

The association between childhood adiposity and appetite assessed using the Child Eating Behaviour Questionnaire and Baby Eating Behaviour Questionnaire: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Alice Kininmonth¹, MSc*; Andrea Smith, PhD²; Susan Carnell³, PhD; Silje Steinsbekk⁴, PhD; Alison Fildes¹, PhD*; and Clare Llewellyn², PhD*

**Joint senior author, *Joint first author*

¹ School of Psychology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Leeds, Leeds, United Kingdom.

² Obesity Group, Research Department of Behavioural Science and Health, University College London, London, United Kingdom.

³ Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA.

⁴ Department of Psychology, Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway.

Running title: Appetite and adiposity in childhood

Key words: Appetite, Child, Adiposity, Meta-analysis

Address reprint requests and correspondence to:

Dr Alison Fildes

School of Psychology,

Faculty of Medicine & Health

University of Leeds

Leeds, LS2 9JT

United Kingdom.

E-mail: A.Fildes@leeds.ac.uk

Acknowledgements: We thank Shauna Farrell, Lewis Cox, Katelyn Sass and Kristiane Tommerup for supporting the screening process and quality checking. We would like to thank the following list of authors who kindly provided additional data, upon request. These analyses would not have been possible without your assistance and support. **Dr Karina Lora**; Department of Allied Health Sciences, University of Oklahoma, USA. **Dr Emma Haycraft**; School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences, University of Loughborough, UK. **Dr Corjan de Groot**; Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum, The Netherlands. **Dr Aino-Maija Eloranta & Professor Timo Lakka**; Institute of Biomedicine, School of Medicine, University of Eastern

Finland, Finland. **Dr Tom Power, Dr Karen Silva Garcia & Professor Sheryl O. Hughes;** Children's Nutrition Research Center, Baylor College of Medicine, USA. **Dr Matthew Cross;** Texas Women's University, USA. **Professor Robert Soussignan;** Centre des Sciences du Goût et de l'Alimentation (Dijon), Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne, France. **Dr Charlotte Hardman;** Department of Psychological Sciences, University of Liverpool, UK. **Dr Rachel L. Vollmer;** Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, Bradley University, USA. **Dr Heidi Bergmeier;** School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University. **Dr Abby Lynn Braden;** Department of Psychology, Bowling Green State University. **Dr Laura Webber;** Co-founder & COO, HealthLumen, UK. **Dr Sarah Domoff;** Department of Psychology, Central Michigan University, USA. **Dr Mary F.F. Chong & Dr Phaik L. Quah;** Singapore Institute for Clinical Science, Singapore. **Dr Jodie Stearns & Professor John Spence;** Faculty of Kinesiology, University of Alberta, Canada. **Dr Elaine McCarthy & Professor Mairead Kiely;** Irish Centre for Fetal and Neonatal Translational Research [INFANT], University College Cork, Ireland. **Dr Patricia P Silveria;** Department of Psychiatry, McGill University, Canada. **Arend Van Deutekom;** Department of Pediatrics, Amsterdam University Medical Center, The Netherlands. **Eline E. Vos & Prof Mai Chin A Paw;** Institute for Health and Care Research, Amsterdam UMC, Universitair Medische Centra, The Netherlands. **Dr Jennifer E. Emond;** Department of Biomedical Data Science, Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine, USA. **Prof Poh Bee Koon & Dr Yitsiew Chin & SEANUTS Malaysia Study Group;** Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia.

Conflicts of interest: Dr. Llewellyn reports grants from Economic and Social Research Council, grants from Best Beginnings (UK charity), during the conduct of the study; personal fees from Yellow Kite, personal fees from The Experiment, personal fees from Diamond Inc, outside the submitted work.

- 1
- 2 **Abbreviations**
- 3 CEBQ, Child Eating Behaviour Questionnaire
- 4 BEBQ, Baby Eating Behaviour Questionnaire
- 5 FR, Food Responsiveness
- 6 EF, Enjoyment of Food
- 7 EOE, Emotional Overeating
- 8 DD, Desire to Drink
- 9 SR, Satiety Responsiveness
- 10 SE, Slowness in Eating
- 11 EUE, Emotional Undereating
- 12 FF, Food Fussiness
- 13 GA, General Appetite
- 14 BMI, Body mass index
- 15 BST, Behavioural Susceptibility Theory
- 16 DEBQ, Dutch Eating Behaviour Questionnaire
- 17 TFEQ, Three Factor Eating Questionnaire
- 18 AEBQ, Adult Eating Behaviour Questionnaire

19 **Abstract**

20

21 This systematic review and meta-analysis aimed to quantify associations between Child -
22 (CEBQ) and Baby (BEBQ) - Eating Behaviour Questionnaire appetitive traits (food approach:
23 Food Responsiveness [FR], Enjoyment of Food [EF], Emotional Overeating [EOE], Desire to
24 Drink [DD]); food avoidant: Satiety Responsiveness [SR], Slowness in Eating [SE], Emotional
25 Undereating [EUE], Food Fussiness [FF]) and measures of child adiposity. Searches of six
26 databases up to February 2019 identified 72 studies (CEBQ, n=67; BEBQ, n=5), 27 met meta-
27 analysis criteria. For cross-sectional studies reporting unadjusted correlations with BMIz (n=19),
28 all traits were associated with BMIz in expected directions (positive: FR, EF, EOE, DD; negative:
29 SR, SE, EUE, FF). Pooled estimates ranged from $r=0.22$ (FR) to $r=-0.21$ (SR). For cross-
30 sectional studies reporting regression coefficients (n=10), three traits (FR, EF, EOE) associated
31 positively, and three traits (SR, SE, EUE) negatively, with BMIz ($\beta=-0.31$ [SR] to $\beta=0.22$ [FR]).
32 Eleven studies reported prospective relationships from appetite to adiposity measures for six
33 scales (positive: FR, EF, EOE, DD; negative: SR, SE). Five studies reported relationships from
34 adiposity measures to appetite for five traits (positive: FR, EF, EOE; negative: SR). All BEBQ-
35 traits were consistently cross-sectionally associated with adiposity measures. Overall,
36 CEBQ/BEBQ-assessed appetitive traits show consistent cross-sectional relationships with
37 measures of child adiposity.

38

39 INTRODUCTION

40 Behavioural susceptibility theory (BST) was developed to explain how the food environment
41 interacts with genetic susceptibility to influence weight^{1,2}. BST proposes that differences in
42 appetite determine why some people over- or under-eat, and others do not, in response to
43 environmental opportunity³. Those who inherit genes promoting an avid appetite are vulnerable
44 to overeating and developing obesity, while those who are genetically predisposed to have a
45 smaller appetite and low interest in food are protected, or even at risk of underweight. By
46 identifying these traits and their early precursors we may be able to prevent unhealthy weight
47 trajectories. Twin studies demonstrate that, like body weight^{4,5}, appetitive traits have a strong
48 genetic basis⁶⁻⁸, and studies using measured genetic obesity risk indicate that appetite
49 mediates the association between obesity-associated genetic variants and adiposity^{9,10}.

50

51 The Child Eating Behaviour Questionnaire (CEBQ),¹¹ was developed to test BST nearly twenty
52 years ago. It has since been translated into fourteen languages and has become one of the
53 most widely used psychometric measures of appetitive traits, with the development and
54 validation papers receiving over 1500 citations to date^{11,12}. The CEBQ has been used to
55 investigate associations of child eating behaviour with environmental factors (e.g. parent feeding
56 behaviours) as well as genetic factors^{13,14}. The CEBQ is a comprehensive 35-item parent-report
57 measure assessing eight appetitive traits. Most of the traits captured by the CEBQ were
58 conceptualised on the basis of existing literature examining dimensions of eating behaviour
59 thought to relate to obesity risk¹⁵. The CEBQ comprises four 'food approach' traits which
60 characterise a larger, more avid appetite and a greater interest in food. Higher scores on these
61 scales indicate a heartier appetite. Four 'food avoidant' traits characterize a smaller appetite and
62 lower interest in food. Higher scores on these scales indicate a smaller appetite. Scales from
63 the CEBQ have been validated against behavioural tests of appetite in pre-schoolers¹². The
64 Baby Eating Behaviour Questionnaire (BEBQ) is an infant version of the CEBQ that assesses
65 four of the appetitive traits and has been developed to capture variation in appetitive tendencies
66 during the first six months of life¹⁶.

67

68 The first study to explore relationships between CEBQ measured appetite traits and child
69 adiposity demonstrated that the 'food approach' trait, food responsiveness was positively
70 associated, and the 'food avoidant' trait satiety responsiveness was negatively associated, with
71 both child BMI and waist circumference ¹⁷. Relationships were linear across the weight
72 spectrum but associations were stronger for waist circumference than for BMI, which could
73 reflect the fact that waist circumference is a more direct measure of adiposity. The main clinical
74 parameters for characterising paediatric body composition draw on weight, height, BMI and
75 waist circumference measures ¹⁸. BMI is not an ideal measure because it reflects relative leg
76 length, body frame size, and fat-free mass in addition to levels of adipose tissue. However,
77 measures such as BMI percentile or BMI z-score remain the most pragmatic and therefore most
78 commonly applied approach for studying variation in paediatric body composition in relation to
79 health outcomes, both at the individual and population level.

80

81 Numerous studies have now examined associations between all of the appetitive traits
82 assessed with the BEBQ and CEBQ, and measures of adiposity in infancy and childhood¹⁹⁻²¹.
83 The present inquiry is the first to systematically review and meta-analyse these studies, with the
84 goal of strengthening the evidence base for the relationship between appetite and child
85 adiposity. Rigorous investigation into the relationships between different dimensions of appetite
86 and weight across childhood is needed to evaluate BST – one of the original purposes of the
87 CEBQ and BEBQ. A stronger evidence base for the relationship between appetite and weight in
88 childhood would inform prevention and treatment of overweight and underweight/weight-related
89 disorders, for example, by suggesting behavioural targets for environmental or clinical
90 interventions. Confirmation of the relationship between CEBQ- and BEBQ-assessed appetitive
91 traits and adiposity would support use of these questionnaires to investigate environmental as
92 well as genetic influences on child eating behaviour (e.g. parent feeding behaviours), within a
93 behaviour genetics framework ¹³. While other measures have been applied to study
94 relationships between appetite and weight (e.g. Dutch Eating Behaviour Questionnaire
95 [DEBQ])²², the CEBQ and BEBQ were specifically developed for pediatric use and to assess a

96 broader range of traits implicated in development of both overweight and underweight, and are
97 thus the focus of this review.

