were females (90.5%). The mean age of the parents was 45.3 years. The
148 mean total K6 score was 4.2, and 86 parents (35.7%) were categorized as “with depressive
149 symptoms”.

150 Table 2 presents the characteristics of the participants. Sex, age, grade, BMI, and living
151 arrangements were not significantly related to depressive symptoms. Students with
152 depressive symptoms were more likely to have stress. Students in the shorter and longer sleep
153 duration groups were more likely to have depressive symptoms compared with those in the
154 moderate sleep group. In addition, the frequency of extracurricular physical activity in school
155 and other physical activity outside the school was significantly related to the presence of
156 depressive symptoms. With regard to parents’ characteristics, only parents’ depressive status
157 was significantly related to students’ depressive symptoms.

158 The nutritional intakes of the students are shown in Table 3. There was no significant

159 difference in body weight or BMI between the students with depressive symptoms and those
160 without depressive symptoms. Students with depressive symptoms had a significantly smaller
161 amount of total energy than did students without depressive symptoms. Except for the total
162 energy, there was no significant difference in any of the nutrients between the two groups.

163 Table 4 shows the relationships between depressive symptoms in students and various risk
164 factors. In the crude model, subjective stress, “almost never”-categorized extracurricular
165 physical activity in school and other physical activity outside the school, and parents’ depressive
166 symptoms positively contributed to depressive symptoms in students. Sleep duration on
167 weekdays between 7 to 8 hr negatively contributed to students’ depressive symptoms compared
168 with longer than 8 hr in the crude model. The results in Model 1 with adjusting for sex and
169 grade, were similar to those in the crude model. In Model 2 with fully adjusted confounders,
170 subjective stress, “almost never”-categorized extracurricular physical activity in school and
171 other physical activity outside the school, and parents with depressive symptoms positively
172 contributed to depressive symptoms in students. Sleep duration between 7 to 8 hr on weekdays
173 did not contribute to students’ depressive symptoms compared with longer than 8 hours after
174 adjustments. However, a u-shaped dose-response trend was observed between sleep duration
175 and depressive symptoms in these analyses.

176 **DISCUSSION**

177 In the present study, we analyzed the relationships of junior high school students' depressive
178 symptoms with their subjective stress, socio-demographic status, and parents' depressive
179 symptoms in consideration of possible confounding factors such as their lifestyles. The
180 prevalence of depressive symptoms in this study was found to be 24.9%. This rate was similar
181 to the rates reported in other studies, 22.5% for boys and 31.2% for girls [31] and 28 % [42] in
182 Japanese adolescents, although those reported rates were assessed with other methods using the
183 Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression scale [43] and the Birlleson Depression Self-
184 Rating Scale [44] for Children, respectively.

185 The positive association between depressive symptoms in students and stress found in the
186 present study was consistent with that reported in previous studies [45-48]. This positive
187 association might be explained with reference to studies showing that stress negatively
188 contributed to the brain reward function [49,50], and that stressful experiences decreased the
189 levels of brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) which play an important role in mood
190 regulation and show antidepressant-like behavior [51].

191 The negative association between depressive symptoms in students and the frequency of
192 extracurricular physical activity in school and other physical activity outside the school found
193 in this study was consistent with the findings of previous cross-sectional and prospective studies
194 in adolescents [22,24,25,28]. This inverse relationship might be explained in terms of both

195 biological and psychosocial mechanisms. In biological mechanisms, physical activity may
196 prevent or help treat depression through increasing functional activity of monoamines related
197 to mood, attenuating hippocampal atrophy through increased BDNF, increasing neurogenesis
198 in the dentate gyrus of the hippocampus, or through mediation of neuroimmunological
199 reactivity [52]. In terms of psychosocial effects, physical activity decreased emotional strain
200 and feelings of loneliness, and increased self-esteem [53]. Moreover, perceptions of
201 enjoyment while participating in physical activity and team sports were inversely related to
202 depressive symptoms [54]. However, a recent study suggested that light to moderate intensity
203 of physical activity serves as a protective factor of depression, whereas physical activity of high
204 intensity is a risk factor for general mental health problems and hostility [55]. Further studies
205 will be needed to look into the relationship between intensity of physical activity and depressive
206 symptoms in adolescents.

