OBESITY FAST FACTS



Obesity is a rising global epidemic that puts a strain on healthcare services, government and individuals worldwide. 1,2,3,4 Urgent change is needed to ensure wider recognition of obesity as a complex chronic condition which requires a whole-systems approach to care.

Overweight and obesity are defined as abnormal or excessive fat accumulation that presents a risk to health.⁵

PREVALENCE

Approximately

650 Million

people have obesity.5

1.9 Billion
people worldwide are overweight.5

Global obesity prevalence

(adults aged 18+ years with Body Mass Index [BMI] \geq 30 kg/m²)⁶

Women = 14.9%

Men = 10.8%

The overall proportion of overweight adults (BMI ≥25 kg/m2) has surpassed the proportion in the low BMI category (<20kg/m2)⁶



One quarter

of people in OECD countries live with obesity; half of people in OECD countries are overweight.⁷



- The prevalence of obesity has tripled since 1975.5
- 70-80% of BMI is due to hereditary factors.8

Obesity is exacerbated by factors such as:9

- Increasing urbanization.
- Easy availability / increased intake of cheap, energy-dense processed foods.
- A decrease in physical activity levels due to the sedentary nature of work.

COMPLICATIONS



- 200+ complications are associated with obesity, including type 2 diabetes, heart or cardiovascular disease, cancer, arthritis, infertility, urinary incontinence, depression and anxiety.¹⁰
- 92M lives will be claimed in OECD countries in the next three decades due to the complications of being overweight.8
- 3 years: estimated reduction in life expectancy by 2050 due to diseases related to obesity and being overweight.8

COST

PRODUCTIVITY



Up to \$2 Trillion / 2.8% Global GDP:

estimated global impact of obesity. Similar to the global impact of smoking or armed violence, war and terrorism.¹¹

3.1 days:

average additional days of absenteeism for people living with obesity (compared to those with a normal weight).¹²

WEIGHT LOSS

Feedback mechanisms within the body

prevent people with obesity losing and maintaining weight loss.13



TREATMENT

Pharmacotherapy and /or bariatric surgery,



in combination with diet and exercise can help patients achieve clinically relevant weight loss and prevent weight regain. 14,15,16,17

STIGMA

60% of HCPs say biases and misconceptions impede how patients with obesity are diagnosed and cared for.¹⁸

Students with obesity are subject to judgement by teachers which negatively impacts their education and education opportunities:



of teachers felt children with obesity lacked self-control.19



were reluctant to care for or teach them.19

EDUCATION



Most GPs

receive none or less than 48 hours of training on obesity during their entire medical education.20

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