98

99 The primary objectives of this study were to: (i) conduct a systematic review to assess how
100 CEBQ- and BEBQ-assessed appetitive traits relate to adiposity and prospective weight gain
101 from birth to 18 years; and (ii) establish the size of the associations using meta-analysis.

102

103 **METHODS**

104 The systematic review and meta-analysis followed the PRISMA reporting guidelines and was
105 registered on PROSPERO (Registration Number: CRD42017081218.).

106

107 ***Search strategy and selection criteria***

108 A systematic search of the following six electronic databases was conducted: Medline, EBSCO
109 CINAHL, Cochrane Library, EMBASE, Web of Science and PsycInfo until February 2019.

110 Search terms were developed using combinations of relevant keywords and MESH terms and
111 were searched for within relevant titles and abstracts. The search strategy is outlined in **Table**
112 **S1**. The reference list for relevant papers was also hand searched to capture any additional
113 studies that were not identified in the search.

114

115 Studies were included if they were observational and reported at least one CEBQ- or BEBQ-
116 measured trait. The CEBQ includes eight scales. Four assess 'food approach' traits: Enjoyment
117 of Food (4 items; EF; e.g. 'My child loves food'), Food Responsiveness (5 items; FR; e.g. 'Given
118 the choice, my child would eat most of the time'), Emotional Overeating (4 items; EOE; e.g. 'My
119 child eats more when worried'), Desire to Drink (3 items; DD; e.g. 'My child is always asking for
120 a drink'). Four assess 'food avoidant' traits: Food Fussiness (6 items; FF; e.g. 'My child refuses
121 new foods at first'), Emotional Undereating (4 items; EUE; e.g. 'My child eats less when he/she
122 is tired'), Slowness in Eating (4 items; SE; e.g. 'My child eats slowly'), Satiety Responsiveness
123 (5 items; SR; e.g. 'My child gets full up easily'). The BEBQ assesses FR (5 items; e.g., 'My baby

124 was always demanding a feed'), EF (4 items; e.g. 'My baby loved milk'), SE (4 items; e.g. 'My
125 baby fed slowly'), SR (5 items; 'My baby got full up easily') and a single item which correlates
126 with all four scales, 'General appetite' (GA; e.g. 'My baby has a big appetite'). Each item is
127 scored using a 5-point Likert scale (1=never, 2=seldom, 3=sometimes, 4=often, 5=always).
128 Scale scores are means of all scale items. Higher scores indicate more frequent demonstrations
129 of behaviours characterizing the trait. Further details of questionnaire development are
130 published elsewhere^{11,16}.

131

132 In line with the WHO's definition of childhood, the population of interest was children aged <18
133 years²³, Meta-analysis was planned for all articles with sufficient data on the relationship
134 between any scale (CEBQ or BEBQ) and any measure of adiposity (e.g. BMI z-score, BMI
135 percentile, waist circumference or any measure of body composition). Papers not eligible for
136 quantitative analysis were reviewed narratively, including studies providing quantitative
137 estimates of differences in mean CEBQ or BEBQ scale scores across weight categories (e.g.
138 underweight, healthy weight, overweight and obesity). Studies were excluded from the review if
139 CEBQ/BEBQ scales had been modified from the original format (e.g. reorganizing scales into
140 new dimensions such as 'Appetite Restraint' and 'Appetite Disinhibition'), or they were not
141 published in English and no translation was available (n = 8). Eighteen studies incorporated
142 modifications to one or more scales. As multiple studies (n=6) combined SR and SE into one
143 composite scale these observations were retained in the narrative review. Study eligibility was
144 assessed independently by two reviewers (AS and AK), and disagreements discussed until
145 consensus was reached. See **Tables 1-5** for a summary of the study characteristics.

146

147 ***Data extraction and quality assessment of included studies***

148 Descriptive data on the study characteristics, appetitive traits measured, adiposity measure
149 used, and effect estimates of the relationship between appetitive traits and adiposity were
150 extracted by two reviewers (AK and AS). Degree of adjustment for the reported effect estimates
151 varied across studies. Both crude and the maximally adjusted values were extracted (i.e. the

152 reported effect estimates within the individual study adjusted for the most covariates). For
153 duplicate cohorts, the most complete study was taken forward (based on the greatest number of
154 appetitive scales reported or highest n). Where necessary, authors were contacted to request
155 additional information (n= 45, e.g. authors provided specific correlation or regression
156 coefficients for individual subscales when not specifically reported in the main manuscript).

157

158 Risk of bias was assessed and cross-checked by two reviewers (AK and AS). An overall risk of
159 bias score was obtained using the semi-quantitative Newcastle Ottawa Scale (NOS). The NOS
160 assesses three main areas of study quality, namely 1) the selection of the cohort, 2) the
161 comparability of study analysis, and 3) the ascertainment of the outcome. The NOS tool was
162 adapted as necessary to assess the quality of the included study designs. A NOS score $\geq 7/10$
163 was considered indicative of high study quality (see **Table S2**²⁴).

164

165 ***Data synthesis for meta-analysis***

166 Studies were classified based on whether effect estimates of associations between appetitive
167 traits and adiposity measures were reported as correlation coefficients (r) and/or standardized
168 regression coefficients (β). These measures were selected because they were most commonly
169 reported. In order to utilise adiposity measures, a minimum of three studies was needed to pool
170 effect estimates²⁵. Therefore, only BMI z-scores (BMIz) were used in the meta-analytical models
171 as insufficient data existed for other outcomes (e.g. body composition (n=3), weight-for-age
172 (n=1))²⁶.

173

174 There were insufficient data to meta-analyse prospective studies, due to high heterogeneity in
175 outcome measures and follow-up time (see **Table 3**), or studies using the BEBQ, due to
176 variation in reported weight outcomes (see **Table 5**).

177

178 ***Statistical analysis for meta-analysis***

179 Random effects meta-analysis using data from eligible studies was performed to approximate
180 an overall pooled weighted mean effect estimate²⁵. The random effects model was used to
181 account for anticipated inter-study variance.

182

183 Meta-analytic models for unadjusted correlation coefficient effect estimates with BMIz were
184 conducted. In addition, analyses stratified by level of adjustment were undertaken to assess
185 whether the pooled effect size was sensitive to adjustment strategy.

186

187 Assessment of between-study heterogeneity was judged by the p-value for heterogeneity and
188 calculation of the I² values. Moderate between-study heterogeneity was considered >50% for I²
189 with levels of 75% deemed indicative of high inconsistency in approximation of the summarised
190 effect size²⁷. Subgroup analyses explored potential heterogeneity by age of participant or year
191 of publication. Publication bias was assessed by funnel plot and Egger's test; a p value of <.01
192 was considered sufficient evidence of no publication bias²⁸. Statistical analyses were performed
193 using Stata v15 with a p-value of <.05 considered significant.

194

195 **RESULTS**

196 ***Literature search***

197 A total of 2416 papers were retrieved; 1338 remained after duplicate removal. 72 independent
198 studies were eligible for inclusion in the final review (See **Figure 1**). 67 studies explored
199 relationships between CEBQ scales and adiposity (n=54 cross-sectional, n=12 prospective) and
200 five relationships between BEBQ scales and adiposity (n=1 cross-sectional, n=4 prospective).
201 Five CEBQ prospective studies also examined cross-sectional relationships between appetitive
202 traits and adiposity; these results are discussed separately.

203

204 **Characteristics of included studies**

205 ***CEBQ studies (n=67)***

206 Study descriptives are in **Tables 1-3**. Sample sizes ranged from n=37²⁹ to n=10,364⁶. All
207 samples were mixed sex, with ages from 1 month³⁰ to 13 years^{31,32}. Most studies used the

208 English language version of the CEBQ (n=40). Seventeen studies provided data on all 8 CEBQ
209 scales, while the remaining studies reported on a reduced subset of the scales (n=50). Various
210 measures of adiposity were reported including BMI z-scores (n=45), BMI percentile (n=5), BMI
211 (n=3), weight (n=1), body fat percentage (n=1), and weight-for-age z-scores (n=2), and two
212 studies used multiple measures of adiposity (body fat percentage, muscle mass, and BMI z-
213 score)^{20,33}. Study quality was inconsistent; 23 were rated as poor on the NOS scale, and among
214 these, two included separate ratings for sub cohort data which were deemed of higher
215 quality^{34,35} (**Table S2**)

216

217 **BEBQ studies (n=5)**

218 Five studies reported BEBQ data. Samples varied from n=31³⁶ to n=4804³⁷. The BEBQ is
219 designed for use with infants, explaining the younger age range observed (0 - 24 months of
220 age). All studies used the English version of the BEBQ, with most studies reported for all four
221 BEBQ scales (n=4). Four studies elicited parent-reports of current appetitive traits, whilst one
222 study used a combination of current and retrospective reports for the first 3 months of life³⁷. With
223 respect to outcome measures, three studies reported BMI and two BMI z-scores. Four studies
224 were rated high quality based on the NOS criteria (see **Table S2**), with only one study rated
225 lower quality³⁶.

226

227 **Meta-analyses of cross-sectional CEBQ studies (n=27)**

228 In a random effects meta-analysis model, mean bivariate correlation coefficients for
229 associations between the eight CEBQ scales and BMIz were combined (n=19 maximum). All
230 estimates were significant and in expected directions; food approach scales (FR, EF, EOE, DD)
231 were correlated positively, and food avoidant scales (SR, SE, FF, EUE) were negatively, with
232 BMIz. All associations were small in size³⁸. The largest associations were observed between FR
233 and BMIz $r=0.22$ (95% CI: 0.16, 0.29; $I^2=88.0\%$; $n=9463$), and between SR and BMIz $r= -0.21$
234 (95% CI: -0.24, -0.17; $I^2=56.7\%$; $n=9854$). Detailed summaries of the pooled effect estimates
235 and their 95% CIs, for each CEBQ scale, are shown in **Table 6** and **Figure 2**.

236

237 In an overall random effects model pooling data from all eligible studies presenting regression
238 coefficients between CEBQ scales and BMIz (n=13), the maximally adjusted standardized effect
239 estimates (β) were prioritised. If unavailable, the crude estimates (i.e. equivalent to a Pearson's
240 correlation coefficient) were taken forward. Six out of eight scales were significantly associated
241 with BMIz in the adjusted estimates in expected directions. Strongest associations were
242 observed for SR $\beta=-0.31$ (95% CI: -0.40, -0.23; $I^2=94.0\%$; n=9800) and FR $\beta=0.22$ (95% CI:
243 0.11, 0.34; $I^2=93.2\%$; n=5707) with BMIz. FF and DD were not significantly associated with
244 BMIz. Full results for the overall pooled models, as well as the adjusted only and crude only
245 meta-analyses are shown in **Table 7** and **Figure 3**.