207 The present univariate and logistic regression analyses revealed that a U or J-shaped dose-
208 response trend holds true between sleep duration and depressive symptoms among the students.
209 The nationwide survey by the National Institute for Educational Policy Research [56] revealed
210 that 40% Japanese junior high school students sleep longer than 8 hr, 36.4% for 7 -8 hr, 18.0%
211 for 6 – 7 hr, and 5.2% for less than 6 hr. Comparison in sleep duration between the students
212 in the present study and in the nationwide survey suggests that the students of the National
213 university-affiliated junior high school are short sleepers than those surveyed at the national

214 levels, resulting presumably from their need to study late at night. The present result, however,
215 is essentially consistent with the findings reported by Sivertsen et al. [57] who showed that
216 depressed adolescents exhibited significantly shorter sleep duration, and by Lovato and
217 Gradisar [29] who showed that adolescent with depression experienced significantly more
218 wakefulness in bed and more subjective sleep disturbance. It was also reported that
219 adolescents with sleep durations of ≤ 5 and ≥ 10 hr had a significantly higher risk for depression
220 and suicidal ideation compared with those with a sleep duration of 8 hr [58, 59]. Since hormonal,
221 neural and psychological mechanisms resulting from genetic and environmental factors were
222 reported to contribute the association of sleep with emotional and behavioral difficulties in
223 adolescents [60], it is suggested that those mechanisms are genetically and environmentally
224 involved in the excessive and insufficient sleep duration.

225 It was found in the present study that the students with depressive symptoms had a
226 significantly lower amount of total energy than did those without depressive symptoms. This
227 finding is consistent with the findings reported by Murakami et al [31] and Oddy et al [61], both
228 of whom showed that adolescents with depressive symptoms tended to consume lesser amount
229 of energy intake than those without depressive symptoms. In the present study, however, there
230 was no significant difference in any other nutrients between the students with depressive
231 symptoms and those without depressive symptoms. Murakami et al. [31, 32] reported that
232 higher intakes of folate and vitamin B-6 were associated with a lower prevalence of depressive

233 symptoms in early adolescents, and that higher intakes of fish, EPA and DHA were significantly
234 associated with depressive symptoms only in early male adolescents. In contrast, nutritional
235 intakes such as B vitamins and n-3 fatty acids were reported not to be related to depressive
236 symptoms in adolescents in western countries [61]. Further studies will be needed to
237 investigate the association between depressive symptoms and nutritional intake.

238 It was found in the present study that parents' depression status was significantly associated
239 with depressive symptoms in the adolescents. This finding was corroborated by the previous
240 studies. Rice et al. [13] reported that children with parental depression had a three- to four-
241 times-greater risk of their depression compared to the children without parental depression.
242 On the other hand, Tully et al. [14] demonstrated that having one parent with major depression
243 or having a mother with major depression was associated with significantly greater risks for
244 major depression and disruptive behavior disorders in both adopted and non-adopted
245 adolescents. As suggested by Lovejoy et al. [62], maternal depression is considered to be a risk
246 factor for parenting difficulties. Furthermore, lower SES was reported to be inversely associated
247 with depression [15]. Ochi et al. [16] reported that in Japan, childhood SES is more likely to
248 be positively associated with the lifetime onset of mental disorders, regardless of family history
249 of mental disorders.

250 **Strength and Limitations**

251 A major strength of this study is that since detailed information including the students' lifestyle

252 and parents' depression status was obtained from the data for matched parent-child pairs, the
253 contributions of those factors to students' depressive symptoms could be evaluated after
254 controlling for possible confounders. However, this study has several limitations. First, the
255 most notable limitation in the present study is its limited power to detect significance for some
256 of the complex associations resulting from limited samples. However, even with this sample
257 size we found significant relationships of depressive symptoms in students with stress in
258 students and their parents' depressive status. Second, we could not determine causal
259 relationships between students' depressive symptoms and other variables, since this study was
260 cross-sectional. Third, the junior high school enrolled in the present study was national
261 university-affiliated, and there might be differences in social factors such as parents'
262 educational levels and SES between the parents in this school and those in public junior high
263 schools. These differences might have caused a selection bias, making it difficult to generalize
264 our data. Fourth, we were not able to obtain any response from absent students, and the valid
265 response rate was not very high (50.5%). Poor mental health status may be more common
266 among frequently- or long-absent students, and it is possible that the students with poor mental
267 health might have refused to respond to a questionnaire about depressive symptoms. The
268 prevalence of depressive symptoms based on the matched parent-student pair case was 24.9%
269 in the present study. For the unmatched parent-student case, however, the prevalence of
270 depressive symptoms was estimated to be 43.0% (as $34/79 \times 100$), since 320 students responded

