

# Il sonno nei disturbi del neurosviluppo: prospettive e ipotesi terapeutiche

Prof. Marco Carotenuto

Napule è...

PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA E SOCIALE



LUCI OMBRE ABBAGLI

Prevenzione

Nutrizione

Allergologia

Dermatologia

Gastroenterologia

29 Aprile - 01 Maggio 2023

Evento Residenziale  
Hotel Royal Continental, Napoli

Presidente del congresso: Giuseppe Di Mauro



Università  
degli Studi  
della Campania  
*Luigi Vanvitelli*

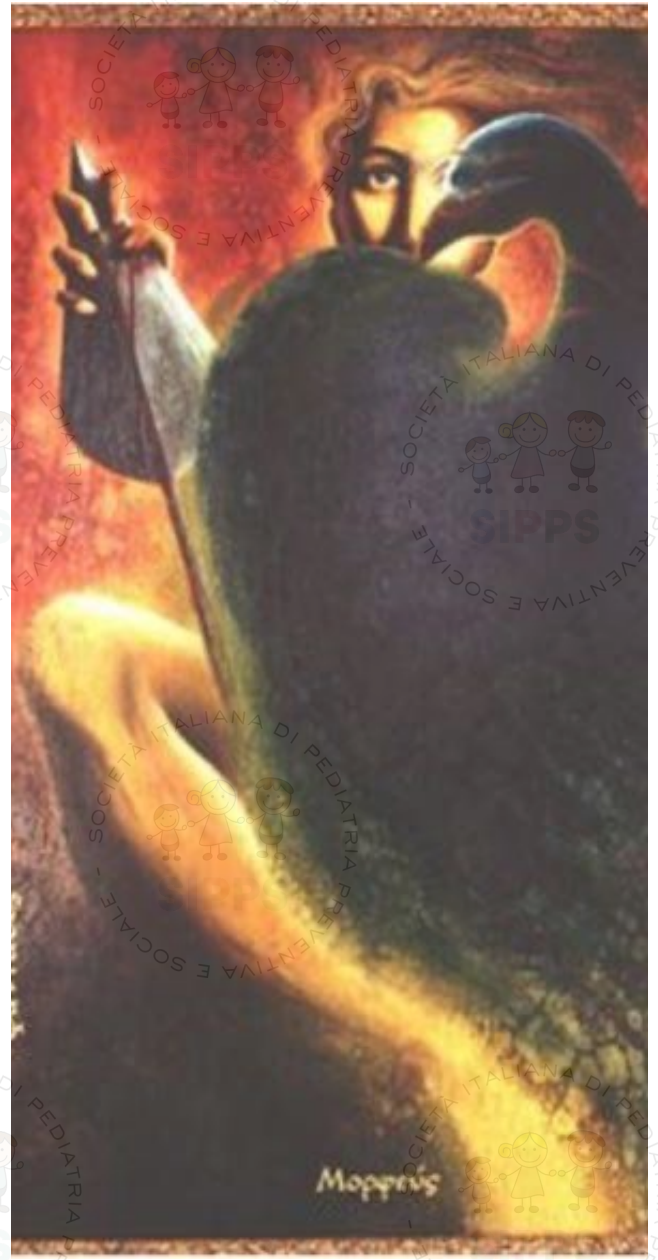
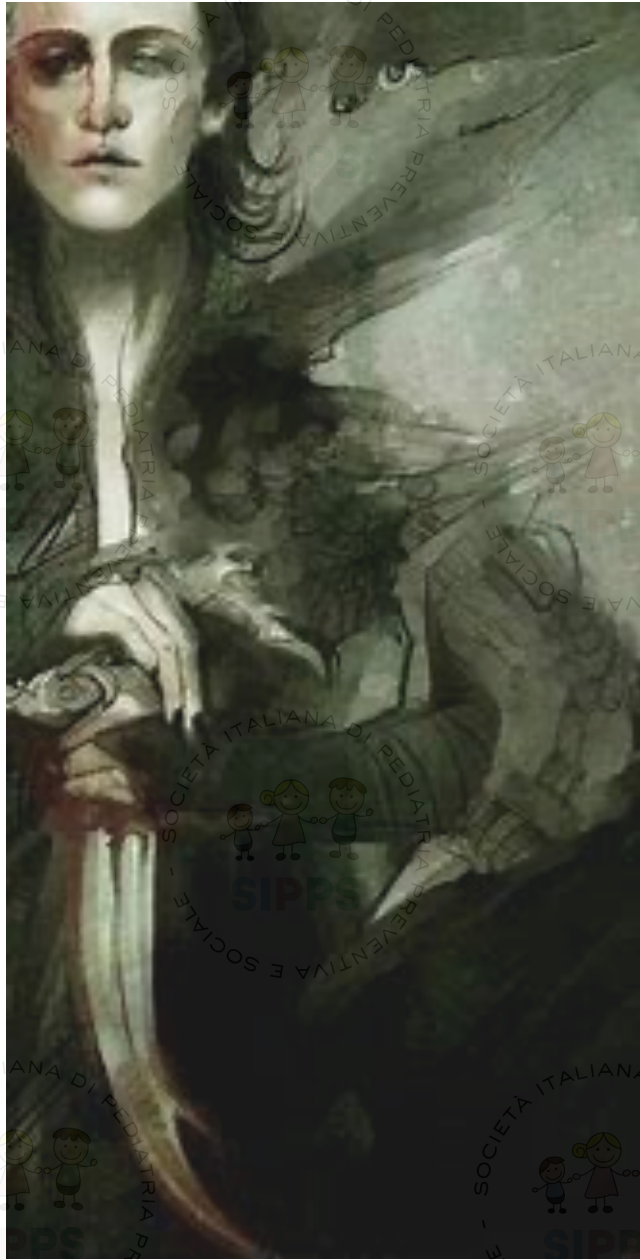