246

247 **Narrative Review of CEBQ studies**

248 *Cross-sectional CEBQ studies*

249 In the 54 studies reporting on cross-sectional associations between the CEBQ and measures of
250 adiposity, five appetitive traits were consistently associated with child adiposity in expected
251 directions. Positive associations were reported for FR (24/29 studies), EF (21/28) and EOE
252 (12/22), and negative associations for SR (22/25), SE (12/19) and SR/SE combined (2/2). Null
253 associations were reported for EUE (10/17), FF (12/19) and DD (15/22). Descriptive summaries
254 of these relationships are presented in **Table S3**.

255

256 Nineteen cross-sectional studies reported data on differences in mean CEBQ scale scores by
257 weight categories. There was substantial variability in number of categories (ranging from 2 to
258 5), and the adiposity thresholds and reference data used to define them (see Table 2). Just over
259 half (11/19) of studies tested for trends of linearity in scale scores across adiposity categories.
260 Positive linear trends were observed for FR (10/10), EF (9/10), EOE (8/8) and DD (6/7), and
261 negative linear trends for SR (7/7), SE (4/4), FF (4/7), and SR/SE (3/3). No association was
262 observed for EUE (5/6). Findings are summarised in see **Table S4**.

263

264 *Prospective CEBQ studies*

265 Only 11 studies explored prospective associations between the CEBQ and adiposity, all
266 adjusting for baseline adiposity^{19,20,33,34,39–45}. Most studies used BMIZ (n=9), but BMI percentile
267 (n=1), and multiple other indicators (n=1) were also reported. Six appetitive traits were
268 consistently associated with child adiposity in expected directions, with positive associations for
269 FR (6/8 studies), EF (5/7), EOE (5/5) and DD (3/3), and negative associations for SR (5/7) and
270 SE (3/5). Null associations were reported for FF (4/5) and EUE (2/2). Studies reporting the
271 opposite direction of influence (n=5), showed consistent positive associations between adiposity
272 and later FR (4/5), EF (2/3) and EOE (2/3), and negative associations for SR (4/5). Of these,
273 five studies also reported on the reverse relationships, from baseline CEBQ scores to later
274 adiposity^{20,30,46–48}. Only one study explored prospective relationships from adiposity to later
275 appetitive traits, but did not examine bidirectionality⁴⁹. Results are summarised in **Table S3**.

276

277 ***BEBQ studies (n=5)***

278 Four of five identified studies explored prospective relationships between BEBQ scales and
279 adiposity (Patel et al., 2017). Only two studies reported cross-sectional associations (Patel
280 2018; Quah 2015), so meta-analysis for the BEBQ estimates was not undertaken. Positive
281 associations with adiposity were reported for FR (3/5), EF (4/5) and GA (3/3), and negative
282 associations for SR (2/4) and SE (3/3). A descriptive summary of the direction of the observed
283 relationships in these papers is presented in **Table S3**.

284

285 **DISCUSSION**

286 The CEBQ and BEBQ were designed to capture individual differences in appetitive traits
287 hypothesised to contribute to the development of overweight and underweight. These
288 questionnaires have been used extensively since their inception, but this is the first systematic
289 examination of relationships between appetitive traits, and measures of adiposity across
290 childhood.

291

292 Pooled estimates based on 27 eligible studies for inclusion in the meta-analysis demonstrated
293 that six CEBQ scales were associated with BMI z-scores in hypothesised directions. Three food

294 approach scales (FR, EF, EOE) were consistently positively associated with adiposity, with the
295 largest association observed for FR ($r=.22$, $\beta=.21$). Three food avoidant scales (SR, SE, EUE)
296 were consistently negatively associated with adiposity, with the largest association observed for
297 SR ($r=-.21$, $\beta=-.33$). In contrast, associations of DD and FF with BMI-z scores were mixed, with
298 only studies reporting correlations yielding significant pooled estimates. Findings were broadly
299 consistent across relationships evaluated in the narrative review and for the fewer BEBQ
300 studies. For studies examining linearity of associations across weight categories, results were
301 graded in the expected direction for all CEBQ scales except EUE, which was unrelated to
302 weight status. The small number of studies reporting prospective relationships between appetite
303 and adiposity suggested bidirectional associations.

304

305 Together these findings support the central hypothesis of behavioural susceptibility theory – that
306 appetitive traits are a key behavioural mechanism that help to explain an individual's
307 susceptibility to gain excess weight (or not) in response to the obesogenic environment.
308 However, findings also indicate that adiposity itself may lead to changes in appetite over time,
309 such that children of higher adiposity develop increasingly avid appetites. Although future
310 prospective studies are needed to reveal the direction of influence, this impact of weight on
311 appetite is potentially problematic for weight loss interventions targeting eating behaviour and
312 highlights the importance of obesity prevention and management of appetite from infancy.

313

314 The CEBQ was originally developed as a multi-dimensional measure of the appetitive traits
315 implicated in the development of body weight in children. Most traits captured by the CEBQ
316 were conceptualised based on existing literature examining dimensions of eating behaviour¹⁵.
317 For example, FR and SR were developed from experimental laboratory studies which identified
318 clusters of behaviours (e.g. eating without hunger, palatability responsiveness) linked to
319 increased obesity risk^{15,50,51}. Early work revealed differences in these traits, with greater
320 responsiveness to food cues, and lower responsiveness to internal cues of satiety, observed in
321 individuals with obesity, compared to those with a healthy weight^{15,51–53}. However, two traits,
322 EUE and DD, were added following open-ended parent interviews and these scales showed

323 less clear adiposity relationships, possibly due to ambiguity in what they assess. For example,
324 DD assesses general wanting for drinks, without specifying beverage types. Distinguishing
325 between the preference for water versus a caloric beverage (e.g. sugar-sweetened drinks or
326 milk) may be necessary to clarify associations with energy intake and therefore weight⁵⁴. There
327 were also inconsistencies in the EUE-adiposity relationship. EUE was commonly excluded from
328 studies, resulting in a smaller analysis sample, so the inconsistency may have resulted from
329 lower statistical power. Additionally, EUE scores may partly capture occurrence of a 'state', i.e.
330 how often a child gets upset around mealtimes. For example, parents who pressure their
331 children to eat may trigger a state of food anxiety, resulting in the expression of EUE behaviours
332 regardless of their appetitive trait^{55,56}.

333

334 The unclear relationship between FF and adiposity revealed is unsurprising. Food fussiness
335 characterises two aspects: eating a limited range of foods, and refusal of unfamiliar foods ('food
336 neophobia'). Both behaviours contribute to lower dietary variety, which is associated with poorer
337 diet quality. Parents worry about fussy eating because it could lead to a child eating too little, or
338 consuming insufficient variety for optimal development⁵⁷. FF *has* been associated with under-
339 eating and failure to thrive in children⁵⁸ but also with overconsumption of energy dense foods^{59–}
340 ⁶¹. FF may not confer risk of underweight if adequate quantities of food are consumed, even if
341 diet quality remains poor.

342

343 The small number of studies (n=11) reporting prospective relationships between appetite and
344 adiposity, limits our ability to draw conclusions regarding the likely direction of influence
345 between appetitive traits and weight development. Even fewer studies (n=5) examined
346 bidirectional relationships, but all were supportive of bidirectional associations. While tentative
347 evidence supports the hypothesis that an avid appetite predisposes to weight gain, it is possible
348 the influence of appetite on weight development is greater during infancy, with adiposity level
349 becoming more important in shaping appetite later in childhood.

350

351

352 **Limitations**

353 Heterogeneity in reporting and in adiposity measures (e.g. BMI z-score versus BMI percentiles)
354 prevented the inclusion of more studies in the meta-analytic model, and meta-analysis of
355 prospective effect estimates. Additionally, we were unable to include several studies that
356 modified the CEBQ from its original, validated form (n=18) – e.g. studies that dropped items
357 from scales, moved items into other scales, split scales, or created new scores for scales.

358

359 While the focus of this review was all measures of child adiposity, the majority of studies utilised
360 BMI z-scores as the primary outcome and thus it was only possible to include BMI z-score in the
361 meta-analytic model. There are a number of limitations to using BMI as an indicator of adiposity.
362 BMI only acts a surrogate measure and cannot differentiate between weight attributable to fat
363 mass or lean mass and thus misclassification of weight status can occur at an individual level,
364 especially during childhood when maturation occurs at differing rates^{62–64}. Furthermore, studies
365 have highlighted the specific measurement used, e.g. BMI vs BMI z-scores vs BMI percentiles,
366 may provide different results when examining changes in adiposity over time^{63,65}. While BMI z-
367 score is a valuable screening tool, it is not recommended as an appropriate diagnostic method
368 for clinically assessing adiposity and should be used in conjunction with other measures of body
369 composition in clinical practice⁶³. However, BMI measures continue to be commonly employed
370 in population research because they offer a practical and affordable method for assessment at
371 scale, thus representing the best available indicator for this investigation.

372

373 Studies examining appetite in relation to weight status primarily focused on differences between
374 children with healthy weight and overweight, rather than relationships between appetitive traits
375 across the weight spectrum. Research in children with underweight is necessary to uncover how
376 appetitive traits influence under-eating and the development of disordered eating behaviours, for
377 example, to identify the age at which children might start to express active food restriction or
378 excess consumption.

379

380 Only CEBQ and BEBQ-measured appetitive traits were included in this review. Other existing
381 validated psychometric measures such as the DEBQ and Three Factor Eating Behaviour
382 Questionnaire (TFEQ)⁵³ were not specifically developed for children, and capture a narrower
383 range of appetitive traits. Confining our analysis to the CEBQ and BEBQ facilitates future
384 comparisons across the life course via the Adult Eating Behaviour Questionnaire (AEBQ), which
385 matches the appetitive trait factor structure of the CEBQ⁶⁶.

386

387 There were only a small number of bidirectional studies and those identified varied widely in
388 period of follow-up, age-range, and frequency of assessment. Further analysis of prospective
389 data from birth are needed to understand dynamic changes in direction and strength of the
390 appetite-adiposity relationship across childhood. Future studies should also consider methods
391 for disentangling between-person from within-person effects and discounting effects of all time-
392 invariant confounders (e.g. sex or ethnicity), thereby separating the within-person level from
393 confounding group-level association and moving closer to true causation of the appetite-
394 adiposity relationship⁶⁷. Research examining the impact on child adiposity of interventions that
395 effectively modify appetitive traits could also inform on causality.