271 properly to the questions about CDI among 409 student participants and 79 students did not
272 match with parents among 320 students, and since 34 students were categorized with “with
273 depressive symptoms” according to their CDI scores. Therefore, the prevalence of depressive
274 symptoms seems to be underestimated on the basis of the matched parent-student pair case in
275 comparison to the unmatched case.

276 **Conclusion**

277 Subjective stress, the frequency of extracurricular physical activity in school and other physical
278 activity outside the school, and parents’ depressive status were significantly related to students’
279 depressive symptoms. These findings suggest that reducing mental stress and considering
280 appropriate lifestyles, especially, physical activity in adolescents may have benefits for mental
281 health. It was also noteworthy in this study that having a parent with depressive symptoms
282 was significantly associated with students’ depressive symptoms.

283 **Acknowledgements**

284 We are very grateful to Specially Appointed Professor Heihachiro Arito of Department of
285 Occupational Health, Shinshu University School of Medicine for reviewing this manuscript and
286 providing useful comments.

287

288 **References**

- 289 1. Ferrari AJ, Charlson FJ, Norman RE, Patten SB, Freedman G, Murray CJ et al. Burden of
290 depressive disorders by country, sex, age, and year: findings from the global burden of
291 disease study 2010. *PLOS Med.* 2013; 10(11), e1001547.
- 292 2. World Health Organization (WHO). The global burden of disease: 2004 update. Geneva,
293 WHO; 2008.
294 http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/GBD_report_2004update_full.pdf
295 Accessed on February 24, 2015.
- 296 3. Jane Costello E, Erkanli A, Angold A. Is there an epidemic of child or adolescent
297 depression? *J Child Psychol Psychiatry.* 2006; 47(12), 1263-1271.
- 298 4. Lewinsohn PM, Hops H, Roberts RE, Seeley JR, Andrews JA. Adolescent
299 psychopathology: I. Prevalence and incidence of depression and other DSM-III-R disorders
300 in high school students. *J Abnorm Psychol,* 1993; 102(1), 133-144.
- 301 5. Curry J, Silva S, Rohde P, Ginsburg G, Kratochvil C, Simons A et al. Recovery and
302 recurrence following treatment for adolescent major depression. *Arch Gen Psychiatry* 2011;
303 68(3), 263-269.
- 304 6. Doi Y, Roberts RE, Takeuchi K, Suzuki S. Multiethnic comparison of adolescent major
305 depression based on the DSM-IV criteria in a U.S.-Japan study. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc*
306 *Psychiatry.* 2001; 40(11), 1308-1315

- 307 7. McLaughlin KA, Hilt LM, Nolen-Hoeksema S. Racial/ethnic differences in internalizing
308 and externalizing symptoms in adolescents. *J Abnorm Child Psycho*. 2007; 35(5), 801-816.
- 309 8. Lewinsohn PM, Rohde P, Klein DN, Seeley JR. Natural course of adolescent major
310 depressive disorder: I. Continuity into young adulthood. *J Am Acad Child Adolesc*
311 *Psychiatry*. 1999; 38(1), 56-63.
- 312 9. Saluja G, Iachan R, Scheidt PC, Overpeck MD, Sun W, Giedd JN. Prevalence of and risk
313 factors for depressive symptoms among young adolescents. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*.
314 2004; 158(8), 760-765.
- 315 10. Bertha EA, Balázs J. Subthreshold depression in adolescence: a systematic review. *Eur*
316 *Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 2013; 22, 589-603.
- 317 11. Fergusson DM, Woodward LJ. Mental health, educational, and social role outcomes of
318 adolescents with depression. *Arch Gen Psychiatry*. 2002; 59(3), 225-231.
- 319 12. Kessler RC, Foster CL, Saunders WB, Stang PE. Social consequences of psychiatric
320 disorders, I: Educational attainment. *Am J Psychiatry*. 1995; 152(7), 1026-1032
- 321 13. Rice F, Harold G, Thapar A. The genetic aetiology of childhood depression: a review. *J*
322 *Child Psychol Psychiatry*. 2002; 43(1), 65-79.
- 323 14. Tully EC, Iacono WG, McGue M. An adoption study of parental depression as an
324 environmental liability for adolescent depression and childhood disruptive disorders. *Am J*
325 *Psychiatry*. 2008; 165(9), 1148-1154.