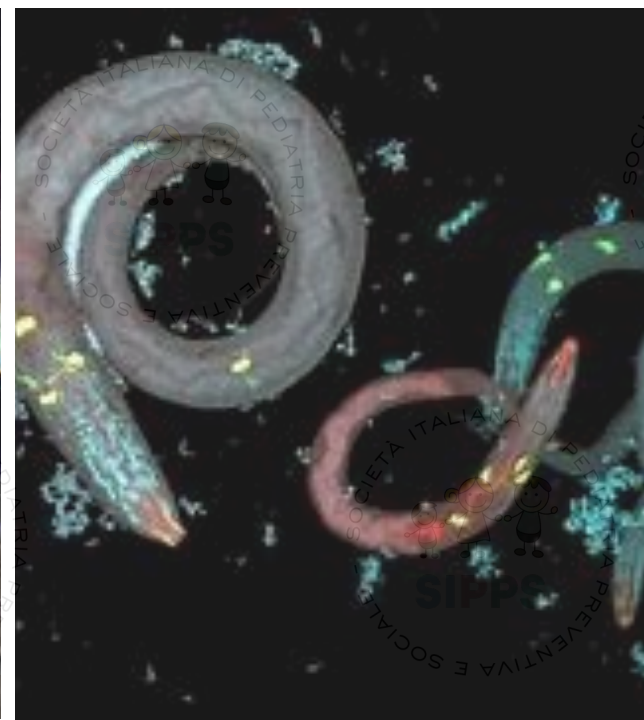
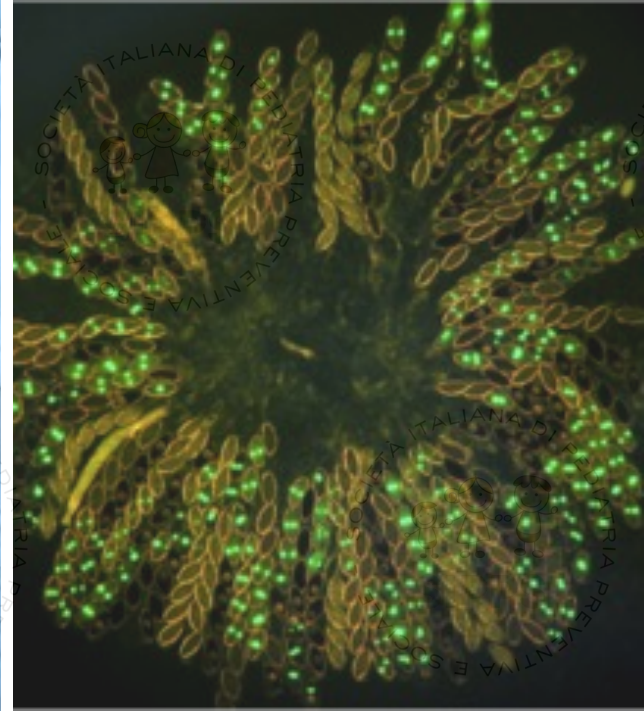
Dichiaro assenza di conflitto di interessi



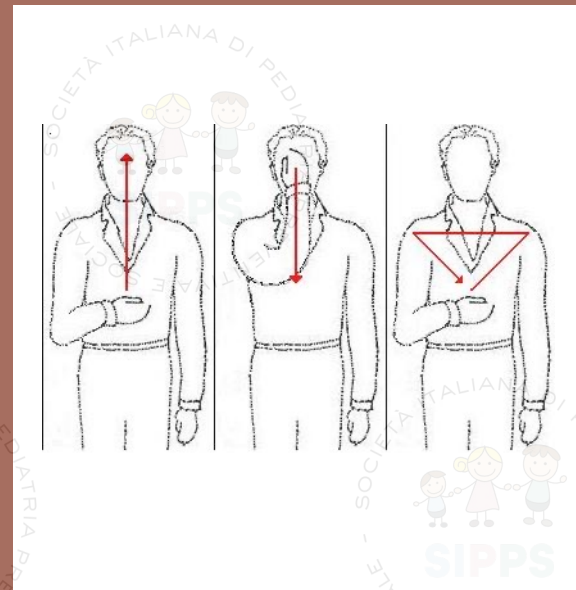
# Overview

- Introduzione
- Neurochimica e regolazione del sonno
- Il sonno nei DNS
- Melatonina





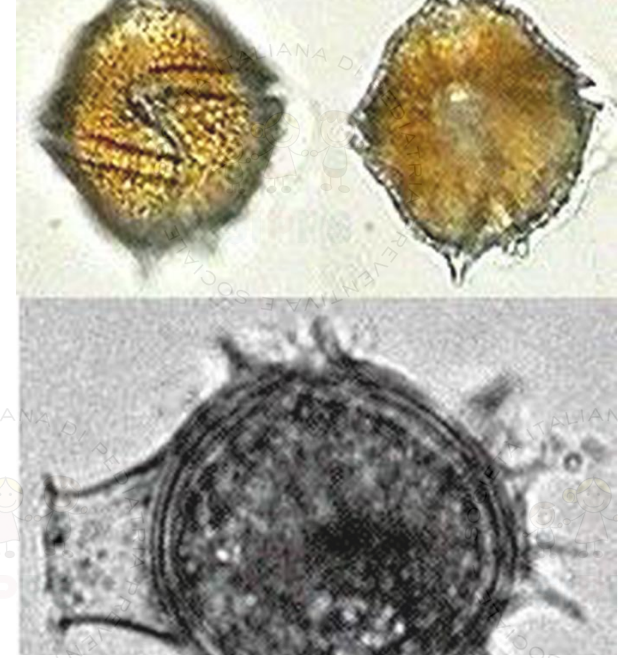
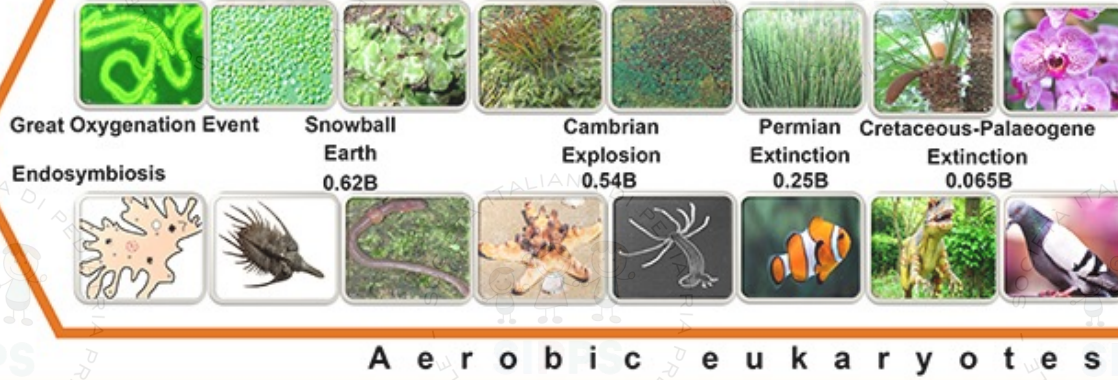