396

397 **Implications**

398 Notwithstanding these limitations, our findings suggest interventions targeting appetitive traits
399 may provide a novel opportunity in obesity prevention and treatment, with potential implications
400 for clinical practice and population health. Tailoring interventions to individuals' problematic
401 appetitive traits may encourage behaviour change, influencing efficacy of lifestyle interventions
402 (e.g. reducing emotional eating as a stress coping mechanism)⁶⁸. E-health interventions show
403 small positive effects of tailoring based on factors such as dietary intake, on weight loss
404 success^{69,70}. Preliminary research tailoring treatment targeting food-cue reactivity and satiety
405 responsiveness in adults with binge eating demonstrated clear reductions in episodes of
406 overeating, and BMI over a 4 month treatment period, with results maintained at 3-month follow-
407 up⁷¹. Future work aims to apply this approach to children⁷². Establishing optimal BEBQ or CEBQ
408 scale cut-off values for prediction of the development of overweight would support this work by

409 helping to identify children at risk, informing algorithms to support clinical decision-making, and
410 highlighting the most effective appetitive traits to target to support healthy weight management.
411 At a population health level, even if tailoring is not possible, incorporating individual variation in
412 appetitive traits with known adiposity impacts could improve models aiming to assess or predict
413 impacts of environmental interventions to prevent child obesity^{73,74}.

414

415 **CONCLUSION**

416 The studies reviewed provide preliminary support for the hypothesis that a more avid appetite –
417 higher scores on CEBQ and BEBQ food approach traits and lower scores on food avoidant
418 traits – predisposes to excess weight gain and increased risk of overweight during childhood.
419 However, evidence remains weak; most studies were cross-sectional, precluding conclusions
420 about causal directions, and there were too few bidirectional prospective studies to detect
421 effects reliably. More prospective research from birth is needed to establish causality, and to
422 investigate bidirectional relationships between appetite and adiposity which may change in
423 direction and strength throughout development. Nevertheless, this is the most comprehensive
424 synthesis of published evidence on the relationship between appetitive traits and adiposity in
425 childhood to date. Results provide a foundation for future prospective research to understand
426 how appetitive traits mediate the influence of the obesogenic environment on body weight
427 trajectories.

REFERENCES

1. Carnell S, Haworth CMA, Plomin R, Wardle J. Genetic influence on appetite in children. *Int J Obes (Lond)*. 2008;32(10):1468-1473. doi:10.1038/ijo.2008.127
2. Carnell S, Wardle J. Appetite and adiposity in children: evidence for a behavioral susceptibility theory of obesity. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2008;88(1):22-29.
3. Llewellyn C, Wardle J. Behavioral susceptibility to obesity: Gene–environment interplay in the development of weight. *Physiol Behav*. 2015;152:494-501.
doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physbeh.2015.07.006>
4. Elks CE, den Hoed M, Zhao JH, et al. Variability in the Heritability of Body Mass Index: A Systematic Review and Meta-Regression. *Front Endocrinol (Lausanne)*. 2012;3(FEB):29.
doi:10.3389/fendo.2012.00029
5. Silventoinen K, Jelenkovic A, Sund R, et al. Genetic and environmental effects on body mass index from infancy to the onset of adulthood: an individual-based pooled analysis of 45 twin cohorts participating in the COllaborative project of Development of Anthropometrical measures in Twins (CODATwins) study. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2016;104(2):371-379. doi:10.3945/ajcn.116.130252
6. Carnell S, Wardle J. Appetite and adiposity in children: evidence for a behavioral susceptibility theory of obesity. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2008;88(1):22-29.
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=cin20&AN=105791809&site=ehost-live>.
7. Llewellyn CH, van Jaarsveld CHM, Johnson L, Carnell S, Wardle J. Nature and nurture in infant appetite: analysis of the Gemini twin birth cohort. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2010;91(5):1172-1179. doi:10.3945/ajcn.2009.28868
8. Llewellyn CH, van Jaarsveld CHM, Plomin R, Fisher A, Wardle J. Inherited behavioral susceptibility to adiposity in infancy: a multivariate genetic analysis of appetite and weight in the Gemini birth cohort. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2012;95(3):633-639.
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=cin20&AN=108164473&site=ehost-live>.

9. Jacob R, Drapeau V, Tremblay A, Provencher V, Bouchard C, Pérusse L. The role of eating behavior traits in mediating genetic susceptibility to obesity. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2018;108:445-452. doi:10.1093/ajcn/nqy130
10. Llewellyn CH, Trzaskowski M, van Jaarsveld CH, Plomin R, Wardle J. Satiety mechanisms in genetic risk of obesity. *JAMA Pediatr.* 2014;168(4):338-344. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1001/jamapediatrics.2013.4944>
11. Wardle J, Guthrie CA, Sanderson S, Rapoport L. Development of the Children's Eating Behaviour Questionnaire. *J Child Psychol Psychiatry Allied Discip.* 2001;42(7):963-970. doi:10.1017/S0021963001007727
12. Carnell S, Wardle J. Measuring behavioural susceptibility to obesity: Validation of the child eating behaviour questionnaire. *Appetite.* 2007;48(1):104-113. doi:10.1016/j.appet.2006.07.075
13. Kral TVE, Faith MS. Child eating patterns and weight regulation: a developmental behaviour genetics framework. *Acta Paediatr.* 2007;96(SUPPL. 454):29-34. doi:10.1111/j.1651-2227.2007.00167.x
14. Faith MS, Carnell S, Kral TVE. Genetics of food intake self-regulation in childhood: Literature review and research opportunities. *Hum Hered.* 2013;75(2-4):80-89. doi:10.1159/000353879
15. Schachter S. Obesity and eating. *Science (80-).* 1968;161(3843):751-756. doi:10.1126/science.161.3843.751
16. Llewellyn CH, van Jaarsveld CH, Johnson L, Carnell S, Wardle J. Development and factor structure of the Baby Eating Behaviour Questionnaire in the Gemini birth cohort. *Appetite.* 2011;57(2):388-396. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2011.05.324>
17. Carnell S, Wardle J. Appetite and adiposity in children: evidence for a behavioral susceptibility theory of obesity. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2008;88(1):22-29. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=cin20&AN=105791809&site=ehost-live>.
18. Horan M, Gibney E, Molloy E, McAuliffe F. Methodologies to assess paediatric adiposity.

- Ir J Med Sci.* 2015;184(1):53-68. doi:10.1007/s11845-014-1124-1
19. Quah PL, Chan YH, Aris IM, et al. Prospective associations of appetitive traits at 3 and 12 months of age with body mass index and weight gain in the first 2 years of life. *BMC Pediatr.* 2015;15:153. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s12887-015-0467-8>
 20. Derks IPM, Sijbrands EJG, Wake M, et al. Eating behavior and body composition across childhood: a prospective cohort study. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act.* 2018;15(1):1-9. doi:10.1186/s12966-018-0725-x
 21. van Jaarsveld CH, Llewellyn CH, Johnson L, Wardle J. Prospective associations between appetitive traits and weight gain in infancy. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2011;94(6):1562-1567. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=cin20&AN=108207259&site=ehost-live>.
 22. van Strien T, Frijters JER, Bergers GPA, Defares PB. The Dutch Eating Behavior Questionnaire (DEBQ) for assessment of restrained, emotional, and external eating behavior. *Int J Eat Disord.* 1986;5(2):295-315. doi:10.1002/1098-108X(198602)5:2<295::AID-EAT2260050209>3.0.CO;2-T
 23. World Health Organisation. *WHO Definition of Key Terms.*; 2013. <https://www.who.int/hiv/pub/guidelines/arv2013/intro/keyterms/en/>. Accessed July 10, 2020.
 24. Wells G, Shea B, Robertson J, et al. *The Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (NOS) for Assessing the Quality of Nonrandomized Studies in Meta-Analysis.*
 25. DerSimonian R, Laird N. Meta-analysis in clinical trials. *Control Clin Trials.* 1986;7(3):177-188. doi:10.1016/0197-2456(86)90046-2
 26. Valentine JC, Pigott TD, Rothstein HR. How Many Studies Do You Need? *J Educ Behav Stat.* 2010;35(2):215-247. doi:10.3102/1076998609346961
 27. Higgins JPT, Thompson SG, Deeks JJ, Altman DG. Measuring inconsistency in meta-analyses. *BMJ.* 2003;327(7414):557-560. doi:10.1136/bmj.327.7414.557
 28. Egger M, Smith GD, Schneider M, Minder C. Bias in meta-analysis detected by a simple , graphical test measures of funnel plot asymmetry. *Bmj.* 1997;315(7109):629-634.

doi:10.1136/bmj.315.7109.629

29. Mallan KM, Nambiar S, Magarey AM, Daniels LA. Satiety responsiveness in toddlerhood predicts energy intake and weight status at four years of age. *Appetite*. 2014;74:79-85. doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2013.12.001>
30. van Deutekom AW, Chinapaw MJ, Vrijkotte TG, Gemke RJ. The association of birth weight and postnatal growth with energy intake and eating behavior at 5 years of age-A birth cohort study. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act Vol 13 2016, ArtID 15*. 2016;13. doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s12966-016-0335-4>
31. Loh DA, Moy FM, Zaharan NL, Mohamed Z. Eating behaviour among multi-ethnic adolescents in a middle-income country as measured by the self-reported Children's Eating Behaviour Questionnaire. *PLoS ONE [Electronic Resour*. 2013;8(12):e82885. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0082885>
32. Viana V, Sinde S, Saxton JC. Children's Eating Behaviour Questionnaire: associations with BMI in Portuguese children. *Br J Nutr*. 2008;100(2):445-450. <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=cin20&AN=105669370&site=ehost-live>.
33. Steinsbekk, Llewellyn CH, Fildes A, Wichstrøm L. Body composition impacts appetite regulation in middle childhood. A prospective study of Norwegian community children. 2017;14(1):70.
34. Bergmeier H, Skouteris H, Horwood S, Hooley M, Richardson B. Child temperament and maternal predictors of preschool children's eating and body mass index. A prospective study. *Appetite*. 2014;74:125-132. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2013.12.006>
35. Mallan KM, Liu WH, Mehta RJ, Daniels LA, Magarey A, Battistutta D. Maternal report of young children's eating styles. Validation of the Children's Eating Behaviour Questionnaire in three ethnically diverse Australian samples. *Appetite*. 2013;64:48-55. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2013.01.003>
36. Shepard DN, Chandler-Laney PC. Prospective associations of eating behaviors with weight gain in infants. *Obesity*. 2015;23(9):1881-1885.

doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1002/oby.21168>

37. van Jaarsveld CH, Llewellyn CH, Johnson L, Wardle J. Prospective associations between appetitive traits and weight gain in infancy. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2011;94(6):1562-1567.
<http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=cin20&AN=108207259&site=ehost-live>.
38. Chen H, Cohen P, Chen S. How big is a big odds ratio? Interpreting the magnitudes of odds ratios in epidemiological studies. *Commun Stat Simul Comput*. 2010;39(4):860-864.
doi:10.1080/03610911003650383
39. Parkinson KN, Drewett RF, Le Couteur AS, Adamson AJ. Do maternal ratings of appetite in infants predict later Child Eating Behaviour Questionnaire scores and body mass index? *Appetite*. 2010;54(1):186-190. doi:10.1016/j.appet.2009.10.007
40. Mallan KM, Fildes A, Magarey AM, Daniels LA. The Relationship between Number of Fruits, Vegetables, and Noncore Foods Tried at Age 14 Months and Food Preferences, Dietary Intake Patterns, Fussy Eating Behavior, and Weight Status at Age 3.7 Years. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2016;116(4):630-637. doi:10.1016/j.jand.2015.06.006
41. McPhie S, Skouteris H, Fuller-Tyszkiewicz M, et al. Maternal predictors of preschool child-eating behaviours, food intake and body mass index: A prospective study. *Early Child Dev Care*. 2012;182(8):999-1014.
doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03004430.2012.678595>
42. Steinsbekk, Wichstrøm L, Wichstrom L. Predictors of Change in BMI From the Age of 4 to 8. *J Pediatr Psychol*. 2015;40(10):1056-1064.
43. Bjørklund, O. Belsky, J., Wichstrøm, Lars. & Steinsbekk S. Predictors of eating behavior in middle childhood: A hybrid fixed effects model. *Dev Psychol*. 2018;54(6):1099-1110.
44. Mallan K, Nambiar S, Magarey A, Daniels L. Satiety responsiveness in toddlerhood predicts energy intake and weight status at four years of age. *Appetite*. 2014;74:79-85.
doi:10.1016/j.appet.2013.12.001
45. Escobar RS, O'Donnell KA, Colalillo S, et al. Better quality of mother-child interaction at 4 years of age decreases emotional overeating in IUGR girls. *Appetite*. 2014;81:337-342.

- doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appet.2014.06.107>
46. Koch A, Pollatos O. Interoceptive sensitivity, body weight and eating behavior in children: a prospective study. *Front Psychol.* 2014;5. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2014.01003
 47. Steinsbekk S, Llewellyn CH, Fildes A, Wichstrom L. Body composition impacts appetite regulation in middle childhood. A prospective study of Norwegian community children. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act Vol 14 2017, ArtID 70.* 2017;14.
doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s12966-017-0528-5>
 48. Steinsbekk S, Wichstrom L. Predictors of Change in BMI From the Age of 4 to 8. *J Pediatr Psychol.* 2015;40(10):1056-1064. doi:<https://dx.doi.org/10.1093/jpepsy/jsv052>
 49. Steinsbekk S, Belsky J, Wichstrom L. Parental feeding and child eating: An investigation of reciprocal effects. *Child Dev.* 2016;87(5):1538-1549.
doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/cdev.12546>
 50. Barkeling B, Ekman S, Rossner S. Eating behaviour in obese and normal weight 11-year-old children. *Int J Obes.* 1992;16(5):355-360.
 51. Nisbett RE. Taste, deprivation, and weight determinants of eating behavior. *J Pers Soc Psychol.* 1968;10(2):107-116. doi:10.1037/h0026283
 52. Saelens BE, Epstein LH. *Reinforcing Value of Food in Obese and Non-Obese Women.* Vol 27.; 1996.
 53. Stunkard AJ, Messick S. The three-factor eating questionnaire to measure dietary restraint, disinhibition and hunger. *J Psychosom Res.* 1985;29(1):71-83.
doi:10.1016/0022-3999(85)90010-8
 54. Webber L, Hill C, Saxton J, Jaarsveld C, Wardle J. *Eating Behaviour and Weight in Children.* Vol 33.; 2008. doi:10.1038/ijo.2008.219
 55. Webber L, Cooke L, Hill C, Wardle J. Child adiposity and maternal feeding practices: a longitudinal analysis. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2010;92(6):1423-1428.
doi:10.3945/ajcn.2010.30112
 56. Ventura AK, Birch LL. Does parenting affect children's eating and weight status? *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act.* 2008;5:15. doi:10.1186/1479-5868-5-15

57. Mascola AJ, Bryson SW, Agras WS. Picky eating during childhood: a longitudinal study to age 11 years. *Eat Behav.* 2010;11(4):253-257. doi:10.1016/j.eatbeh.2010.05.006
58. Wright C, Birks E. Risk factors for failure to thrive: a population-based survey. *Child Care Health Dev.* 2000;26(1):5-16. doi:10.1046/j.1365-2214.2000.00135.x
59. Galloway AT, Lee Y, Birch LL. Predictors and consequences of food neophobia and pickiness in young girls. *J Am Diet Assoc.* 2003;103(6):692-698. doi:10.1053/jada.2003.50134
60. Gibson EL, Cooke L. Understanding Food Fussiness and Its Implications for Food Choice, Health, Weight and Interventions in Young Children: The Impact of Professor Jane Wardle. *Curr Obes Rep.* 2017;6(1):46-56. doi:10.1007/s13679-017-0248-9
61. Hayes JF, Altman M, Kolko RP, et al. Decreasing food fussiness in children with obesity leads to greater weight loss in family-based treatment. *Obesity.* 2016;24(10):2158-2163. doi:https://dx.doi.org/10.1002/oby.21622
62. Freeman J V, Cole TJ, Chinn S, Jones PR, White EM, Preece MA. Cross sectional stature and weight reference curves for the UK, 1990. *Arch Dis Child.* 1995;73(1):17. <http://adc.bmj.com/content/73/1/17.abstract>.
63. Mei Z, Grummer-Strawn LM, Pietrobelli A, Goulding A, Goran MI, Dietz WH. Validity of body mass index compared with other body-composition screening indexes for the assessment of body fatness in children and adolescents. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2002;75(6):978-985. doi:10.1093/ajcn/75.6.978
64. Cole TJ, Bellizzi MC, Flegal KM, Dietz WH. Establishing a standard definition for child overweight and obesity worldwide: International survey. *Br Med J.* 2000. doi:10.1136/bmj.320.7244.1240
65. Cole TJ, Faith MS, Pietrobelli A, Heo M. What is the best measure of adiposity change in growing children: BMI, BMI %, BMI z-score or BMI centile? *Eur J Clin Nutr.* 2005;59(3):419-425. doi:10.1038/sj.ejcn.1602090
66. Hunot C, Fildes A, Croker H, Johnson F, Beeken RJ. Development of a brief Appetitive Trait Tailored Intervention (ATTI) in a sample of overweight and obese adults. In: *34th*

Annual Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society. ; 2016.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/309720102_Development_of_a_brief_Appetitive_Trait_Tailored_Intervention_ATTIn_a_sample_of_overweight_and_obese_adults.

Accessed April 9, 2020.

67. Hamaker EL, Kuiper RM, Grasman RPPP. A critique of the cross-lagged panel model. *Psychol Methods*. 2015;20(1):102-116. doi:10.1037/a0038889
68. Hunot C, Fildes A, Croker H, Llewellyn CH, Wardle J, Beeken RJ. Appetitive traits and relationships with BMI in adults: Development of the Adult Eating Behaviour Questionnaire. *Appetite*. 2016;105:356-363. doi:10.1016/j.appet.2016.05.024
69. Ryan K, Dockray S, Linehan C. A systematic review of tailored eHealth interventions for weight loss. *Digit Heal*. 2019;5:205520761982668. doi:10.1177/2055207619826685
70. Helle C, Hillesund ER, Wills AK, Øverby NC. Evaluation of an eHealth intervention aiming to promote healthy food habits from infancy -the Norwegian randomized controlled trial Early Food for Future Health. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act*. 2019;16(1):1. doi:10.1186/s12966-018-0763-4
71. Boutelle KN, Knatz S, Carlson J, Bergmann K, Peterson CB. An Open Trial Targeting Food Cue Reactivity and Satiety Sensitivity in Overweight and Obese Binge Eaters. *Cogn Behav Pract*. 2017;24(3):363-373. doi:10.1016/j.cbpra.2016.08.003
72. Boutelle KN, Kang Sim DE, Manzano M, Rhee KE, Crow SJ, Strong DR. Role of appetitive phenotype trajectory groups on child body weight during a family-based treatment for children with overweight or obesity. *Int J Obes*. 2019;43(11):2302-2308. doi:10.1038/s41366-019-0463-4
73. Department of Health U, Services H, for Disease Control C. Preventing Chronic Disease, Public Health Research, Practice, and Policy,. doi:10.5888/pcd14.170491
74. Dooyema CA, Belay B, Foltz JL, Williams N, Blanck HM. The childhood obesity research demonstration project: A comprehensive community approach to reduce childhood obesity. *Child Obes*. 2013;9(5):454-459. doi:10.1089/chi.2013.0060

Figure Legends

Figure 1. PRISMA flow diagram describing identification of literature for inclusion in this systematic review and meta-analysis

Figure 2. Part A-H. Pooled effect estimates for unadjusted correlation coefficients with BMI z-scores, by CEBQ scale.

Figure 3. Part A-H. Pooled effect estimates for regression coefficients with BMI z-scores, by CEBQ subscales.

Tables

Table 1. Summary characteristics for cross-sectional CEBQ studies (n=43) included in narrative review.	30
Table 2. Summary characteristics for cross-sectional studies comparing mean CEBQ scale scores across weight categories and testing for linearity of trends (n=19)	35
Table 3. Summary characteristics for prospective studies examining associations between CEBQ scales at baseline and later adiposity (n=11).....	37
Table 4. Summary characteristics for CEBQ prospective studies (n=5) reporting on relationship between adiposity and later appetite.....	39
Table 5. Summary characteristics for BEBQ cross-sectional and prospective studies (n = 5) included in the narrative review.	40
Table 6. Results from random effects meta-analysis of studies examining correlation of CEBQ scales with BMI z-scores (only unadjusted correlation coefficients ^a)	41
Table 7. Results from random effects meta-analysis of studies examining regression of BMI z-scores on CEBQ scales, stratified by level of adjustment	41

Table 1. Summary characteristics for cross-sectional CEBQ studies (n=43) included in narrative review.

