Watch Me Grow: A garden-based pilot intervention to increase fruit and vegetable intake in preschoolers

| Recruitment status | Prospectively registered |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| No longer recruiting | [_] Protocol |
| Overall study status | [] Statistical analysis plan |
| Completed | [_] Results |
| Condition category | Individual participant data |
| Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine | [_] Record updated in last year |
| | No longer recruiting Overall study status Completed Condition category |

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims:

Current fruit and vegetable consumption in children is low. There are few studies which promote fruit and vegetable intake, which have targeted children in child care, despite the fact that younger children are more likely influenced by adults in an eating environment. The objective of this pilot study is to assess whether Watch Me Grow (WMG) can become a sustainable, inexpensive way to increase vegetable consumption in pre-schoolers while attending child care.

Who can participate? Child care centers in North Carolina, which care for children between the ages of 3 5 years.

What does the study involve?

Child care centers were allocated to receiving the The Watch Me Grow (WMG) programme first, or receiving it at a later date. WMG is designed to encourage fruit and vegetable consumption among children in child care. Centers given the programme at a later date, received a garden and the curriculum materials, but not the regular technical assistance visits.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating? Centers will benefit from receipt of an on-site garden. Children enrolled at the center may benefit from increased consumption of fresh vegetables. To reduce the chance of harm, only non poisonous crops will be grown at the child care centers. There are no known risks of participating in the study.

Where is the study run from? Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina, USA

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for? The study began in March 2011 and is expected to run until November 2013.

Who is funding the study? Duke University Medical Center, USA Who is the main contact? Rebecca Brouwer Rebecca.brouwer@duke.edu

Contact information

Type(s) Scientific

Contact name Dr Sara Benjamin Neelon

Contact details Duke University Medical Center Box 104006 Durham United States of America 27710

Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Secondary identifying numbers N/A

Study information

Scientific Title

Watch Me Grow: A garden-based pilot intervention to increase fruit and vegetable intake in preschoolers a randomized controlled trial

Acronym

WMG

Study objectives

Children in intervention child care centers, compared with children in control centers, will increase their consumption of fruit and vegetables more from pre- to post-intervention.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s) Duke University Medical Center, 17 August 2010, ref: Pro00025325 **Study design** Randomized controlled trial

Primary study design Interventional

Secondary study design Randomised controlled trial

Study setting(s) Hospital

Study type(s) Quality of life

Participant information sheet

Not available in web format, please use the contact details below to request a patient information sheet

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Child Nutrition

Interventions

Centers allocated 1:1 to WMG intervention or delayed WMG intervention.

We compare the Watch Me Grow (WMG) garden-based intervention to a delayed intervention. WMG is a crop-a-month curriculum and garden intervention designed to encourage fruit and vegetable consumption among children in child care.

The intervention includes

1. Nutritional counseling to providers on low-cost ways to increase fruits and vegetables on the child care menu

2. Delivery of a multi-disciplinary pilot curriculum promoting fresh produce to providers and children and

3. Assistance establishing child care center gardens to get providers and children excited about growing their own fresh crops

Centers in the delayed intervention will receive a garden and the curriculum materials, but will not receive regular technical assistance visits.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase Not Applicable

Primary outcome measure

Servings of vegetables consumed by children in child care measured pre intervention and one month post intervention

Secondary outcome measures

Servings of vegetables served to children in child care measured pre intervention and one month post intervention

Overall study start date 03/01/2011

Completion date 11/01/2013

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria Center directors in North Carolina who care for at least 3 children between the ages of 3 and 5

Participant type(s) Patient

Age group Adult

Sex Both

Target number of participants 20 Center Directors

Key exclusion criteria

Center directors outside of North Carolina, or those who do not care for children between the ages of 3 and 5

Date of first enrolment 03/01/2011

Date of final enrolment 11/01/2013

Locations

Countries of recruitment United States of America

Study participating centre Duke University Medical Center Durham United States of America 27710

Sponsor information

Organisation Duke University Medical Center (USA)

Sponsor details c/o Sara Benjamin Neelon Department of Community and Family Medicine DUMC Box 104006 Durham United States of America 27710

Sponsor type Hospital/treatment centre

Website http://www.dukemedicine.org/

ROR https://ror.org/03njmea73

Funder(s)

Funder type Hospital/treatment centre

Funder Name Duke University Medical Center (USA)

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan Not provided at time of registration

Intention to publish date

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary Not provided at time of registration