# Plant Kingdom

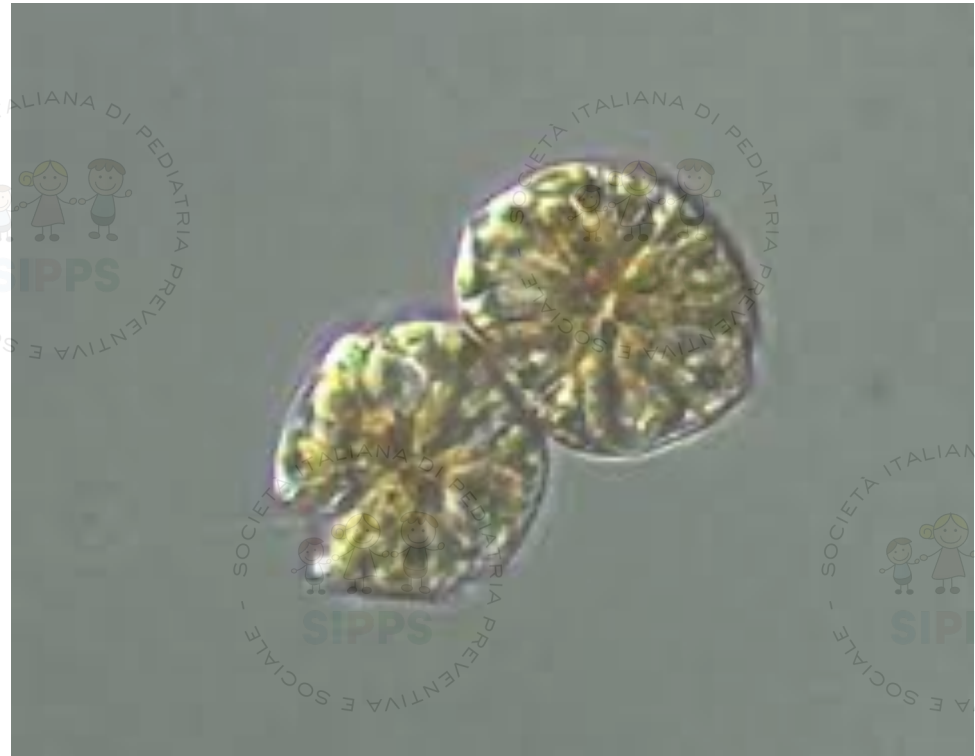
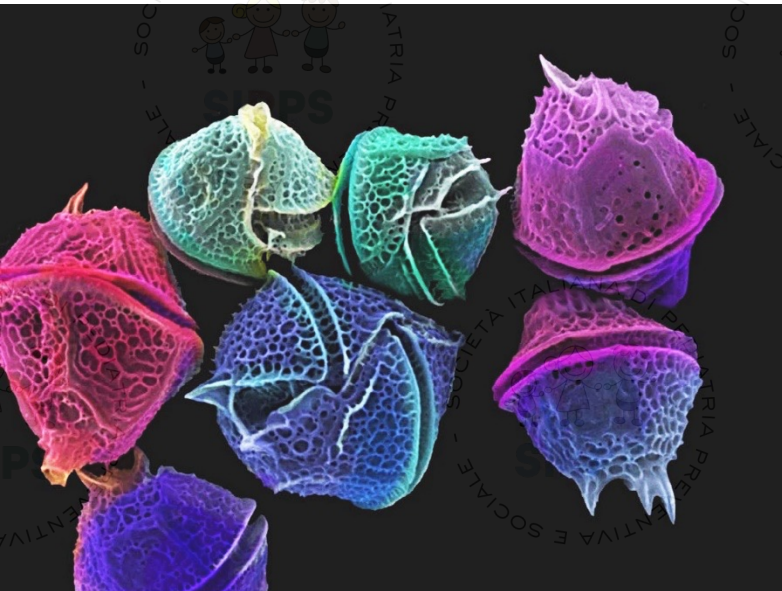
Circadian rhythms  
Immunity  
Growth

Photosynthetic eukaryote



# Animal Kingdom

Immunity  
Circadian rhythms









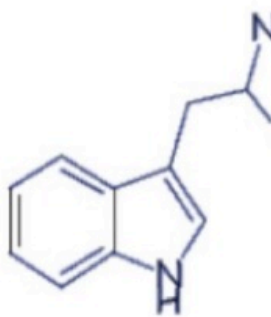
SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA E SOCIALE - SIPPS



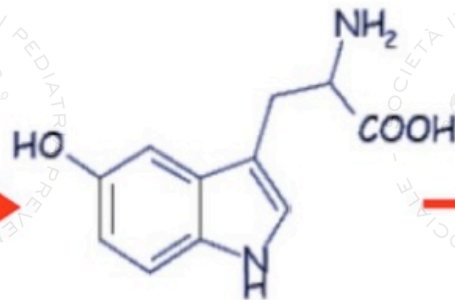
SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA E SOCIALE - SIPPS



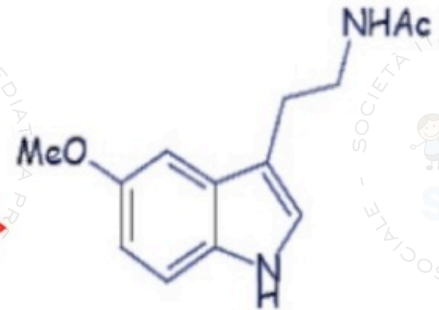
SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA E SOCIALE - SIPPS



**Tryptophan**



**Serotonin**



**Melatonin**

TPH

AAD

AANAT

HIMT



SIPPS

SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA E SOCIALE - SIPPS



SIPPS

SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA E SOCIALE - SIPPS



SIPPS

SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI PEDIATRIA PREVENTIVA E SOCIALE - SIPPS



## PERIPHERY

Pathogen-associated  
molecular patterns

Toll-like receptor  
inflammasome

Activation  
of innate  
immunity  
(NF- $\kappa$ B  
MAP kinases)

Peripheral  
proinflammatory  
cytokines

IDO

LAT1-dependent  
transport

Kynurenine

## BRAIN

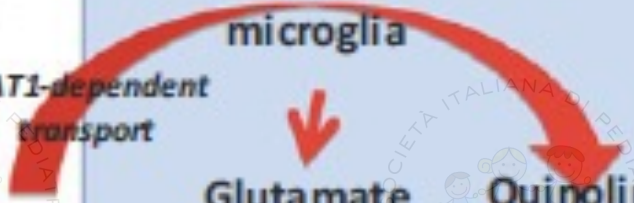
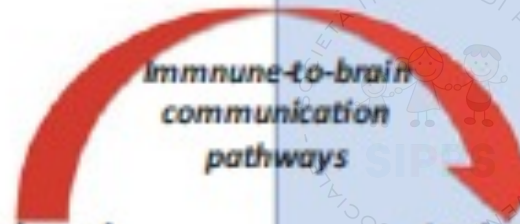
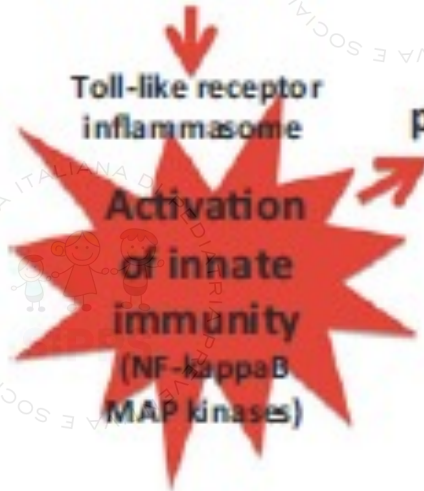
Immune-to-brain  
communication  
pathways

Activated  
microglia

Glutamate

Quinolinic  
acid

NMDA receptor  
activation



**Metatonin**  
(pineal-derived and locally-produced  
in many cells)

**Receptor-dependent**

**Cytosol**  
MT3, calmodulin

- Detoxification
- Enzyme regulation
- Etc.

**Nucleus**  
ROR, RZR

- Immune modulation
- Antioxidant enzyme regulation
- Etc.