Author, date	Country	Participants			CEBQ measure		Outcome: weight	CEBQ traits associated with adiposity measures		
		Cohort	N, gender %	Age range/ mean (SD±)	Sub-scales	Language	Measure (reference data)	Positive	Negative	None
Carnell & Wardle, 2008^a	UK	TEDS & Community sample	10364, 51.5% F; 572, 46.9% F	8-11 (9.9 ±0.86), 3-5 (4.4±0.62)	EF, SR/SE (combined) ^g	English	BMI z-scores (UK 1990 data)	EF	SR/SE	-
Cao, 2012	China	Community sample	219, 47.9% F	12-18m	EOE, DD ^h	Chinese (Mandarin) ^f	BMI z-scores (Chinese ref data)	-	-	EOE, DD
Bergmeier, 2014	Australia	Community sample	201, 57.7% F	2-5y (2.92 ±0.75)	FF, EF	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	EF	-	FF
Boswell, 2018^a	Australia	Community sample	977, 50.6% F	2-4.9y (3.4 y)	FR, EF, SR, SE, FF	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF	SR, FF	SE
Braden, 2014^b	USA	Community sample	106, 54.7% F	8-12 (10.34 ±1.31)	EOE	English	BMI percentile (CDC)	-	-	EOE
Brown, 2012	Wales	Community sample	298, NP	18-24m	FR, SR	English	Weight	-	-	FR, SR
Cross, 2014^{a, b}	USA	Community sample	299, 50.3% F	4-5 y	FR, EF, SR	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF	SR	
Demir, 2017	Turkey	Primary school children	1201, (NP)	6-14 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Turkish ³	BMI (WHO)	FR, EOE, EF	SR, FF	DD, EUE, SE
Domoff, 2015^{a, b}	USA	Appetite, Behavior, and Cortisol [ABC] Cohort + "Growing Healthy" cohort	1002, 50.7% F	4.05 y (0.53±)	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF, EOE	SR, SE, EUE, FF	DD
Emond, 2017^{a, b}	USA	Community sample	178, 51.1% F	9-10 y	FR, EF, SR	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	EF, FR	SR	-
Escobar, 2014^{a, b, d}	Canada	MAVAN	340, 50% F	48-72m	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI z-scores	FR, EF, DD, EOE	SR, FF, EUE	SE

Author, date	Country	Participants			CEBQ measure		Outcome: weight	CEBQ traits associated with adiposity measures		
		Cohort	N, gender %	Age range/ mean (SD±)	Sub-scales	Language	Measure (reference data)	Positive	Negative	None
Frankel, 2014 ^a	USA	Head Start Cohort	296, 51% F	4.42 (±0.71)	SR, FR, EF	English + Spanish) ^f	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF	SR	
Fuemmeler, 2013 ^{a, b}	USA	AMP Too for Twos	213, 44% F	2.1 (±0.11)	FR, EF, DD, SR/SE ^g	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF, DD	SR/SE	-
Gregory, 2010 ^a	Australia	The Child & Family Health Study		2-4 y; 3.3 (±0.8)	FR ⁱ	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR	-	-
Hankey, 2016 ^a	USA	Community sample	104, 51% F	3-5 y	SR, FR, EF, EOE	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF	SR	EOE
Hardman, 2016 ^{a, b}	UK	Community sample	77, 51% F	3-12 y	EOE	English	BMI z-score (WHO)	EOE	-	-
Haycraft, 2011 ^{a, b}	UK	Community sample	241, 45% F	3-8 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI z-scores (CGF)	FR, EOE, DD	SE	SR, EUE, FF, EF
Hayes, 2016 ^a	USA	Family- based behavioural treatment	170, 61.2% F	7-11 y (9.41 ±1.23)	FF	English	BMI z-scores (CDC 2000)	-	-	FF
Jansen, 2012 ^a	Netherlands	Generation R cohort	4987, 49.9% F	4 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, FF, EUE	Dutch ^f	BMI z-scores (Dutch national data)	FR, EF	EUE, SR, FF	EOE, DD
Koch, 2014 ^a	Germany	PIER cohort	1657, 52.1% F	6-11 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD	German	BMI z-scores (German national data)	FR, EOE, DD, EF	-	-
Larsen, 2017 ^a	Netherlands	School-based sample	206, 50.5% F	7-12 y (9.5 ±1.4)	FR	Dutch ^f	BMI z-score (Dutch national data)	FR	-	-
Lipowska, 2018	Poland	Community sample	387, 55.1% F	5 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Polish	BF%	Girls: FR (BF%) Boys: EOE (BF%)	Girls: SR (BF%) Boys: EUE (BF%)	-
Loh, 2013 ^a	Malaysia	Community sample	646, 73.2% F	13 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, EUE, SE ⁱ	Malay ^f	BMI z-scores (IOTF)	-	-	EF, EOE, FR, DD, EUE, SE

Author, date	Country	Participants			CEBQ measure		Outcome: weight	CEBQ traits associated with adiposity measures		
		Cohort	N, gender %	Age range/ mean (SD±)	Sub-scales	Language	Measure (reference data)	Positive	Negative	None
Lora, 2016^b	USA	Community sample	110, 53.6% F	2-5 y	FR, EF, DD	English + Spanish	BMI percentile (CDC)	-	-	FR, EF, DD
Mallan, 2013^e	Australia	NOURISH cohort	244, 52% F	24 m (1±)	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	Weight-for-age z-scores (WHO)	-	SR, SE	FF, EUE, FR, EF, DD, EOE
McPhie, 2011^a	Australia	Community sample	175, 53.7% F	2-5 y (2.83 ±0.72)	FF	English	BMI z-scores (IOTF)	-	-	FF
Parkinson, 2010	UK	Gateshead Millennium Study	492 (T1), 583 (T2), 50% F	5-8 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI	FR, EF	SR, SE, EUE	DD, EOE, FF
Pesch, 2018	USA	Community sample	223, 47.5% F	4-8y	FR, EF, SR ^k	English	BMI z-scores	FR, EF	SR	
Quah, 2017^{a, b}	Singapore	GUSTO	636, 47.8% F	3.06 (±0.1)	SR, SE, DD, EUE, FF ^l	English	BMI z-scores (WHO 2006)	-	SR, SE, EUE	DD, FF
Roach, 2017	USA	The Healthy Family Study	64, 44.3% F	3-6 y	FR, EF, EOE, SR.	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EOE, EF	SR	-
Rudy, 2016^a	USA	Pre-school sample	181, 48.1% F	4-5 y	FR, SR, EF	English + Spanish ^f	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF	SR	-
Sanchez, 2016^{a, b}	Chile	GOCS cohort	1058, 51% F	7-10 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Chilean-Spanish ^f	BMI z-scores (WHO)	EF, EOE, FR, DD	SR, SE, FF	EUE
Silva Garcia, 2016^{a, b}	USA	Community sample	186, 47.6% F	4-5 y (4.34 ±0.48)	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English & Spanish	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF	SR, SE	EOE, DD, FF, EUE
Sleddens, 2008^a	Netherlands	School-based sample	135, 49.6% F	6-7 y	EF, SR, SE, FF ^m	Dutch ^f	BMI z-scores (Dutch national data)	EF	SR, SE	DD, EUE
Somaraki, 2018	Sweden	Swedish Population Registry Community sample Childhood obesity RCT	Cohort 1: 876, Cohort 2: 353, Cohort 3: 147,	3-8 yrs 3-8 yrs 3-8 yrs	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Swedish	BMI z-scores (IOTF)	Results stratified by country of origin (n = 74). See original paper for full details.		

Author, date	Country	Participants			CEBQ measure		Outcome: weight	CEBQ traits associated with adiposity measures		
		Cohort	N, gender %	Age range/ mean (SD±)	Sub-scales	Language	Measure (reference data)	Positive	Negative	None
Soussignan, 2012 ^{a, b}	France	Community sample	40, 45% F	6-11 y	FR, EOE, DD, SR, SE	French	BMI z-scores (IOTF)	FR, DD	SR, SE	EOE
Svensson, 2011	Sweden	Early STOPP cohort	174, 50% F	1-6 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Swedish ^f	BMI z-scores (French ref data)	-	-	FR, EF, EOE, DD, EUE, FF, SE, SR
Tay, 2016 ^{a, b}	Malaysia	SEANUTS	1782, 51.4% F	7-12 y	DD, EUE, FF, SE, SR ⁿ	Malaysian ^f	BMI z-scores (WHO)	DD	SR, SE, FF, EUE	
Viana, 2008 ^a	Portugal	Convenience sample	240, 52% F	3-13 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Portuguese ^f	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EF, EOE	SE, SR, EUE	DD, FF
Vollmer, 2015 ^{a, b}	USA	Preschool children	150, 45% F	3-5 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	FR, EOE	SR	EF, DD, SE, EUE, FF
Webber, 2009 ^{a, b}	UK	PEACHES	270, 49% F	7-9 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR/SE, FF, EUE ^g	English	BMI z-scores (UK 1990 data)	FR, EOE, EF, DD	SR/SE, FF	EUE
McCarthy, 2015 ^{b, c}	Ireland	The Cork BASELINE birth cohort	1189, 50% F	2 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI percentiles (WHO)			
Sanlier, 2016 ^c	Turkey	Community sample	520, 49% F	2-12 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Turkish	BMI z-scores (WHO)			

Abbreviations: N = Population; SD = Standard Deviation; BMI = Body Mass Index; F = female; FR = Food responsiveness; SR = Satiety responsiveness; EOE = Emotional over-eating; DD = desire to drink; EF = Enjoyment of food; EUE = Emotional under-eating; SE = Slowness in eating; FF = Food fussiness; CDC = Centre for Disease Control; WHO = World Health Organisation; IOTF = International Obesity Task Force; CGF = Child Growth Foundation Reference curves 1996; NP = Not provided; N = Number; y = years. **Cohort acronyms:** Generation R = A population-based birth cohort in the Netherlands followed prospectively; PEACHES = Physical Exercise and Appetite in Children Study; TEDS = Twins Early Development Study; FBBT = Family Based Behavioural Treatment; NOURISH = Intervention/ Randomised Controlled Trial designed to educate paternal feeding practices and promote healthier food intake; The Cork BASELINE Birth Cohort Study = Babies After SCOPE: Evaluating the Longitudinal Impact on Neurological and Nutritional Endpoints Birth Cohort Study; GMS = Gateshead Millennium Study; GOCS = Growth and Obesity Chilean Cohort Study; TESS = Trondheim Early Secure Study; Healthy You! University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital Pediatric Weight Management Clinic; ABCD = Amsterdam Born Children and their Development cohort.

