

Concurrent Effect of Social Factors and Maturity Status on Height and BMI of Adolescent Girls

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ABSTRACT Concurrent effect of social factors (parental education, level of urbanisation and family size) and maturity status (menarche - status quo method) on height and BMI of 1569 girls aged 13-15 years was assessed by two-way analysis of variance and path analysis. Before analysis the effect of age was removed by mean of the LMS method. Height was significantly influenced by parental education, allowing for maturation rate. Urbanisation and father's education significantly influenced BMI, allowing for maturation rate. Path coefficients revealed that mother's education and father's education were the most important factors influencing girls' height and BMI, respectively.