

# Children Who Snore – Do they have Sleep Apnea?

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Children's National

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No disclosures relevant to this talk

# Objectives

- Describe the spectrum of sleep disordered breathing (SDB) in healthy children
- Describe Nocturnal Polysomnography (PSG)
- Describe phenotypes and diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea (OSA)
- Discuss sequelae and treatment options of OSA

# Sleep History

- Bed-time problems
- How long a child takes to fall asleep
- Quantity
- Quality
- Sounds

# Sleep Disordered Breathing

- Spectrum of repetitive episodes of complete or partial obstruction of the airway during sleep.
- “Hark, how hard he fetches breath.”  
— [William Shakespeare](#), [\*King Henry IV, Part 1\*](#)

# Primary Snoring (PS)

- No significant obstructive events, arousals, or gas exchange abnormalities
- Often noticed while family is on vacation and sharing a room with child
- 10-12 % of children

# Upper Airway Resistance Syndrome (UARS)

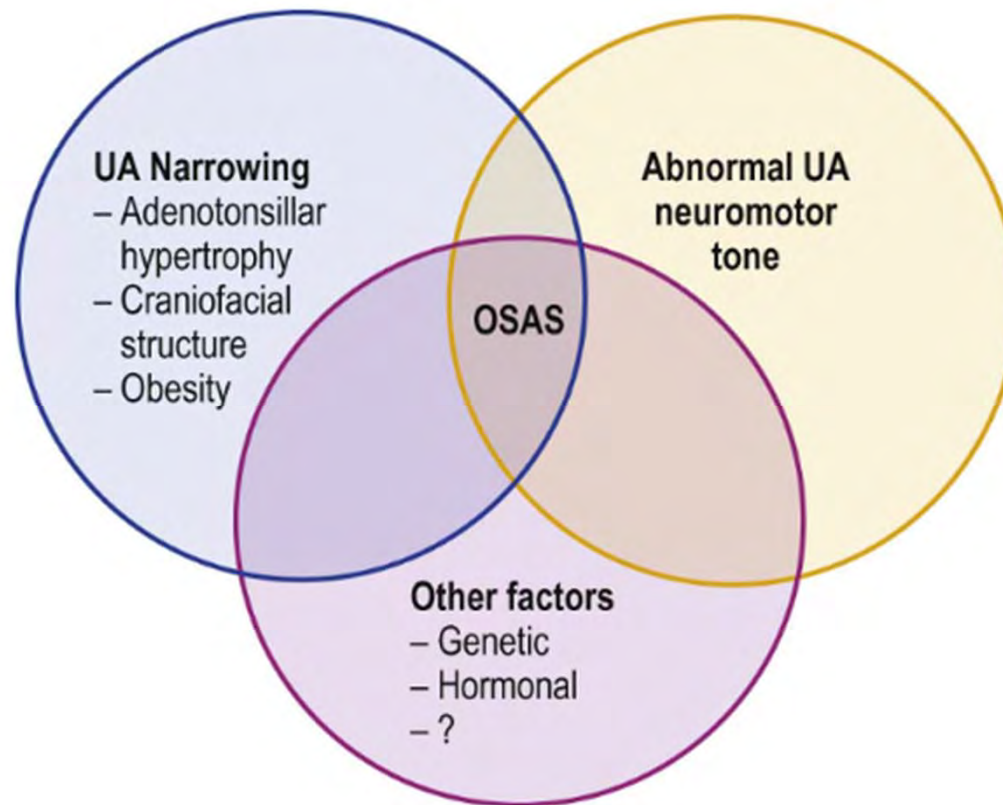
- Increasingly negative intra-thoracic pressures during inspiration that lead to arousals and sleep fragmentation
- Events may not meet scoring criteria for obstructive apnea or hypopnea
- Gas exchange unaffected

# Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA)

- Prolonged partial or complete upper airway obstruction
- Disrupts normal ventilation and gas exchange
- Disrupts normal sleep
- 1-4% of children



# Pathophysiology of OSA



Marcus, CL Pathophysiology of OSAS in Children. Sleep and Breathing in Children, A developmental approach. Marcel Dekker Inc. 2000

# When snoring is reported:

- “Heroic” snorts
- Asynchronous movements of chest & abdomen
- Witnessed apnea
- Disturbed sleep
- Sweating
- Enuresis

# Other red flags

- Behavioral problems
- Academic concerns
- Excessive daytime sleepiness
- Mouth-breathing
- Recurrent adeno-tonsillitis

# Despite taking a good history

- Cannot distinguish with certainty between primary snoring and obstructive sleep apnea
- Clinical suspicion is high ---Referral for a PSG

# Polysomnography – gold standard to diagnose OSA

Who needs a sleep study?