^a Indicates studies included in the meta-analysis

^b Indicates studies for which authors provided additional data.

^c Indicates studies where data were analysed using logistic regression, and the results were presented as odds ratios.

[Sanlier et al (2018) used multiple logistic regression models for the association between CEBQ scales and BMI z-scores, stratified by weight status: FF was significant negatively associated in the overweight (B = -.54, p=.01) and obese weight category (B = -.058, p<.01). EF was significantly positively associated (B = .65, p=.04) in the normal weight category. All other traits were null associations. McCartney et al. (2015) reported odds ratio (OR) for overweight/obesity by CEBQ traits; EF (OR =1.90, 95% confidence interval (CI)=1.46–2.48), FR (OR=1.73, 95% CI=1.47–2.03; all p<0.001), SR (OR=0.56, 95% CI = 0.43-0.73; p<.001), SE (OR = 0.57, 95% CI = 0.45, 0.73; p<.001), FF (OR = 0.70, 95% CI = 0.56-0.88; p=0.002). EUE, EOE, DD not significant.]

^d Escobar et al (2014) data presented in the table are for baseline results at 48 months.

^e Data reported in Mallan et al (2014) were taken from both the intervention and control groups of NOURISH. The intervention group received education sessions aimed to improve parental feeding practices and influence infants' food intake and eating habits. It is therefore important to note that the results presented could be influenced by the effect of intervention.

^f Denotes validated translated versions of the CEBQ.

Modifications to CEBQ subscales (scales that were modified from original format were excluded from review)**

^g SR + SE combined

^h FR split into two scales. One SE item dropped. 3 FF items dropped. SR dropped.

ⁱ FF scale split into two

^j FF split in two, with 2 SR items added in FF1

^k SR reverse scored

^l FR, EOE and EF subscales changed.

^m EOE+FR combined to new EOE scale

ⁿ 1 item dropped from EOE & items moved from EOE, EF into FR

Table 2. Summary characteristics for cross-sectional studies comparing mean CEBQ scale scores across weight categories and testing for linearity of trends (n=19)

Author, date	Country	Participants			CEBQ measure		Outcome: weight	
		Cohort	N, Gender % F	Age range/ mean (SD±)	Sub-scales	Language	Measure (reference data)	Weight categories used
Carnell & Wardle, 2008 ^{a, b}	UK	TEDS & Community sample	10364, 51.5% F; 572, 46.9% F	8-11 (9.9 ±0.86), 3-5 (4.4 ±0.62)	EF, SR/SE (combined) ^e	English	BMI z-scores (UK 1990 data)	Low-normal, mid-norm, high, very high
Boswell, 2018 ^{a, b}	Australia	Community sample	977, 50.6% F	2-4.9y (3.4 y)	FR, EF, SR, SE, FF	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	UW, NW, OW, OB
Crocker, 2011	UK	PEACHES & TEDS; FBBT sample	406, 54% F; 66, 68% F	7-12 y; 8-13 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR/SE, FF, EUE ^e	English	BMI z-scores (UK 1990 data)	UW, NW, OW, OB, Clinically OB
de Groot, 2017	Netherlands	Community sample	44, 50%	12-16y	FR, SR, EF, EOE, DD	Dutch	BMI SDS (NP)	NW, OW
dos Passos, 2015	Brazil	Community sample	335, 51.3% F	6-10 y (7.33 ±0.87)	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, EUE, FF	English	BMI z-scores (WHO)	NW, OW, OB, Severe OB
Gardner, 2015	USA	Community sample	64, 49.4% F	5-6 y	FR, EF, SR	English	BMI-for-age percentile (CDC 2000)	NW, OB
Ho-Urriola, 2014	Chile	Community sample	377, 51.3% F	6-12 y (10.1 ±2)	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, EUE, FF	Chilean	BMI percentiles (CDC 2000)	NW, OB
Jahnke, 2008	Germany	Community sample	142, 36% F	3-6 y (4.2 ±1)	FR	German	BMI z-scores (German national data)	UW, NW, OW, OB
McCarthy, 2015 ^{a, b}	Ireland	The Cork BASELINE birth cohort	1189, 50% F	2 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI percentiles (WHO)	UW, NW, OW/OB
Mosli, 2015	USA	Community sample	274, 49.3% F	4-8 y	SR, SE, FF	English	BMI percentiles (CDC 2000)	NW (<85th), OW/OB (85th>)

Obregon, 2017	Chile	Community sample	258, 44% F	8-14 y (11.4 ±1.6)	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, EUE, FF	Chilean	BMI percentiles (CDC 2000 + WHO 2006)	NW, OW, OB
Parkinson, 2010 ^{a, b, c}	UK	Gateshead Millennium Study	492 (T1), 583 (T2), 50% F	5-8 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI	BMI centile lowest, middle, highest
Powers, 2016	USA	Community sample	296, 48% F	2-5y	FR ^f	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)	UW, NW, at-risk for OW, OW
Sanchez, 2016 ^{a, b}	Chile	GOCS cohort	1058, 51% F	7-10 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Chilean-Spanish ^d	BMI z-scores (WHO)	NW, OW, OB
Soussignan, 2012 ^{a, b}	France	Community sample	40, 45% F	6-11 y	FR, EOE, DD, SR, SE	French	BMI z-scores (IOTF)	NW, OW
Spence, 2011	Canada	Community sample	1730, 48.9% F	4-5 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	English	BMI (CDC + IOTF classification)	UW, NW, at-risk for OW, OW
Webber, 2009 ^{a, b}	UK	PEACHES	270, 49% F	7-9 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR/SE, FF, EUE ^e	English	BMI z-scores (UK 1990 data)	Thinness grade 1/2, low NW 50th centile or less, mid normal weight >50th but not OW, OW/OB
Sandvik, 2018	Sweden	Swedish Registry sample	1272, 47% F	3.3-7.9y (4.9 ±0.8)	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Swedish	BMI z-scores (IOTF)	Thinness (BMI <18.5kg/m ²), NW, OW, OB
Sanlier, 2016 ^c	Turkey	Community sample	520, 49% F	2-12 y	FR, EF, EOE, DD, SR, SE, FF, EUE	Turkish	BMI z-score (WHO)	UW, NW, OW, OB

^a Indicates studies also reporting continuous associations between CEBQ and adiposity; these are included in this section of the narrative review.

^b Indicates studies included in the meta-analysis.

^c Indicates the study also reporting prospective association between CEBQ and adiposity.

^d Denotes validated translated versions of the CEBQ.

^e SR + SE combined

Modifications to CEBQ subscales (scales that were modified from original format were excluded from review)**

^f DD item dropped

Abbreviations: N = Population; SD = Standard Deviation; BMI = Body Mass Index; F = female; FR = Food responsiveness; SR = Satiety responsiveness; EOE = Emotional over-eating; DD = desire to drink; EF = Enjoyment of food; EUE = Emotional under-eating; SE = Slowness in eating; FF = Food fussiness; CDC = Centre for Disease Control; WHO = World Health Organisation; IOTF = International Obesity Task Force; NP = Not provided; y = years;

Cohort acronyms: TEDS = Twins Early Development Study; GOCS = Growth and Obesity Chilean Cohort Study; PEACHES = Physical Exercise and Appetite in Children Study; FBBT = Family Based Behavioural Treatment

Table 3. Summary characteristics for prospective studies examining associations between CEBQ scales at baseline and later adiposity (n=11)

Author, date	Country	Participants			CEBQ measure		Outcome: adiposity measure	Associations between CEBQ scales and later adiposity (CEBQ → adiposity)		
		Cohort	N, gender %	Age range/mean (SD±)	Sub-scales	Language	Measure (reference data)	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Null
Mallan, 2016^a	Australia	NOURISH	340, F 53.5%	14m - 3.7y	FF	English	BMI z-scores (WHO)		FF	
Mallan, 2014^a	Australia	NOURISH	37 ⁱ (Control n=20, Intervention n=17), 57% F	2-4 y	FR, EF, SR, SE	English	BMI z-scores (WHO)		SR	FR, EF, SE
McPhie, 2012^b	Australia	Community sample	117, F 53.8%	2-5 y	FF ⁱ	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)			FF
Quah, 2015^c	Malaysia	GUSTO	210 (T2 = 205, T3 = 162, T4 = 179), F 49.5%	12-24m	SR, SE ^j	Malaysian ^h	BMI z-scores (WHO)			SR, SE
Steinsbekk, 2015	Norway	TESS	996 (T1=4y) 658 (T2=6y) 675 (T3=8y) 3514, (T1- 4y)	4-8 y	FR, EF, EOE, SR, SE	Norwegian ^h	BMI z-scores	FR, EF, EOE		SR, SE
Derks, 2018^d	Netherlands	Generation R	3097, (T2- 6y) 3331, (T3- 9.8y), F 51.3%	4-10 y	FR, EOE, EF, SR/SE ^k	Dutch ^h	BMI z-scores, FMI, FFMI (Dutch growth reference curves)	EOE		FR, EF, SR
Steinsbekk, 2017^{d, e}	Norway	TESS	807, F 50.2%	6-10 y	FR, SR	Norwegian ^h	BF%, MM%	FR (BF%)		SR (BF%)
Bjorklund, 2018^e	Norway	TESS	797 (T1 - 6.7y) 699 (T2 - 8.8y) 702 (T4 - 10.5y), F 50.2%	6-10 y	FR	Norwegian ^h	BMI z-scores	FR		
Bergmeier, 2014	Australia	Community sample	201, F 56.7%	2-5 y	FF, EF	English	BMI z-scores (CDC)			FF, EF
Escobar, 2014^{e, f, g}	Canada	MAVAN	340 (48m), 278 (60m), 221	48-72m	FR, EOE, DD, EF, EUE, SE, SR, FF	English	BMI z-scores	FR, EF, DD, EOE	SR, SE	FF, EUE

			(72m), F 54.1%								
Parkinson, 2010	UK	GMS	492 (5-6y) 583 (6-8y)	6-8 y	FR, EOE, DD, EF, EUE, SE, SR, FF	English	BMI percentiles (Cohort mean)	FR, EOE, EF, DD	SR, SE	EUE, FF	

Abbreviations: N = Population; SD = Standard Deviation; BMI = Body Mass Index; F = female; FR = Food responsiveness; SR = Satiety responsiveness; EOE = Emotional over-eating; DD = desire to drink; EF = Enjoyment of food; EUE = Emotional under-eating; SE = Slowness in eating; FF = Food fussiness; CDC = Centre for Disease Control; WHO = World Health Organisation; IOTF = International Obesity Task Force; NP = Not provided; y = years; FMI = Fat Mass Index, FFMI = Fat Free Mass Index.

