

Homogeneity of Maternal Perception of Her Child's Weight in Northeastern Mexico

Yolanda Flores-Peña^a, Hermelinda Avila-Alpírez^b, Perla M. Trejo-Ortiz^c,
Alicia Ugarte-Esquivel^d, Velia M. Cárdenas-Villarreal^e, Josefina Gallegos-Martínez^f,
Gautam K. Kshatriya and Ricardo M. Cerda-Flores^g

^a *Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon (UANL), Nursing Graduate School.
Av. Gonzalitos No. 1500 Nte, Col. Mitras Centro, Monterrey, Nuevo León,
México, ZP 64460*

E-mail: yflores_mx@yahoo.com.mx

^b *Autonomous University of Tamaulipas (UAT), College of Nursing, Multidisciplinary Unit.
Ave. Maestro and Marte S/N Col. City Alianza. H. Matamoros Tamaulipas, México, ZP 87410*

E-mail: avila_alpírez_hermelinda@hotmail.com

^c *Autonomous University of Zacatecas (UAZ), Health Sciences Department.
Carretera Zacatecas – Guadalajara Km. 6 Ejido La Escondida, Zacatecas,
Zac. México, ZP 98160*

E-mail: perlu11@yahoo.com.mx

^d *Autonomous University of Coahuila (UAC). College of Nursing, Campus Torreon.
Monte Vesubio S/N, Fracc. Valle Dorado, Torreón, Coahuila, México, ZP 27298*

E-mail: florencialalia@hotmail.com

^e *Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon (UANL), College of Nursing.
Av. Gonzalitos No. 1500 Nte, Col. Mitras Centro, Monterrey, Nuevo León, México, ZP 64460*

E-mail: velia_margaritac@hotmail.com

^f *Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi (UASLP). College of Nursing,
Niño Artillero #130, Zona Universitaria, San Luis Potosi, SLP, México, ZP 78240*

E-mail: joga2002@hotmail.com

^g *University of Delhi, Delhi 110 007. Department of Anthropology, India*

E-mail: g26.51@yahoo.co.in

^h *Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon (UANL) College of Nursing,
Av. Gonzalitos No. 1500 Nte, Col. Mitras Centro, Monterrey, Nuevo León, México, ZP 64460*

E-mail: ricardocerda_mx@yahoo.com.mx

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ABSTRACT The objectives were to assess a maternal perception of her child's weight through two tests, words, and images, to validate tests; and to compare perception among Mexican populations. Participants 2,842 mother-child dyads; the child's body mass index measurement was the gold standard. Sensitivity, specificity, Kappa value, Z test and homogeneity of Kappas were calculated. By words found that 55.1%, 77.5%, 32.2% and 25.1% of mothers of underweight, normal, overweight, and obese children had an adequate perception. By images found that 76.4%, 92.9%, 73.0%, and 89% of mothers of underweight, normal, overweight, and obese children had an adequate perception. Sensitivity, specificity, and Kappa values for the words were 28.4%, 22.5% and 0.442 ($p=0.000$); for the images were 81.6%, 23.6% and 0.043 ($p=0.001$). A small proportion of mothers of overweight-obese children had adequate perception by words. The images had higher sensitivity. There are various levels of homogeneity across the States.