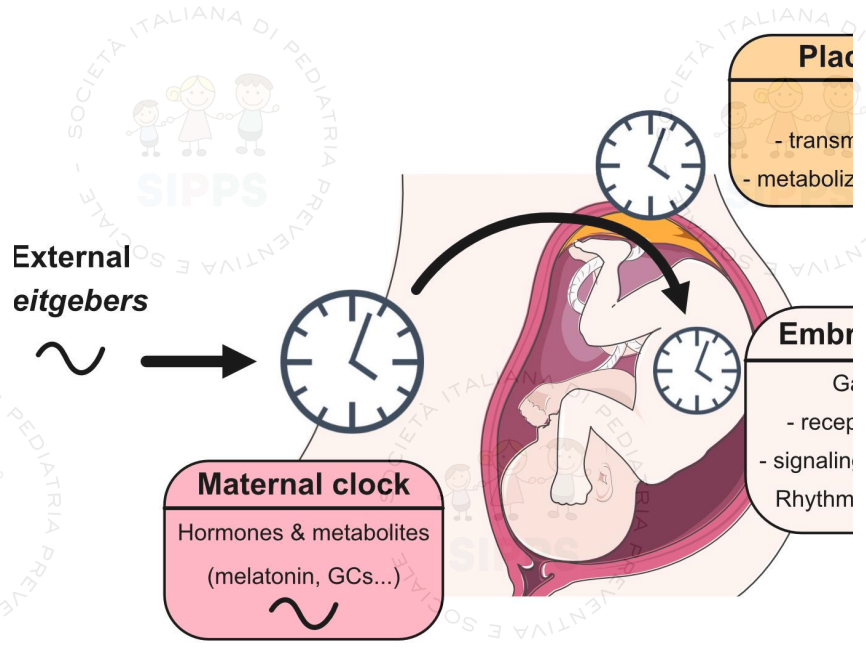
**Membrane**  
MT1, MT2, GPR50

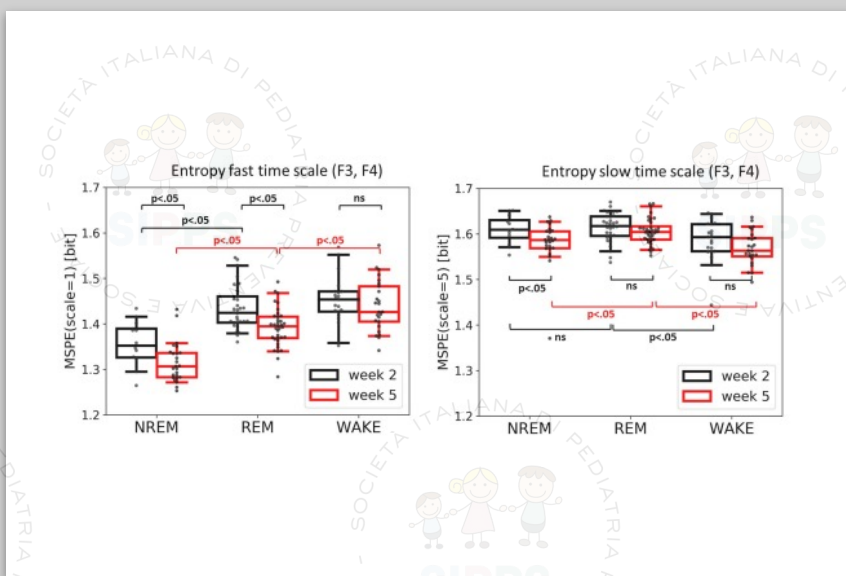
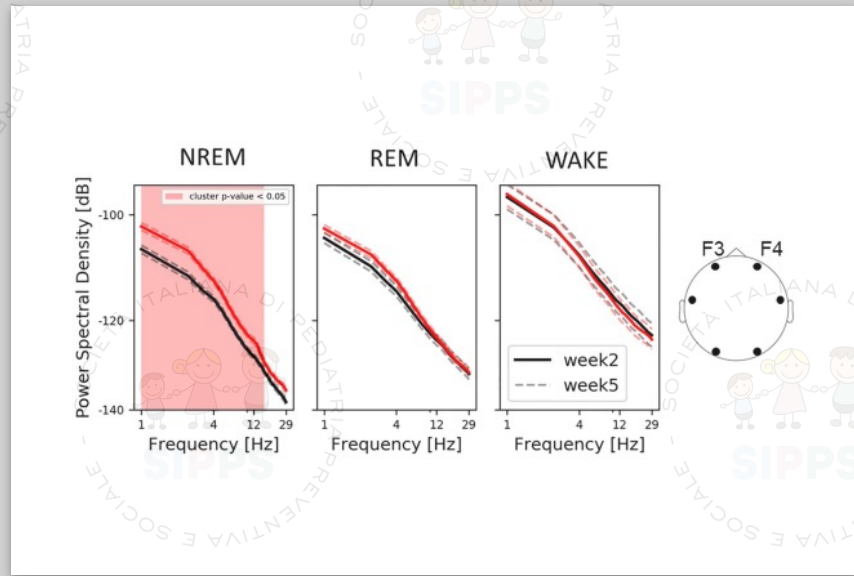
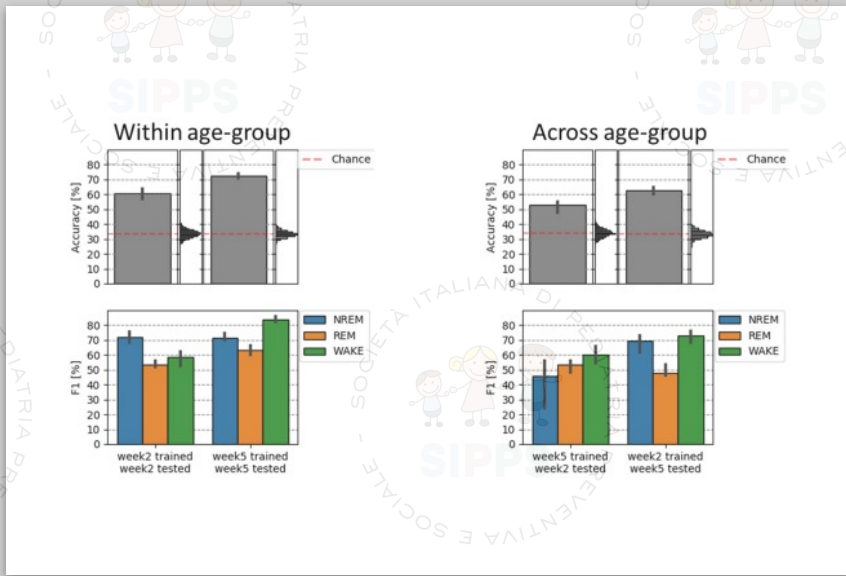
- Seasonal reproduction
- Retinal physiology
- Circadian modulation
- Sleep promotion
- Bone growth
- Blood pressure modulation
- Etc.

**Receptor-independent**

**Free radical scavenging**  
ROS, RNS

- Protection against:**
- Ionizing radiation
  - UV radiation
  - Ischemia/reperfusion
  - Heavy metal toxicity
  - Alcohol toxicity
  - Drug toxicity
  - Etc.