- 326 15. Gilman SE, Kawachi I, Fitzmaurice GM, Buka SL. Socioeconomic status in childhood
327 and the lifetime risk of major depression. *Int J Epidemiol.* 2002; 31(2), 359-367.
- 328 16. Ochi M, Fujiwara T, Mizuki R, Kawakami N, and World Mental Health Japan Survey Group.
329 Association of socioeconomic status in childhood with major depression and generalized
330 anxiety disorder: results from the World Mental Health Japan survey 2002-2006. *BMC*
331 *Public Health.* 2014; 14, 359.
- 332 17. Thapar A, Collishaw S, Pine DS, Thapar AK. Depression in adolescence. *Lancet* 2012;
333 379(9820), 1056-1067.
- 334 18. Ferreiro F, Seoane G, Senra C. A prospective study of risk factors for the development of
335 depression and disordered eating in adolescents. *J Clin Child Adolesc Psychol.* 2011; 40(3),
336 500-505.
- 337 19. Paxton SJ, Neumark-Sztainer D, Hannan PJ, Eisenberg ME. Body dissatisfaction
338 prospectively predicts depressive mood and low self-esteem in adolescent girls and boys. *J*
339 *Clin Child Adolesc Psychol.* 2006; 35(4), 539-549.
- 340 20. Rawana JS. The relative importance of body change strategies, weight perception,
341 perceived social support, and self-esteem on adolescent depressive symptoms: longitudinal
342 findings from a national sample. *J Psychosom Res.* 2013; 75(1), 49-54.
- 343 21. Roberts RE, Duong HT. Perceived weight, not obesity, increases risk for major depression
344 among adolescents. *J Psychiatr Res.* 2013; 47(8), 1110-1117.

- 345 22. Biddle SJ, Asare M. Physical activity and mental health in children and adolescents: a
346 review of reviews. *Br J Sports Med.* 2011; 45, 886-895.
- 347 23. Brunet J, Sabiston CM, Chaiton M, Barnett TA, O'Loughlin E, Low NCP et al. The
348 association between past and current physical activity and depressive symptoms in young
349 adults: a 10-year prospective study. *Ann Epidemiol.* 2013; 23(1), 25-30.
- 350 24. Hong X, Li J, Xu F, Tse LA, Liang Y, Wang Z et al. Physical activity inversely associated
351 with the presence of depression among urban adolescents in regional China. *BMC Public*
352 *Health.* 2009; 9, 148.
- 353 25. Sallis JF, Prochaska JJ, Taylor WC. A review of correlates of physical activity of children
354 and adolescents. *Med & Sci Sports Exercise.* 2000; 32(5), 963-975.
- 355 26. Stavrakakis N, de Jonge P, Ormel J, Oldehinkel AJ. Bidirectional prospective associations
356 between physical activity and depressive symptoms. The TRAILS Study. *J Adolesc Health.*
357 2012; 50(5), 503-508.
- 358 27. Sund AM, Larsson B, Wichstrøm L. Role of physical and sedentary activities in the
359 development of depressive symptoms in early adolescence. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr*
360 *Epidemiol.* 2011; 46(5), 431-441.
- 361 28. Wiles NJ, Haase AM, Lawlor DA, Ness A, Lewis G. Physical activity and depression in
362 adolescents: cross-sectional findings from the ALSPAC cohort. *Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr*
363 *Epidemiol.* 2012; 47(7), 1023-1033.