# Revised AAP Clinical Practice Guidelines (2012) - Diagnosis of OSA

- All children/adolescents should be screened for snoring
- PSG should be performed if OSA is suspected
- If not available, then specialist evaluation with an alternative test recommended

# AASM Practice Parameters

- Recommend PSG – suspected OSA in children (S)
- Nap - not recommended (O)
- Insufficient data for unattended in-home portable PSG testing
- PSG indicated in children considered for Tonsillectomy and Adenoidectomy (T & A) (G) to establish the severity of OSA, (postoperative risk) and need for a repeat PSG after surgery

# Otolaryngology guidelines (2011)

- PSG - most reliable and objective test to assess presence and severity of OSA,
- PSG is not necessary to perform routinely to diagnose SDB





**Children's National Medical Center**  
**PEDIATRIC SLEEP DISORDERS LABORATORY**  
**SLEEP STUDY REQUEST FORM**

Phone: (202) 476-2022 Fax: (202) 476-2981

**PATIENT INFORMATION:** (may attach demographic sheet)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Y \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ Sec: ☐ M ☐ F  
 Insurance Carrier and ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Must send copy of Insurance card ☐ Done  
 Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Information: Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Referring Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Specialty \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary Care Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Ph # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ordering Physician Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**REASON FOR SLEEP STUDY REFERRAL**

**NOTE: PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF THE PATIENT'S MOST RECENT CLINICAL ENCOUNTER DOCUMENTING DETAILS OF THE SLEEP HISTORY, PHYSICAL EXAM AND REASON FOR REFERRAL**

**PRESENTING COMPLAINTS:** (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Loud snoring	<input type="checkbox"/> Cyanosis/reprovia	<input type="checkbox"/> On CPAP/BiPAP	<input type="checkbox"/> Bedtime resistance	<input type="checkbox"/> Restless legs symptoms
<input type="checkbox"/> Choking/gasping arousals	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTE	<input type="checkbox"/> Daytime sleepiness	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty falling asleep	<input type="checkbox"/> Sleepwalking
<input type="checkbox"/> Observed apnea in sleep	<input type="checkbox"/> Apnea of prematurity	<input type="checkbox"/> Mood/behavior problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Night wakings	<input type="checkbox"/> Sleep terrors
<input type="checkbox"/> Restless sleep	<input type="checkbox"/> On O2	<input type="checkbox"/> Attention problems/ADHD	<input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient sleep	<input type="checkbox"/> Circadian rhythm disruption
<input type="checkbox"/> Nocturnal diaphoresis	<input type="checkbox"/> On ventilator	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic concerns	<input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate sleep hygiene	<input type="checkbox"/> Nocturnal seizures
<input type="checkbox"/> Enuresis	<input type="checkbox"/> Tracheostomy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**RISK FACTORS/MEDICAL CONDITIONS:** (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Adenotonsillar hypertrophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Gastroesophageal reflux	<input type="checkbox"/> Cystic fibrosis
<input type="checkbox"/> S/P T&A Date	<input type="checkbox"/> Craniofacial anomalies	<input type="checkbox"/> Prematurity/RPD
<input type="checkbox"/> Obesity BMI	<input type="checkbox"/> Down syndrome	<input type="checkbox"/> Tracheostomy
<input type="checkbox"/> Allergies	<input type="checkbox"/> Neuromuscular disease/CP	<input type="checkbox"/> Seizures (type)
<input type="checkbox"/> Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/> Developmental delay/MR	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Family history OSA	<input type="checkbox"/> Sickle cell disease	