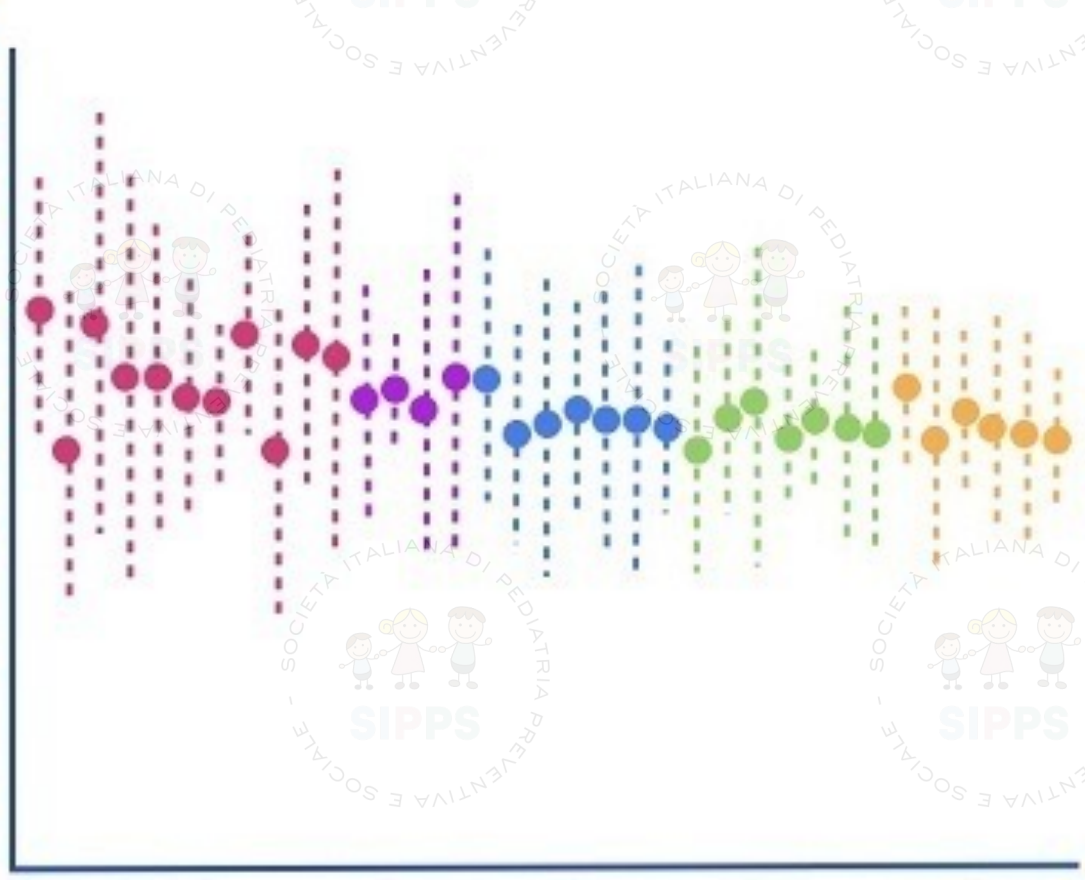
RESEARCH ARTICLE

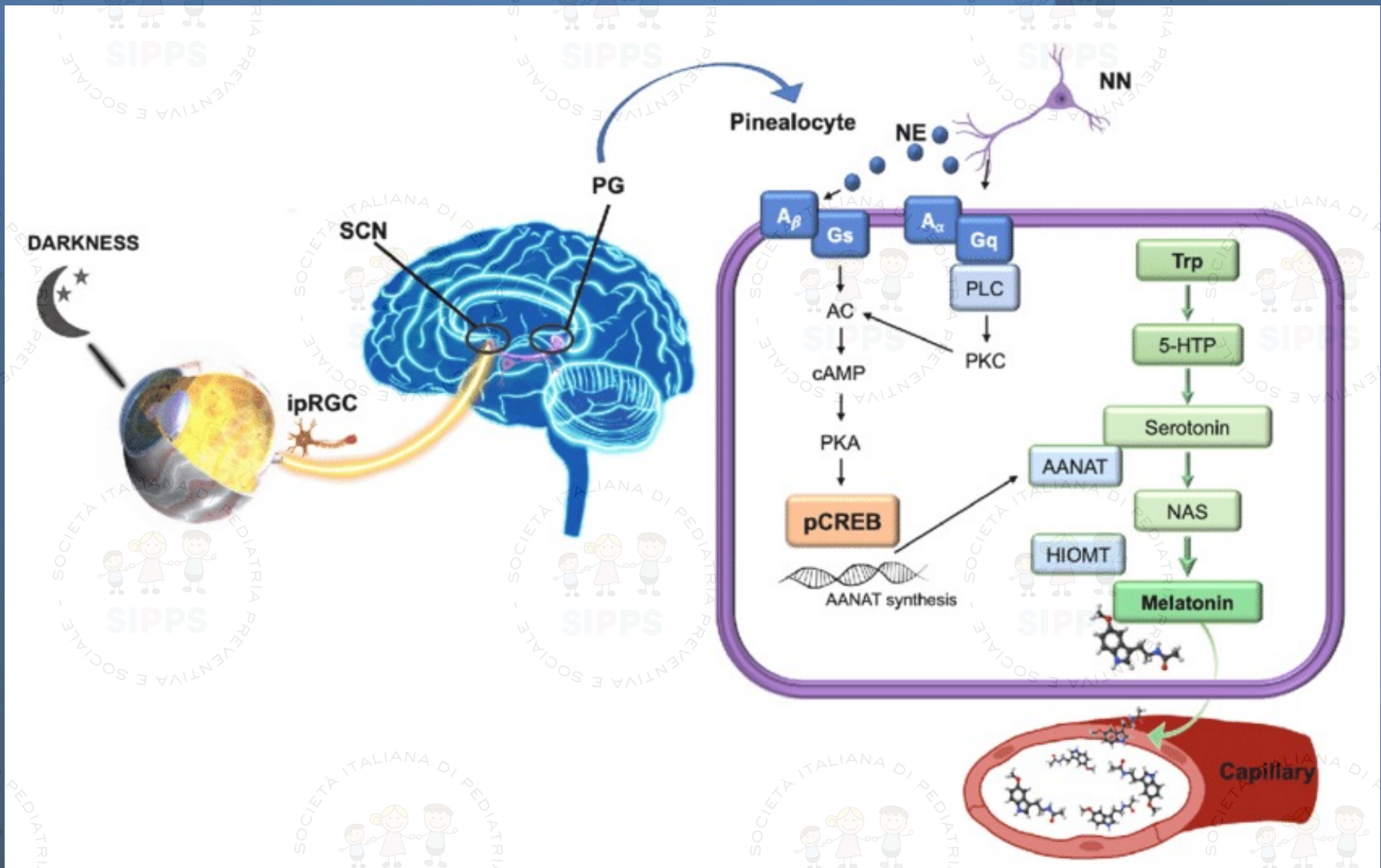
## On the development of sleep states in the first weeks of life

Tomasz Wielek<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Renata Del Giudice<sup>3</sup>, Adelheid Lang<sup>1,2</sup>, Malgorzata Wislowska<sup>1,2</sup>, Peter Ott<sup>4</sup>, Manuel Schabus<sup>1,2\*</sup>

