Study Fact Sheet Sleep in Young Children Around the World

STUDY BACKGROUND & METHODOLOGY:

Up until now, there has been limited research on **sleep in young children** comparing across multiple countries and regions around the world





This cross-cultural research looked at sleep habits of children in **21 countries/territories** around the world.

The study included 33,717 parents of children (aged from birth to 3 years) in predominantly Caucasian³, predominantly Asian⁴, South American⁵, and Middle Eastern countries⁶.



The information was collected via the expanded **Brief Infant Sleep Questionnaire** which assesses daytime/nighttime sleep patterns, maternal perceptions, and sleep-related behaviors.

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RESULTS:

Overall, there are significant differences in sleep patterns in young children throughout the world.

In many regions, especially in Asia, the Middle East, and Brazil, young children have very late bedtimes with significantly less nighttime and total sleep. The perception of sleep problems is also high.



Midwives should consider including **healthy sleep education** and integrate culturally bound teachings in their practices.

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WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT FOR PARENTS AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS?



This provides preliminary information on differing **sleep customs and sleep patterns across various cultures and regions**, which can affect infants and their parents. Further research of this focus will offer insights into cross-cultural practices and how they impact the overall health and well-being of babies and their families.



Study Title: Mindell J, Lee C, Goh D, Sadeh A, Kwon R. Sleep in Young Children Around the World. 2017

¹ Mindell J, Lee C, Goh D, Sadeh A, Kwon R. Sleep in Young Children Around the World. 2017² Aged from birth to 3 years. ³ Australia, Canada, UK, USA, New Zealand. ⁴ China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam.⁶ Brazil.⁶ Egypt, Saudi Arabia, UAE