- 364 29. Lovato N, Gradisar M. A meta-analysis and model of the relationship between sleep and
365 depression in adolescents: Recommendations for future research and clinical practice. *Sleep*
366 *Med Rev.* 2014; 18 (6), 521 - 529.
- 367 30. Pasch KE, Laska MN, Lytle LA, Moe SG. Adolescent sleep, risk behaviors, and
368 depressive symptoms: are they linked? *Am J Health Behav* 2010 34(2), 237-248.
- 369 31. Murakami K, Miyake Y, Sasaki S, Tanaka K, Arakawa M. Dietary folate, riboflavin,
370 vitamin B-6, and vitamin B-12 and depressive symptoms in early adolescence: the Ryukyus
371 Child Health Study. *Psychosom Med.* 2010a; 72(8), 763-768.
- 372 32. Murakami K, Miyake Y, Sasaki S, Tanaka K, Arakawa M. Fish and n-3 polyunsaturated
373 fatty acid intake and depressive symptoms: Ryukyus Child Health Study. *Pediatrics.* 2010b;
374 126(3), e623-630.
- 375 33. Kovacs M. Rating scales to assess depression in school-aged children. *Acta Paedopsychiatr.*
376 1981; 46(5-6), 305-315.
- 377 34. Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan Nationwide Survey on Families and
378 Children. <http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/2r9852000001yivt-att/2r9852000001yjc6.pdf>
379 Accessed on February 24, 2015
- 380 35. Sasaki S, Yanagibori R, Amano K. Self-administered diet history questionnaire developed
381 for health education: a relative validation of the test-version by comparison with 3-day diet
382 record in women. *J Epidemiol.* 1998; 8(4), 203-215.

- 383 36. Murakami K, Sasaki S, Takahashi Y, Uenishi K, Yamasaki M, Hayabuchi H, et al.
384 Misreporting of dietary energy, protein, potassium and sodium in relation to body mass
385 index in young Japanese women. *Eur J Clin Nutr.* 2008; 62(1), 111-118.
- 386 37. Furukawa T.A, Kawakami N, Saitoh M, Ono Y, Nakane Y, Nakamura Y, et al. The
387 performance of the Japanese version of the K6 and K10 in the World Mental Health Survey
388 Japan. *Int J Methods Psychiatr Res.* 2008; 17(3), 152-158.
- 389 38. Kessler RC, Andrews G, Colpe LJ, Hiripi E, Mroczek DK, Normand SL, et al. Short
390 screening scales to monitor population prevalences and trends in non-specific psychological
391 distress. *Psychol Med.* 2002; 32(6), 959-976.
- 392 39. Inoue A, Kawakami N, Tsuchiya M, Sakurai K, Hashimoto H. Association of occupation,
393 employment contract, and company size with mental health in a national representative
394 sample of employees in Japan. *J Occup Health.* 2010; 52(4), 227-240.
- 395 40. Sakurai K, Nishi A, Kondo K, Yanagida K, Kawakami N. Screening performance of
396 K6/K10 and other screening instruments for mood and anxiety disorders in Japan.
397 *Psychiatry Clin Neurosci.* 2011; 65(5), 434-441.
- 398 41. Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan. Dietary Reference Intakes for Japanese,
399 2010. (In Japanese) Tokyo. Daiichi Shuppan Publishing Co. Ltd.; 2009.
- 400 42. Denda K, Kako Y, Kitagawa N, Koyama T. Assessment of depressive symptoms in
401 Japanese school children and adolescents using the Birleson Depression Self-Rating Scale.