Previous sleep studies? ☐ Yes ☐ CNMC lab? ☐ Other lab? (if so, please attach previous sleep study results)

**CURRENT MEDICATIONS:**

**POLYSOMNOGRAM REQUESTED:**

☐ Elective ☐ Urgent ☐ Pre-op Surgery date \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ PSG 95810 ☐ PSG + CPAP/BiPAP titration (initial) 95811  
☐ PSG + MSLT 95810 + 95805 ☐ PSG + CPAP/BiPAP titration (repeat) 95811 Current settings: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ PSG + Seizure montage 95810  
☐ PSG + Other (Ventilator, O2, Tracheostomy) 95810 (requires referral by a pediatric pulmonologist)

**FOLLOW UP (please check one):** ☐ CNMC Sleep Clinic ☐ Referring physician ☐ PCP ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Area Below For Sleep Laboratory Use Only**

☐ Sleep Study Request reviewed and approved by Sleep Lab Medical Director ☐ Not approved ☐ Approval pending  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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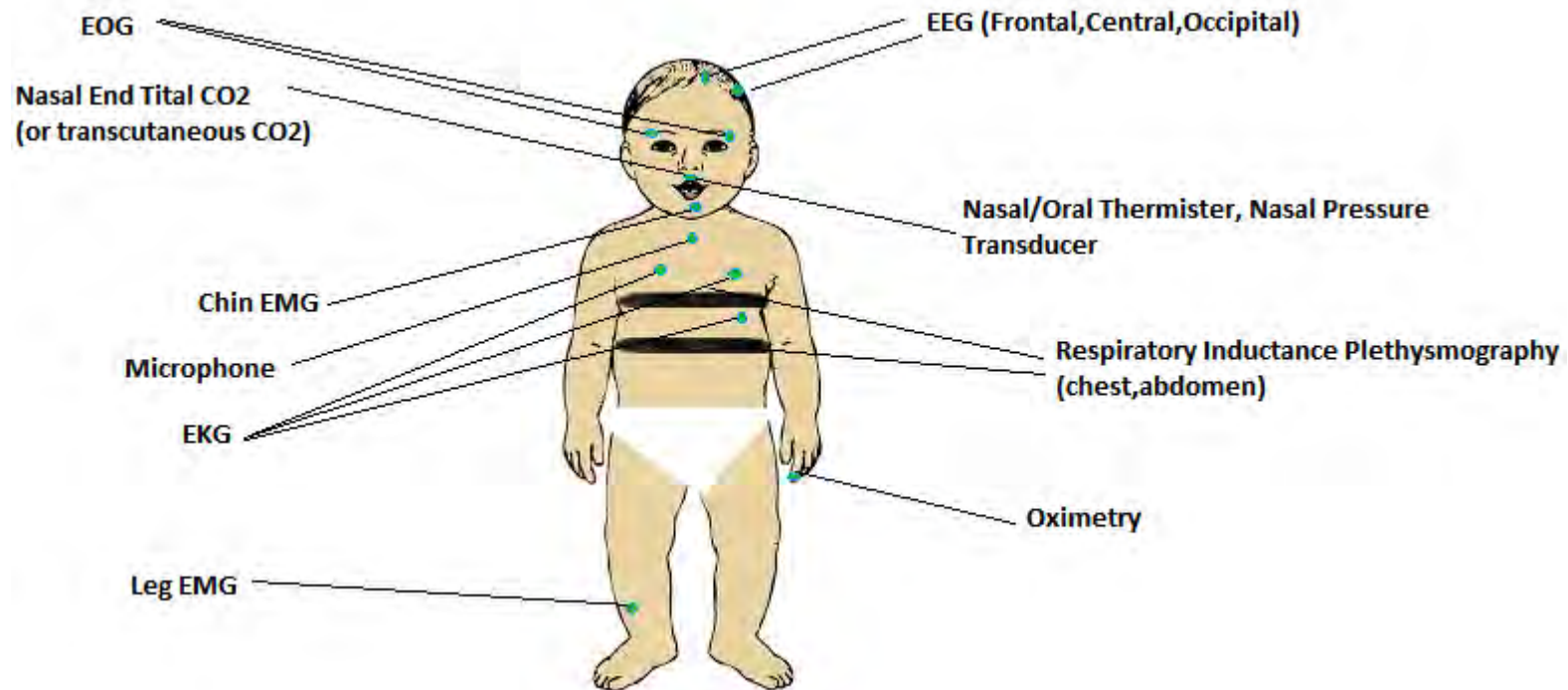
# Pediatric Sleep Lab

