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**Topic:** Community health and nutrition programs

**Title:** Reliability of a food frequency questionnaire for children and adolescents – Preliminary results from the SAYCARE Study

**Presentation Type:** Oral

**Introduction:** Several studies have shown the influence of the contextual (country-specific) variables on food consumption and dietary patterns. Validated population-specific dietary assessments are then needed to assess dietary intake in pediatric populations. We aimed to examine the reliability of a Food Frequency Questionnaire (FFQ) to assess food intake in children and adolescents from São Paulo (Brazil).

**Methods:** Forty-two children and adolescents from the SAYCARE Study, aged 3-17 years, from private and public schools were analysed. Food intake was reported either from adolescents (10-17y) or by the mothers/caregivers as children's (3-9y) proxies. Food-groups were classified according to the FAO classification, resulting in 11 groups and considering 67 food-items. Participants were asked to complete the FFQ twice, two weeks apart. To examine the reliability of the FFQs, kappa coefficients and the expected consistency were calculated for some food-groups.

**Results:** For children, the food-groups analysed and their Kappa coefficient (% expected consistency) were: Raw vegetables: 0.66 (66.7%); Cooked vegetables: 0.57 (64.3%); Fruits: 0.54 (69.8%); Beans: 0.58 (71.8%); Lentils: 0.66 (74.4%); Chickpeas: 0.72 (85.0%); Water: 0.32 (78.4%); Packaged juices: 0.40 (69.3%) and Soft drinks: 0.43 (70.8%); and for adolescents were: Raw vegetables: 0.51 (68.1%); Cooked vegetables: 0.50 (64.7%); Fruits: 0.43 (72.3%); Beans: 0.67 (63.9%); Lentils: 0.36 (73.9%); Chickpeas: 0.62 (85.4%); Water: 0.56 (73.2%); Packaged juices: 0.80 (64.9%) and Soft drinks: 0.51 (63.7%).

**Conclusion:** The developed FFQ seems to be reliable and may be a useful tool to assess food consumption in Brazilian children and adolescents.

