**BACKGROUND**

- Previous studies suggest that children who are born with low birth weight, i.e. less than 2500 grams or 88 ounces have higher chances of developing problems like attention disorders, depression, impaired cognitive development and chronic diseases later in life.

**OBJECTIVE**

- The National Survey of Children’s Health conducted a cross-sectional survey in year 2011-2012 to assess the emotional and physical health of children aged 0 to 17 years where details were parent reported.
- This research project uses the data collected from the survey to assess the association between the children with low birth weight data whose parents reported a diagnosis of childhood depression.

**METHODS**

- Children in the database older than 10 years of age who had parent reported birthweight below 88 ounces were considered as low birth weight exposure and all those with parent reported diagnosis of childhood depression were the ones with the outcome.
- Demographics and covariates were selected accordingly.
- STATA software was used to analyze data from the NSCH database where all the collected data was present.
- Regression analysis was performed and results consisted of odds of developing the outcome( childhood depression) adjusting for various covariates.

**RESULTS**

- Adjusted ODDs ratios were calculated keeping considering demographics and covariates like race, sex, parental relationship happiness.
- For children with same age, sex, happiness in parental relationship and race, the odds of getting diagnosed with childhood depression are 0.83(CI.61 - 1.13) times in those with low birthweight than in those with normal birth weight.
- Odds are greater for those older than 10years of age, 6.48(CI 4.5-8.5), and 2.82(CI 1.7-4.5) in those whose parents are not in a happy relationship keeping everything else constant.

**CONCLUSIONS**

- The evidence here shows no significant association seen between low birth weight and a diagnosis of childhood depression, but, a very strong association of Low birth weight and getting a diagnosis of depression is seen in children whose parents are not in a happy relationship and in those who are older than 10 years of age. So, stress should be given to emotional factors in future research.

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