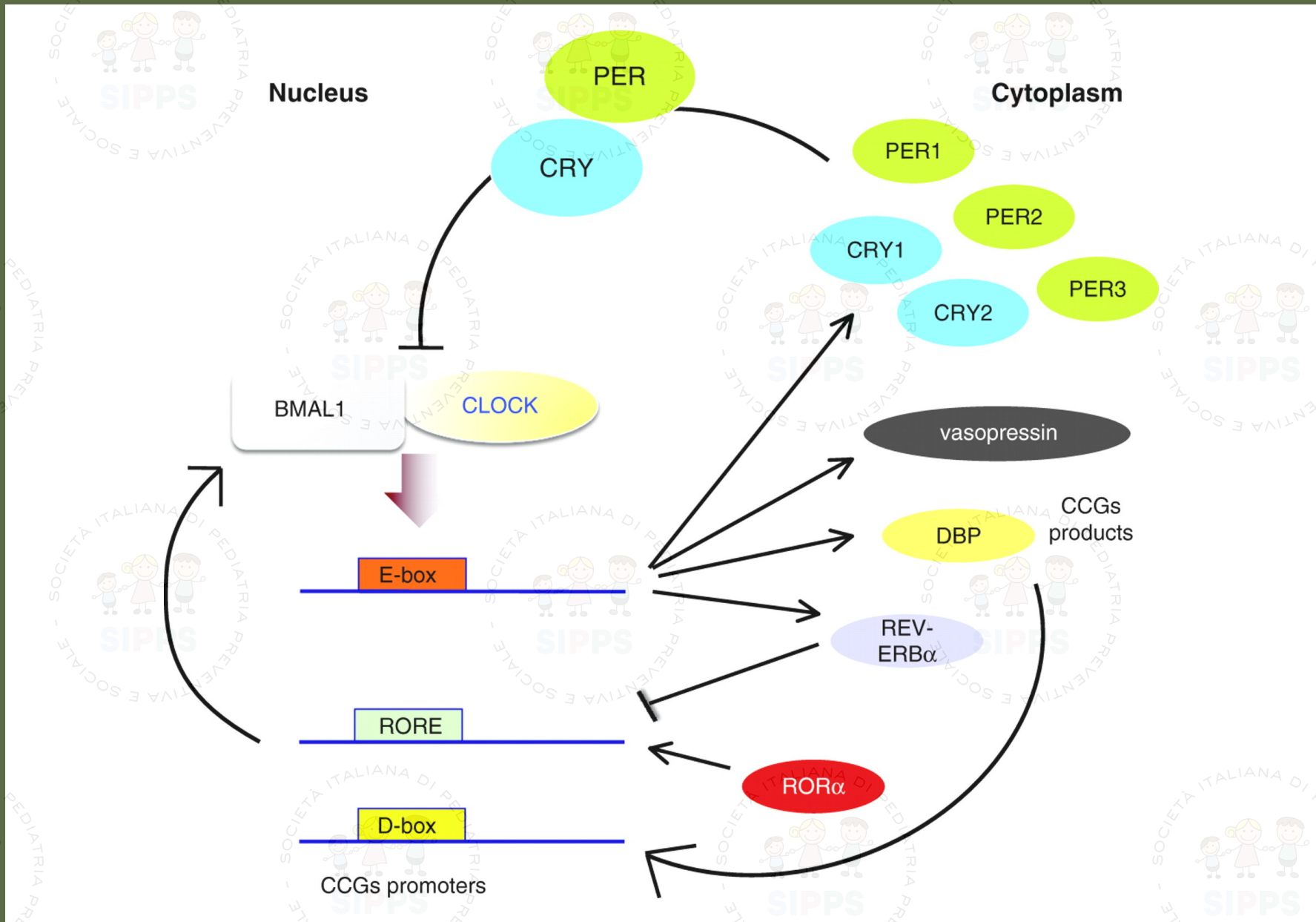


24  
22  
20  
18  
16  
14  
12  
10  
8  
6  
4  
2  
0



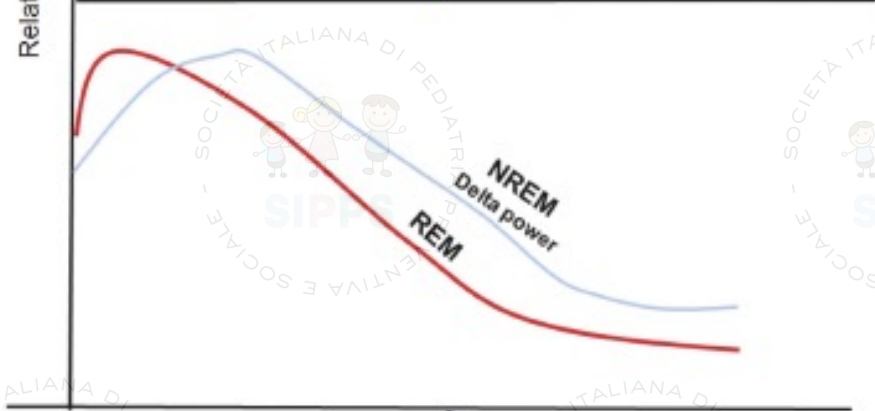






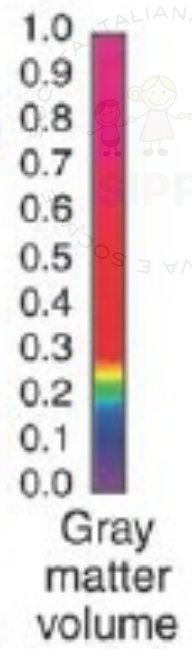
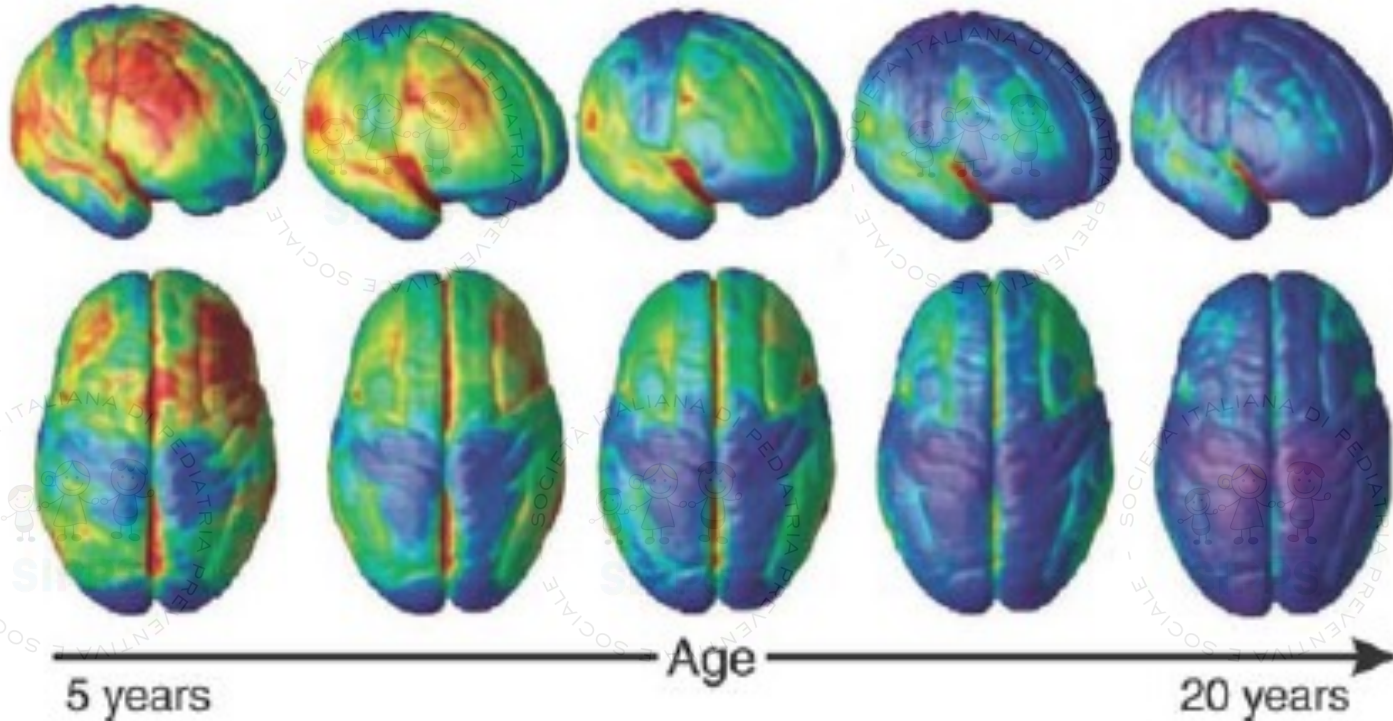