- 402 Int J Psychiatry Med. 2006; 36(2), 231-241.
- 403 43. Radloff LS. The CES-D scale: A self-report depression scale for research in the general
404 population. *Appl Psychol Measurement*. 1977; 1(3), 385-401.
- 405 44. Ivarsson T, Lidber A, Gillberg C. The Birleson Depression Self-Rating Scale (DSRS) -
406 Clinical-evaluation in an adolescent inpatient population. *J Affect Disord*. 1994; 32(2), 115-
407 125.
- 408 45. Goodyer I, Wright C, Altham P. The friendships and recent life events of anxious and
409 depressed school-age children. *Br J Psychiatry*. 1990; 156, 689-698.
- 410 46. Grant KE, Compas BE, Stuhlmacher AF, Thurm AE, McMahon D, Halpert JA. Stressors
411 and child and adolescent psychopathology: moving from markers to mechanisms of risk.
412 *Psychol Bull*. 2003; 129(3), 447-466.
- 413 47. Hammen C. Stress and depression. *Annu Rev Clin Psychol*. 2005; 1, 293-319.
- 414 48. McMahon SD, Grant KE, Compas BE, Thurm AE, Ey S. Stress and psychopathology in
415 children and adolescents: is there evidence of specificity? *J Child Psychol Psychiatry*. 2003;
416 44(1), 107-133.
- 417 49. Auerbach RP, Admon R, Pizzagalli DA. Adolescent depression: stress and reward
418 dysfunction. *Harv Rev Psychiatry*. 2014; 22, 139-148.
- 419 50. Masten CL, Eisenberger NI, Borofsky LA, Pfeifer JH, McNealy K, Mazziotta JC et al.
420 Neural correlates of social exclusion during adolescence: understanding the distress of peer

421 rejection. *Soc Cogn Affect Neurosci.* 2009; 4(2), 143-157.

422 51. Neto FL, Borges G, Torres-Sanchez S, Mico JA, Berrocoso E. Neurotrophins role in
423 depression neurobiology: a review of basic and clinical evidence. *Curr Neuropharmacol.*
424 2011; 9(4), 530-552.

425 52. Loprinzi PD, Herod SM, Cardinal BJ, Noakes TD. Physical activity and the brain: a review
426 of this dynamic, bi-directional relationship. *Brain Res.* 2013; 1539, 95-104.

427 53. Schmalz DL, Deane GD, Birch LL, Davison KK. A longitudinal assessment of the links
428 between physical activity and self-esteem in early adolescent non-Hispanic females. *J*
429 *Adolesc Health.* 2007; 41(6), 559-565.

430 54. Gore S, Farrell F, Gordon J. Sports involvement as protection against depressed mood. *J*
431 *Res Adolesc.* 2001; 11(1), 119 – 130.

432 55. Tao FB, Xu ML, Kim SD, Sun Y, Su PY, Huang K. Physical activity might not be the
433 protective factor for health risk behaviours and psychopathological symptoms in
434 adolescents. *J Paediatr Child Health.* 2007; 43(11), 762-7.

435 56. National Institute for Educational Policy Research, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
436 Science and Technology (2015) Annual Report on National Assessment of Academic
437 Ability. <https://www.nier.go.jp/13chousakekkahoukoku/data/research-report/13->
438 [questionnaire.pdf](https://www.nier.go.jp/13chousakekkahoukoku/data/research-report/13-questionnaire.pdf)

439 Accessed on October 28, 2015.

- 440 57. Sivertsen B, Harvey AG, Lundervold AJ, Hysing M. Sleep problems and depression in
441 adolescence: results from a large population-based study of Norwegian adolescents aged
442 16-18 years. *Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry*. 2014; 23(8), 681-689.
- 443 58. Gangwisch JE, Babiss LA, Malaspina D, Turner JB, Zammit GK, Posner K. Earlier
444 parental set bedtimes as a protective factor against depression and suicidal ideation. *Sleep*.
445 2010; 33(1), 97-106.
- 446 59. Fitzgerald CT, Messias E, Buysse DJ. Teen sleep and suicidality: Results from the youth
447 risk behavior surveys of 2007 and 2009. *J Clin Sleep Med*. 2011; 7(4), 351-356
- 448 60. Gregory AM, Sadeh A. Sleep, emotional and behavioral difficulties in children and
449 adolescents. *Sleep Med Rev*. 2012;16(2), 129-136.
- 450 61. Oddy WH, Hickling S, Smith MA, O'Sullivan TA, Robinson M, de Klerk NH et al.
451 Dietary intake of omega-3 fatty acids and risk of depressive symptoms in adolescents.
452 *Depress Anxiety*. 2011; 28(7), 582-588.
- 453 62. Lovejoy MC, Graczyk PA, O'Hare E, Neuman G. Maternal depression and parenting
454 behavior: a meta-analytic review. *Clin Psychol Rev*. 2000; 20(5), 561-592.