Cohort acronyms: Generation R = A population-based birth cohort in the Netherlands followed prospectively; NOURISH = Intervention/ Randomised Controlled Trial designed to educate paternal feeding practices and promote healthier food intake GMS = Gateshead Millennium Study; TESS = Trondheim Early Secure study; ABCD = Amsterdam Born Children and their Development cohort

^a Data for Mallan et al (2014, 2016) were taken from both the intervention and control groups of NOURISH. The intervention group received education sessions aimed to improve parental feeding practices and influence infants' food intake and eating habits. It is therefore important to note that the results presented could be influenced by the effect of intervention.

^b EF subscale result reported in paper, but subscale coding was modified in McPhie et al (2012). Results for EF have been excluded. Association between FF and BMI z-score in this study are based on change in FF with change in BMI z-score.

^c Quah et al (2015) merged the FR & EF subscales, these observations have been excluded from the table above.

^d Indicates studies that reported on the bidirectional relationship between appetite and adiposity.

^e When multiple time waves of data are presented at the individual study level, the longest time period is summarised in the table above.

^f Authors provided additional data.

^g Prospective associations presented for the MAVAN cohort (Escobar et al, 2014) are based on additional data obtained from the study authors for all CEBQ subscales (results presented are for BMI z-score at 48m to CEBQ measured at 72 m).

^h Denotes validated translated versions of the CEBQ.

Modifications to CEBQ subscales (scales that were modified from original format were excluded from review)**

ⁱ EF item dropped from scale

^j FR and EF subscales adapted

^k SR/SE combined

Table 4. Summary characteristics for CEBQ prospective studies (n=5) reporting on relationship between adiposity and later appetite

Author, date	Country	Direction	Participants			CEBQ measure		Outcome: adiposity measure (reference data)	Adiposity associated with CEBQ		
			Cohort	N, gender %	Age range	Sub-scales	Language		Positive	Negative	None
Steinsbekk, 2015	Norway	BMI → CEBQ	TESS	996 (T1=4y) 658 (T2=6y) 675 (T3=8y)	4-8 y	FR, EF, EOE, SR, SE	Norwegian ^c	BMI z-score	FR	SR	EF, SE, EOE
Steinsbekk, 2016	Norway	BMI → CEBQ	TESS	797 ^k , 50.2% F	6-8 y	FR, EF, EOE, SR, SE	Norwegian ^c	BMI z-scores	FR	SR	EF, SE, EOE
Derks, 2018 ^d	Netherlands	BMI → CEBQ	Generation R	3514, (T1- 4y) 3097, (T2- 6y) 3331, (T3- 9.8y), F 51.3%	4-10 y	FR, EOE, EF, SR/SE ^f	Dutch ^c	BMI z-scores, FMI, FFMI (Dutch growth reference curves)	FR, EOE, EF	SR	
Steinsbekk, 2017 ^d	Norway	BF% → CEBQ	TESS	807, F 50.2%	6-10 y	FR, SR	Norwegian ^c	BF%, MM%	FR (BF%)	SR (BF%)	
van Deutekom, 2016 ^{a, b}	Netherlands	Δ weight-for-age z-score → CEBQ	ABCD	2227, F 48.7%	0-5 y	SR	Dutch ^c	Weight-for-age z-scores (Study population)		SR	Birth weight

Abbreviations: N = Population; BMI = Body Mass Index; F = female; FR = Food responsiveness; SR = Satiety responsiveness; EOE = Emotional over-eating; DD = desire to drink; EF = Enjoyment of food; EUE = Emotional under-eating; SE = Slowness in eating; FF = Food fussiness; y = years; FMI = Fat Mass Index, FFMI = Fat Free Mass Index.

Cohort acronyms: Generation R = A population-based birth cohort in the Netherlands followed prospectively; TESS = Trondheim Early Secure study; ABCD = Amsterdam Born Children and their Development cohort

^a van Deutekom et al (2016) reported on the relationship of conditional weight gain to SR.

^b Authors provided additional data.

^c Denotes validated translated versions of the CEBQ.

^d Indicates studies that reported on the bidirectional relationship between adiposity and appetite.

^f SR/SE combined

Table 5. Summary characteristics for BEBQ cross-sectional and prospective studies (n = 5) included in the narrative review.

Author, date	Country	Design	Participants			BEBQ measure		Outcome: weight Measure (reference data)	BEBQ traits associated with weight		
			Cohort	N, gender %	Age range/mean (SD±)	Sub-scales	Language		Positive	Negative	None
Mallan, 2014	Australia	Prospective	New Beginnings: Healthy Mothers and Babies Study	467, F 50%	4 m (±0.6)	FR, EF, SE, SR	English	BMI, Weight-for -age z-score (WHO)	EF	SR, SE	FR
Quah, 2015	Singapore	Prospective	GUSTO	210, F 50.5%	0-24 m	EF, FR, SE/SR ^a	English	BMI z-scores (WHO)	FR	SE/SR	EF
Shepard, 2015	USA	Prospective	Community	31, F 39%	0.5-5 m	EF, FR, SE, SR, GA	English	BMI z-scores (WHO)	EF, FR, GA	SE	SR
van Jaarsveld, 2011	UK	Prospective	Gemini	4804, F 50.3%	3-15 m/8.2 m (±2.2)	EF, FR, SE, SR, GA	English	BMI z-scores (UK 1990 data)	EF, FR, GA	SR, SE	
Patel, 2018	UK	Cross-sectional	UPBEAT	353	6 m	SE, FR, EF, GA	English	BMI z-scores (WHO)	GA		SE, FR, EF

Abbreviations: N = Population; SD = Standard Deviation; BMI = Body Mass Index; F = female; FR = Food responsiveness; SR = Satiety responsiveness; EF = Enjoyment of food; SE = Slowness in eating; GA = General Appetite; WHO = World Health Organisation; m = months

Cohort acronyms: GUSTO = Growing Up in Singapore Toward healthy Outcomes, UPBEAT = UK Pregnancies Better Eating and Activity Trial.

^a SR + SE combined

Table 6. Results from random effects meta-analysis of studies examining correlation of CEBQ scales with BMI z-scores (only unadjusted correlation coefficients^a)

CEBQ scale	r	95 % CI	I ² (%)	P-value for heterogeneity	Sub-cohorts (n)	n
FR	0.22	(0.16, 0.29)	88.0	0.00	19	9463
EF	0.17	(0.14, 0.20)	49.4	0.00	19	20416
EOE	0.15	(0.08, 0.22)	82.9	0.00	11	7038
DD	0.10	(0.04, 0.15)	82.9	0.00	10	9219
SR	-0.21	(-0.24, -0.17)	56.7	0.00	17	9854
SE	-0.15	(-0.21, -0.10)	64.8	0.00	8	5192
FF	-0.08	(-0.10, -0.06)	0.00	0.99	11	8855
EUE	-0.09	(-0.11, -0.06)	8.00	0.37	7	7330

^aData for Haycraft et al (2011) were reported as adjusted in the original study. Authors provided raw data to calculate the unadjusted correlation coefficients, and these were subsequently were pooled in the model presented above.

Table 7. Results from random effects meta-analysis of studies examining regression of BMI z-scores on CEBQ scales, stratified by level of adjustment

CEBQ scale	β	95 % CI	I ² (%)	P-value for heterogeneity	Sub-cohorts (n)	n
Overall						
FR	0.21	(0.13, 0.28)	89.9	0.00	13	8284
EF	0.20	(0.12, 0.27)	90.9	0.00	15	8715
EOE	0.22	(0.13, 0.31)	87.2	0.00	12	4149
DD	0.03	(-0.03, 0.08)	73.4	0.00	11	6020
SR	-0.33	(-0.40, -0.23)	94.0	0.00	14	9800
SE	-0.19	(-0.25, -0.12)	85.6	0.00	12	6889
FF	-0.04	(-0.08, 0.01)	76.0	0.00	15	10053
EUE	-0.04	(-0.08, -0.01)	48.0	0.03	13	9339
Crude-only						
FR	0.19	(0.11, 0.27)	83.4	0.00	7	5734
EF	0.20	(0.12, 0.28)	86.8	0.00	8	6030
EOE	0.20	(0.08, 0.32)	88.9	0.00	6	4621
DD	-0.07	(-0.28, 0.14)	96.8	0.00	5	4653
SR	-0.30	(-0.42, -0.17)	94.5	0.00	7	5817
SE	-0.13	(-0.20, -0.06)	51.0	0.00	4	2260
FF	-0.04	(-0.10, 0.02)	67.1	0.01	6	5630
EUE	-0.05	(-0.12, 0.03)	68.9	0.02	4	4440
Adjusted-only						
FR	0.22	(0.11, 0.34)	93.2	0.00	7	5707
EF	0.18	(0.07, 0.30)	93.1	0.00	8	5842
EOE	0.20	(0.09, 0.32)	88.1	0.00	7	2685
DD	0.04	(-0.03, 0.11)	78.1	0.00	7	4524
SR	-0.31	(-0.41, -0.22)	93.3	0.00	8	7140
SE	-0.21	(-0.31, -0.11)	89.5	0.00	8	4629
FF	-0.05	(-0.11, 0.01)	79.6	0.00	10	7580
EUE	-0.05	(-0.09, -0.02)	45.7	0.06	10	8056

Pooled effect estimates are presented by level of study adjustment reported at the individual study level.

The 'Overall' pooled model exclusively includes observations from the maximum number of studies, primarily including adjusted estimates for studies that provided such data. If not available, then unadjusted data were included.

The 'Crude-only' model exclusively includes observations from any study that provided unadjusted data.

The 'Adjusted-only' model exclusively includes observations from any study that provided unadjusted data.

Statistically significant estimates have been bolded.