POSTERIOR ANTERIOR



Birth Infant Childhood Adolescence Adult







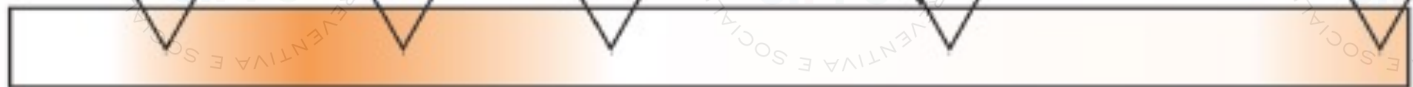
**Prenatal**   **Infancy**   **Childhood**   **Adolescence**   **Adulthood**   **Aging**

**Approximate age (years)**

Birth   2   12   18   30   60   90



**Microbiota**



**Amygdala**

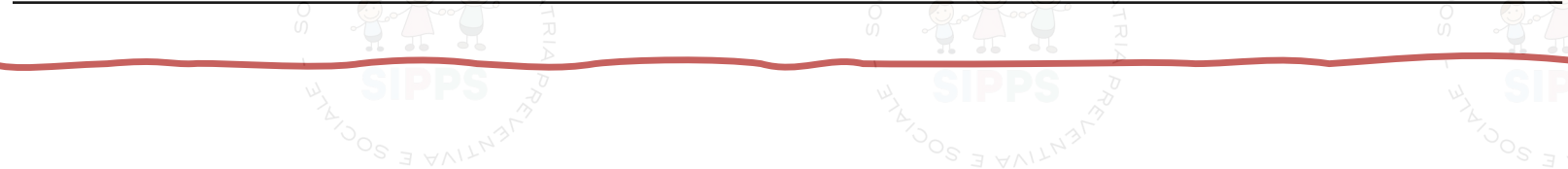


**Age of onset of psychiatric disorders**



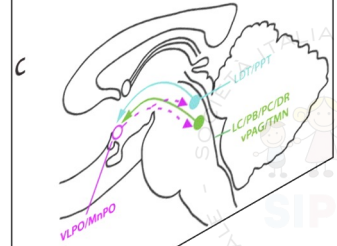
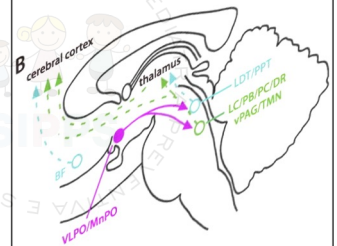
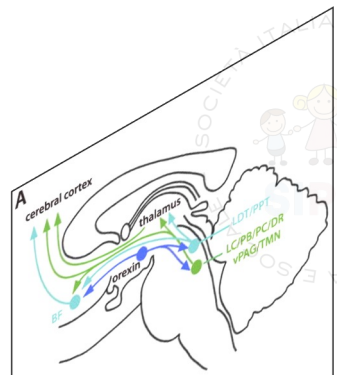


<b>1-2 weeks</b>	<b>Fetal cycle loss</b>
<b>1-2 months</b>	<b>Starting sleep structuring</b>
<b>3-4 months</b>	<b>24 hrs cycle. Stable MLT endogenous production</b>
<b>6-9 months</b>	<b>Prolonged diurnal waking periods; NAPS</b>
<b>12 months</b>	<b>70-80% night sleeping.</b>
<b>3 years</b>	<b>Stable nocturnal sleep</b> <b>No NAPS</b>
<b>10 years</b>	<b>Stable circadian rhythms</b>
<b>12 years</b>	<b>DPS. Excessive diurnal somnolence</b>



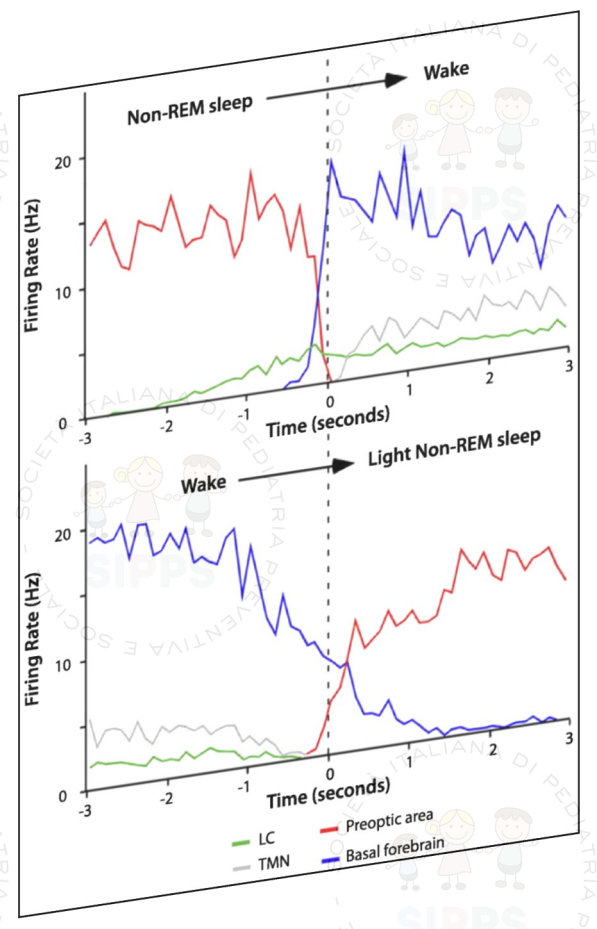
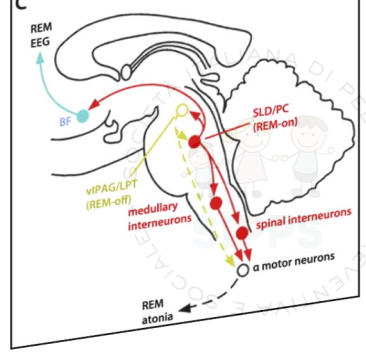
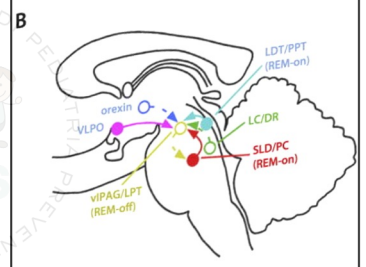
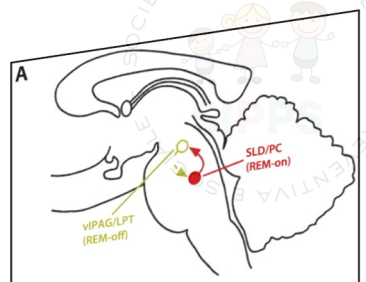


