

## **Title: The correlates of childhood obesity over time: Panel data evidence from developing countries**

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**Statement of the Problem:** The rising incidence of childhood obesity is alarming for low- and middle-income economies where the majority of the world's children live and will continue to live in the coming decades.

**Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:** This paper, using a sample of 95 countries from 1991 to 2016 and multivariate panel regression framework, explores the determinants of childhood obesity in two ways: (a) it estimates the conditional correlates of childhood obesity separately for male and female children; (b) it traces the evolution of these correlations over time.

**Findings:** The results show qualitative and quantitative differences over time and across gender.

**Conclusion & Significance:** The need for a proactive social policy is highlighted.

### **Biography**

Ummad Mazhar has his expertise in applied economics and econometrics. He mostly explores issues of social and economic importance. His research covers topics related to obesity, informality, terrorism, and its consequences for women. He has worked at the central bank of Pakistan (called State Bank of Pakistan). Currently he is teaching economics, econometrics, business economics, and business development.