Table 1. Characteristics of the participants in the present study

Characteristics	n=241
Students	
CDI total score	12.4 ± 5.9
< 16	181 (75.1)
16 ≤	60 (24.9)
Sex	
Male	95 (39.4)
Female	146 (60.6)
Age	13.6 ± 0.9
Grade	
1st	69 (28.6)
2nd	99 (41.1)
3rd	73 (30.3)
BMI (missing data n=24)	18.2 ± 2.0
<18.5	133 (55.2)
18.5 ≤, <25.0	83 (34.4)
25.0 ≤	1 (0.4)
Living with both parents	
Yes	226 (93.8)
No	15 (6.2)
Parents	
Sex	
Male	23 (9.5)
Female	218 (90.5)
Age (missing data n=16)	45.3 ± 3.8
BMI (missing data n=10)	20.7 ± 4.5
<18.5	25 (10.4)
18.5 ≤, <25.0	187 (77.6)
25.0 ≤	19 (7.9)
Educational levels	
High school	37 (15.4)
Junior college, vocational training or technical school	115 (47.7)
University	89 (36.9)
K6 score	4.2 ± 4.3
< 5	155 (64.3)
5 ≤	86 (35.7)

Data are represented as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation.

Table 2. Comparisons of the characteristics and lifestyle variables between students without depressive symptoms and those with depressive symptoms

	Students without depressive symptoms (n=181; 75.1%) ^a	Students with depressive symptoms (n=60; 24.9%) ^b	p ^c
Students' variables			
CDI total score	9.7 ± 3.3	20.4 ± 4.6	< 0.01
Sex			
Boys	69 (72.6)	26 (27.4)	0.47
Girls	112 (76.7)	34 (23.3)	
Age	13.7 ± 0.9	13.5 ± 0.9	0.23
Grade			
1st	51 (73.9)	18 (26.1)	0.96
2nd	75 (75.8)	24 (24.2)	
3rd	55 (75.3)	18 (24.7)	
BMI (missing data n=24)			
<18.5	96 (72.2)	37 (27.8)	0.41
18.5 ≤, <25.0	66 (79.5)	17 (20.5)	
25.0 ≤	1 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	
Living with both parents			
Yes	170 (75.2)	56 (24.8)	1.00
No	11 (73.3)	4 (26.7)	
Stress			
Yes	92 (64.3)	51 (35.7)	< 0.01
No	89 (90.8)	9 (9.2)	
Sleep duration on weekday			
8 hours ≤	24 (63.2)	14 (36.8)	0.01
7 ≤, <8	73 (84.9)	13 (15.1)	
6 ≤, <7	59 (76.6)	18 (23.4)	
< 6 hours	25 (62.5)	15 (37.5)	
Physical activity			
almost everyday	88 (79.3)	23 (20.7)	0.01
1-2days a week	38 (49.1)	10 (20.8)	
1-3days a month	34 (79.1)	9 (20.9)	
almost never	21 (53.8)	18 (46.2)	

Parents' variables			
Sex			
Male	16 (69.6)	7 (30.4)	0.61
Female	165 (75.7)	53 (24.3)	
Educational levels			
High school	23 (62.2)	14 (37.8)	0.11
Junior college, vocational training or technical school	93 (80.9)	22 (19.1)	
University	65 (73.0)	24 (27.0)	
Parents' K6 score			
< 5	124 (80.0)	31 (20.0)	0.02
5 ≤	57 (66.3)	29 (33.7)	

Data are represented as n (%) or mean ± standard deviation.

^a Students with a CDI score of < 16.

^b Students with a CDI score of ≥ 16.

^c p values are shown for χ^2 test for categorical variables and for independent t test for continuous variables.