- Requests are screened and prioritized
- Pediatric Sleep Lab - caters to infants, children and teenagers with “space” for parent
- Location - inpatient
- Staff – child-friendly, ratio of tech to patient is high
- Capnography
- Severe studies – priority in scoring and interpretation





# Polysomnography Recordings



From I Sami & J Owens, Polysomnography for the Pediatric Pulmonologist, Diagnostic Tests in Pediatric Pulmonology, 1<sup>st</sup> Ed. 2014



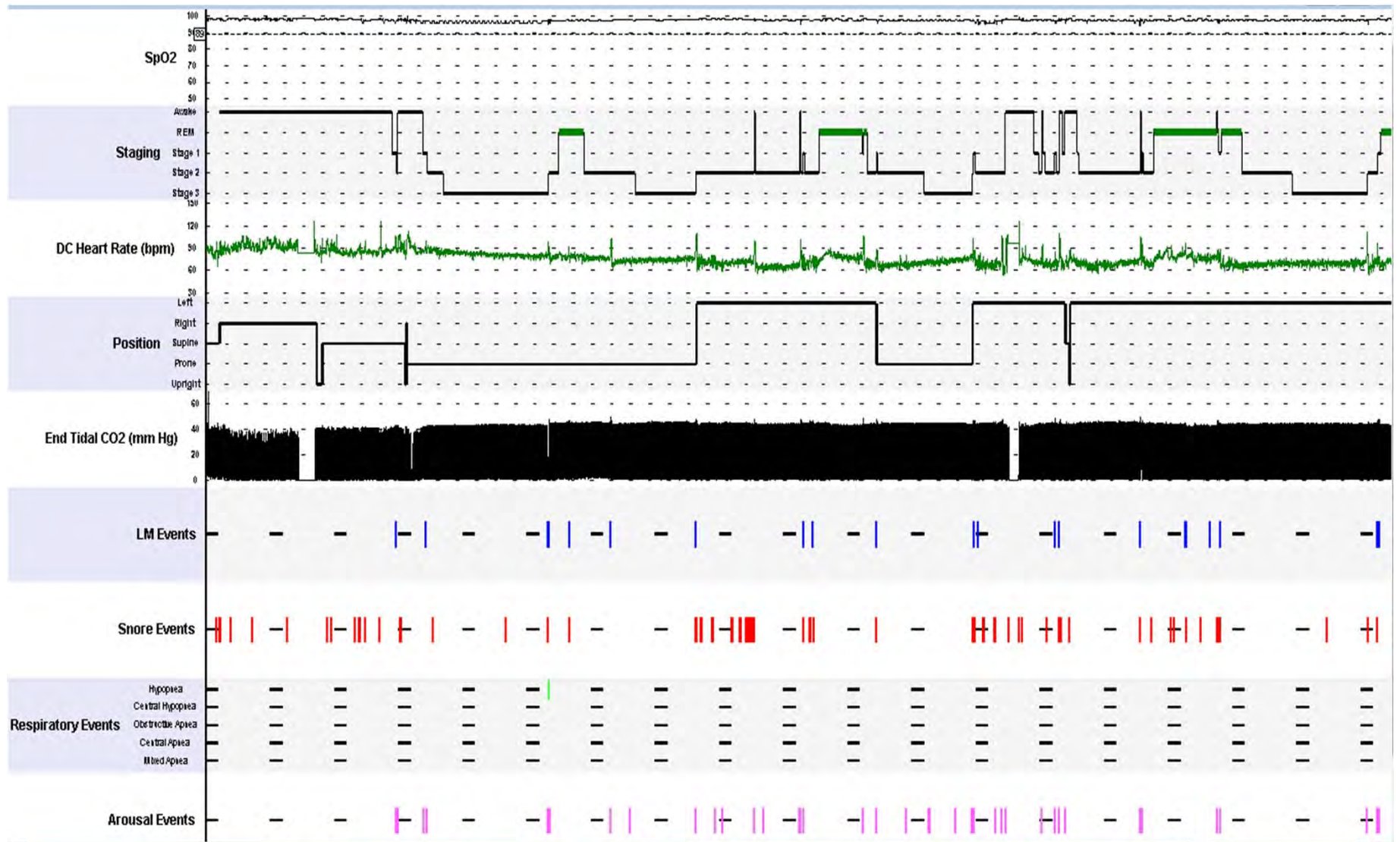
# “Wired up”



