

Abstract

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Lipid screening and cardiovascular health in childhood.

Daniels SR, Greer FR; Committee on Nutrition.

Greer FR, Bhatia JJ, Daniels SR, Schneider MB, Silverstein J, Stettler N, Thomas DW, Blum-Kemelor D, Marchand V, Grummer-Strawn L, Hubbard RA, Silverman BM, Burrowes D.

BACKGROUND: This clinical report replaces the 1998 policy statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics on cholesterol in childhood, which has been retired. This report has taken on new urgency given the current epidemic of childhood obesity with the subsequent increasing risk of type 2 diabetes mellitus, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease in older children and adults.

SUMMARY: The approach to screening children and adolescents with a fasting lipid profile remains a targeted approach. Overweight children belong to a special risk category of children and are in need of cholesterol screening regardless of family history or other risk factors. This report reemphasizes the need for prevention of cardiovascular disease by following Dietary Guidelines for Americans and increasing physical activity and also includes a review of the pharmacologic agents and indications for treating dyslipidemia in children.

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