Table 3. Comparisons of nutritional intake between students with and without depressive symptoms*

	ALL	Students without depressive symptoms (n=155; 77.2%) ^a	Students with depressive symptoms (n=45; 22.8%) ^b	p ^c
Body weight (kg)	45.5 ± 7.6	45.3 ± 7.5	45.7 ± 7.3	0.83
BMI(kg/m ²)	18.2 ± 2.1	18.2 ± 2.1	18.2 ± 2.2	0.93
Energy (kcal/day)	2330 ± 732	2390 ± 743	2123 ± 662	0.01
Riboflavin (mg/day/1000kcal)	0.82 ± 0.21	0.81 ± 0.20	0.86 ± 0.25	0.32
VitamineB6 (mg/day/1000kcal)	0.63 ± 0.15	0.63 ± 0.14	0.63 ± 0.18	0.93
VitamineB12 (µg/day/1000kcal)	4.10 ± 2.15	3.97 ± 1.95	4.57 ± 2.71	0.39
Folate (µg/day/1000kcal)	179 ± 69	179 ± 64	180 ± 85	0.50
n-3 fatty acids (g/day/1000kcal)	1.1 ± 0.3	1.1 ± 0.3	1.1 ± 0.4	0.78

*Data for 41 students were excluded for the present analysis, since they did not report body weight or BMI, and since they reported incorrect responses to the energy-related items of the diet history questionnaire for Japanese adolescents.

Data are represented as mean ± standard deviation.

^a Students with a CDI score of < 16.

^b Students with a CDI score of ≥ 16.

^c p values are shown for Mann-Whitney U-test.

Table 4. Contributions of various risk factors to students' depressive symptoms by the multiple logistic regression analysis

	N	Crude OR (95%CI)	<i>p</i> for trend	Model 1 ^a OR (95%CI)	<i>p</i> for trend	Model 2 ^b OR (95%CI)	<i>p</i> for trend
Students' variables							
Sex							
Boys	95	1 (reference)				1 (reference)	
Girls	146	0.81 (0.45—1.46)				0.44 (0.20—0.95)	
Grade							
1st	69	1 (reference)	0.85			1 (reference)	0.11
2nd	99	0.91 (0.45—1.84)				1.27(0.53—3.04)	
3rd	73	0.93 (0.44—1.98)				0.55 (0.19—1.58)	
Stress							
No	98	1 (reference)		1 (reference)		1 (reference)	
Yes	143	5.48(2.55—11.8)		6.11 (2.79—13.4)		7.27 (3.05—17.4)	
Physical activity							
almost every day	111	1 (reference)	0.01	1 (reference)	<0.01	1 (reference)	0.02
1-2 days a week	48	1.01 (0.44—2.32)		1.22 (0.50—2.97)		1.04 (0.38—2.86)	
1-3 days a month	43	1.01 (0.43—2.41)		1.29 (0.50—3.33)		1.43(0.49—4.21)	
almost never	39	3.28 (1.51—7.15)		4.31 (1.80—10.3)		4.15 (1.46—11.8)	
Sleep duration on weekday							
8 hours \leq	38	1 (reference)	0.51	1 (reference)	0.38	1 (reference)	0.49
7 \leq , <8	86	0.31 (0.13—0.74)		0.32 (0.13—0.77)		0.39 (0.13—1.16)	
6 \leq , <7	77	0.52 (0.23—1.22)		0.56 (0.23—1.34)		0.83 (0.28—2.46)	
< 6 hours	40	1.03 (0.41—2.58)		1.27 (0.45—3.55)		1.51 (0.43—5.29)	

Parents' variables						
Sex						
Male	23	1 (reference)		1 (reference)		1 (reference)
Female	218	0.52 (0.29—1.88)		0.75 (0.29—1.92)		0.48 (0.15—1.53)
Educational levels						
High school	37	1 (reference)	0.53	1 (reference)	0.53	1 (reference) 0.78
Junior college, vocational training or technical school	115	0.39 (0.17—0.87)		0.39 (0.17—0.89)		0.44 (0.15—1.33)
University	89	0.61 (0.27—1.37)		0.61 (0.27—1.38)		0.63 (0.23—1.69)
Parents' K6 score						
< 5	155	1 (reference)		1 (reference)		1 (reference)
5 ≤	86	2.03 (1.12—3.69)		2.04 (1.12—3.71)		2.48 (1.21—5.06)

Depressive symptoms were defined as having a Children's Depression Inventory score of ≥ 16 for the students.

^a Adjusted for sex, grade.

^b Adjusted for sex, grade, stress, physical activity, sleep duration on weekday, and parents' variables.