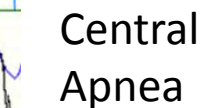
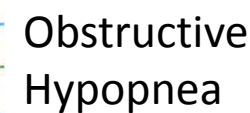
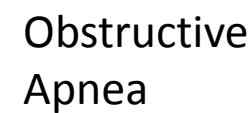
# BASELINE POLYSOMNOGRAPHY REPORT

- ***Signals recorded:***
- ***Methodology:***
- **Patient Information**
- **Reason for referral:**
- **Study Summary**
- **History:**
- **Medications Reported:**
- **Sleep Staging and Architecture: EEG**
- **Respiratory findings:** RDI (includes all apneas, hypopneas and RERAs). The AHI (includes all respiratory events except RERA's)
- **Oxygenation and ETCO2:**
- **Limb Movement findings:**
- **EKG findings:**
- **Impression/Recommendations:**
- **Final Diagnosis:**

# Hypnogram







# PSG diagnostic criteria for OSA

- Mild OSA - AHI  $> 1.5$  or AI  $> 1$  /hour
- Moderate OSA - AHI is  $>5$ ,
- Severe OSA – AHI  $> 10$ .
- Hypoxemia
  - Oxygen desaturation nadir  $< 91\%$
  - Change in oxygen nadir from baseline  $> 3\%$

# PSG diagnostic criteria for OSA

- Hypoventilation:
  - Maximum end-tidal carbon dioxide > 54 mmHg
  - End-tidal carbon dioxide > 50 mmHg for more than 25 % of TST
- Sleep Fragmentation:
  - Increased EEG arousals - >10/hr
  - Increased awakenings

# Case I

- 4 year old
- History: Snores, poor appetite, has wheezed with URIs,
- Mouth-breathes during sleep with head extended
- Pre-school told his parent he should be evaluated for “ADHD”.

# Case I

- Physical Exam:
- Weight < 3%, length 10-25%
- Adenoidal facies with allergic shiners
- Cervical lymph nodes: ++
- Rest of exam unremarkable except:



# Type I OSA

- Most common cause is Adeno-tonsillar Hypertrophy
- Strong association between OSA, and asthma

## Case II

- 12 year old – snores very loudly so siblings do not want to share a room
- Has asthma with worsening control in last 3-4 years despite ICS and leukotriene modifier
- Academic performance: poor, sometimes falls asleep in class, always in the car
- Teased by other kids



## Case II

- BMI – 34, large neck circumference
- Edematous nasal turbinates,
- Narrow palate, tonsils: 2+
- End-expiratory wheezing on lung examination



# Type II OSA

- Major risk factor: Obesity
- Morning headaches
- Co-morbidities:
  - Allergic rhinitis
  - Asthma
  - Hyperglycemia
  - Hypertriglyceridemia

# Other Investigations

- Serum  $\text{HCO}_3$  and hematocrit
- Imaging
- EKG
- Echocardiogram
- Pulmonary Function Tests

# Why do we care about OSA?

# Cognitive and Behavioral Consequences of OSA

- Strong association between SDB and:
  - Behavior - hyperactivity, inattention, & aggression
  - Cognition – IQ, memory, academic performance and executive functioning

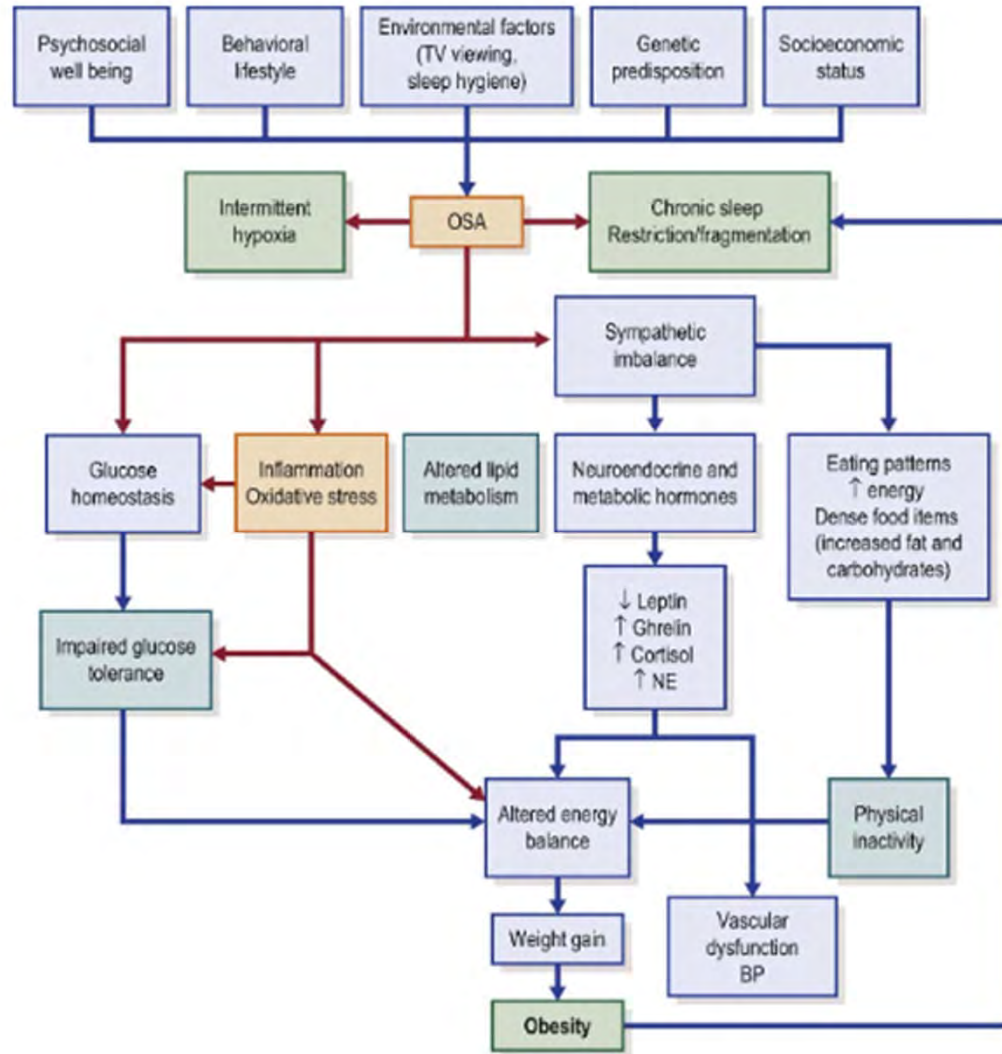
Gozal D. Pediatrics. 102 (3 Pt 1):616-620 1998  
Bourke R, et al. Sleep Med. 12 (5):489-496 2011

# Cognitive and Behavioral Consequences of OSA

- Mechanisms: Sleep fragmentation and intermittent hypoxemia impact prefrontal cortex
- Window of vulnerability in developing children
- Treatment interventions may only partially reverse deficits

Gozal D, et al. Pediatrics. 107 (6):1394-1399 2001





From D Gozal Metabolic Consequences of SDB, Principles & Practice of Pediatric Sleep Medicine. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. 2014





# You have the report – what next?

- It's not just the AHI -
- Impact on the child's wellbeing
- Mild cases: trial of anti-inflammatory therapy - montelukast and nasal steroids
- Orthodontal procedures
- Moderate and severe cases – surgical treatment and/or positive airway pressure

Goldbart AD, et al. Pediatrics. 130 (3):e575-e580 2012  
Villa MP, et al. Sleep Breath. 15 (2):179-184 2011

# Revised AAP Clinical Practice Guidelines (2012) - Management of OSA

- Adeno-tonsillectomy - first-line treatment of patients with adeno-tonsillar hypertrophy
- High-risk patients - monitored postoperatively
- Postoperative evaluation
- Intranasal corticosteroids - mild OSA
- Weight loss - in patients who are overweight or obese.

# Persistence of OSA post T & A

- Up to 27%
- Risk factors:
  - Obesity
  - Asthma
  - High AHI
  - GERD
  - Down's syndrome
  - CP

Bhattacharjee R, et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 182 (5):676-683 2010

# Revised AAP Clinical Practice Guidelines (2012) - Management of OSA

- Continuous positive airway pressure - if adeno-tonsillectomy not performed or OSA persists postoperatively.

# Treatment Options

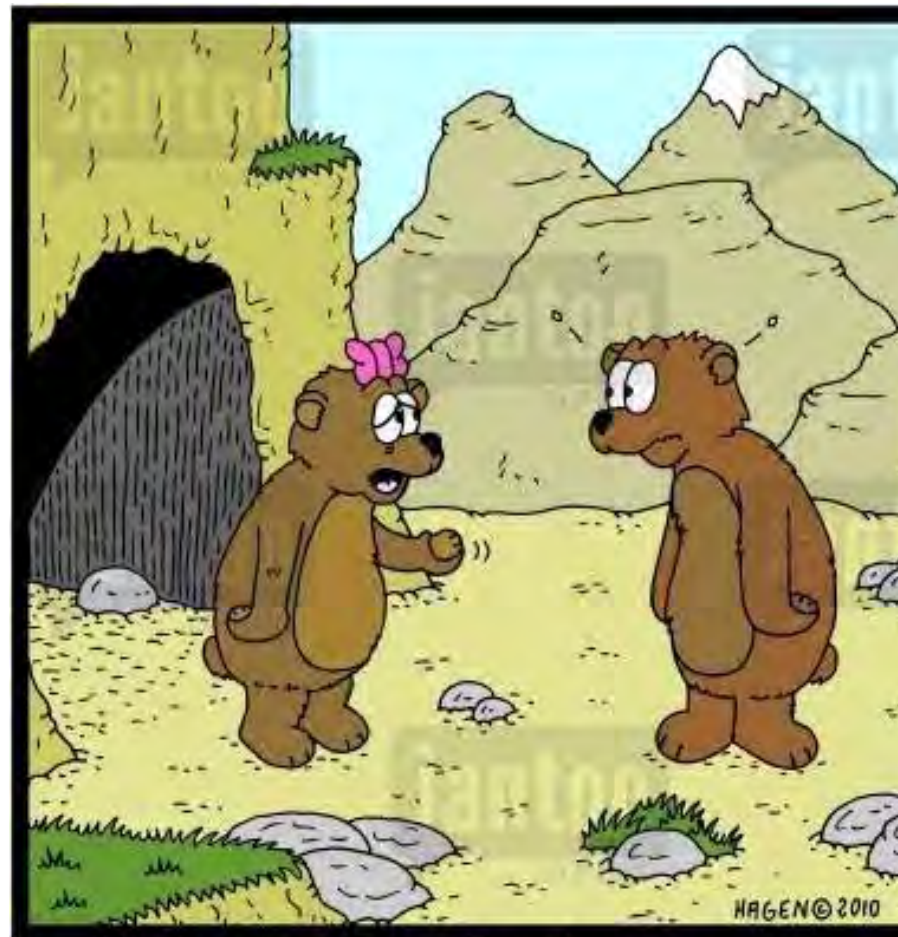


- Mask-fitting
- CPAP after a protocol of desensitization
- Titration study
- Bilevel PAP if pressures high or hypoventilation

# Acknowledgements

- Pulmonary and sleep colleagues in the Division of Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine, CNHS

# Thank you – Questions?



**You have to do something about your snoring:  
I don't want to go through a winter like that again.**