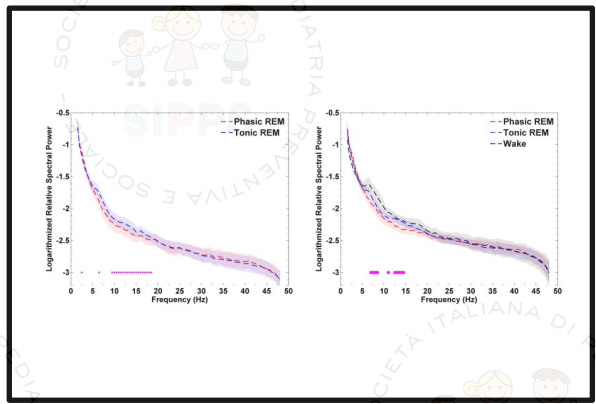
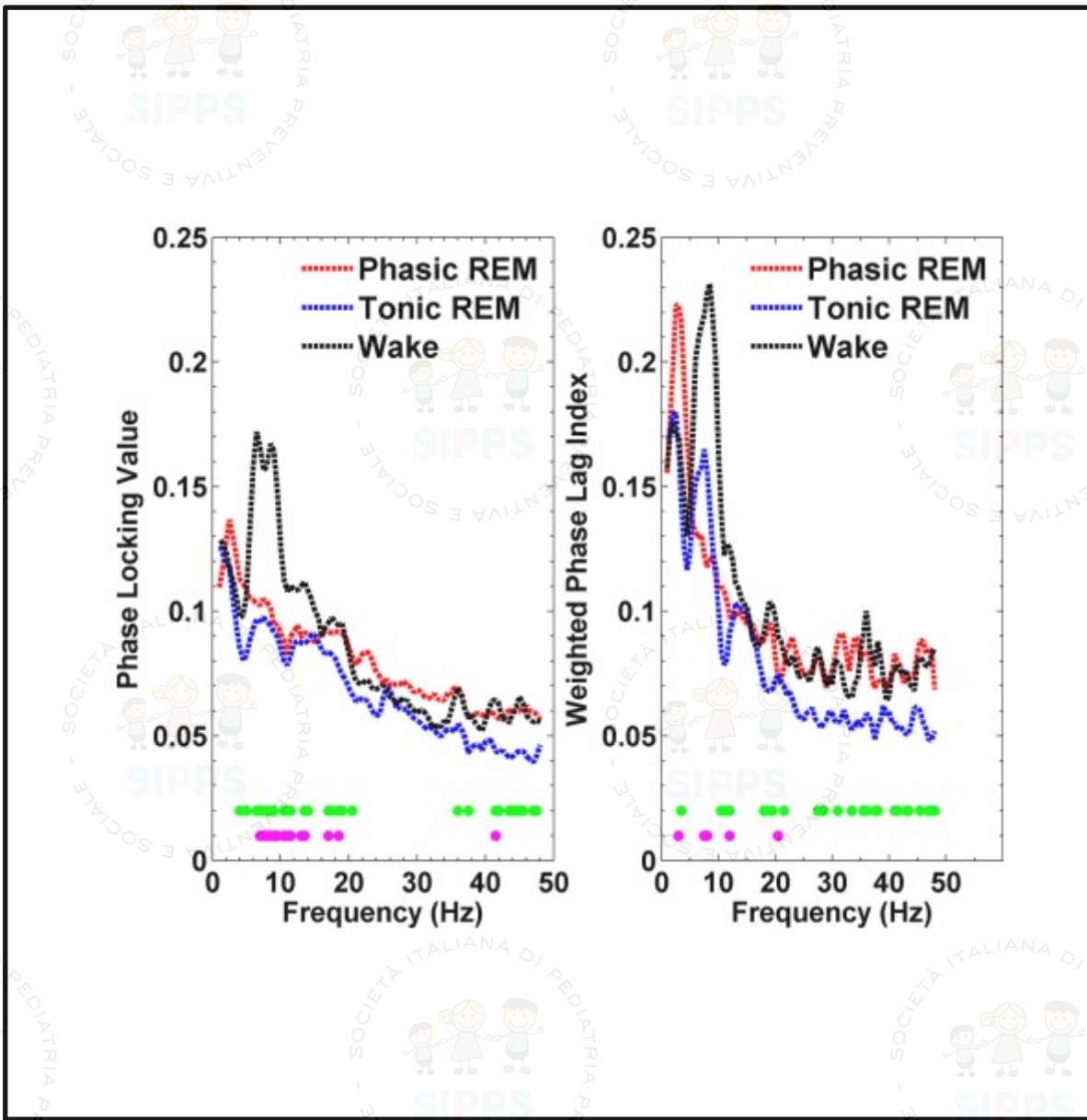
Arousal system



Sleep promoting system

Interactions

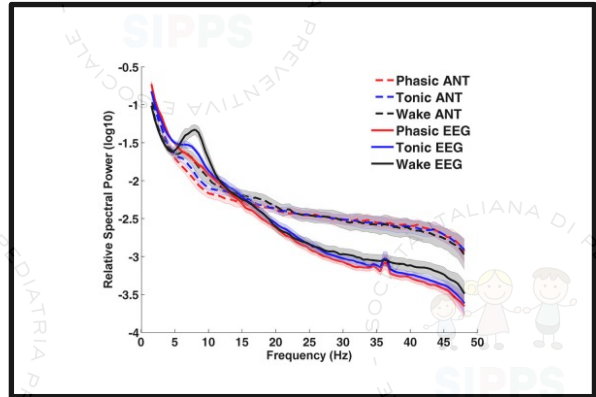




Behavioral/Cognitive

### REM Sleep Microstates in the Human Anterior Thalamus

Péter Simor,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Orsolya Szalárdy,<sup>2,4</sup> Ferenc Gombos,<sup>2</sup> Péter Przemyslaw Ujma,<sup>2,4</sup> Zsófia Jordán,<sup>4</sup>  
 László Halász,<sup>4</sup> Loránd Erőss,<sup>4</sup> Daniel Fabó,<sup>4</sup> and Róbert Bódizs<sup>2,4</sup>





ELSEVIER

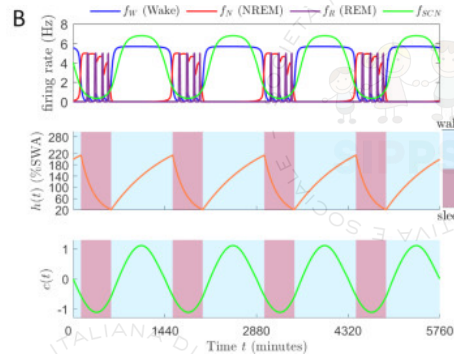
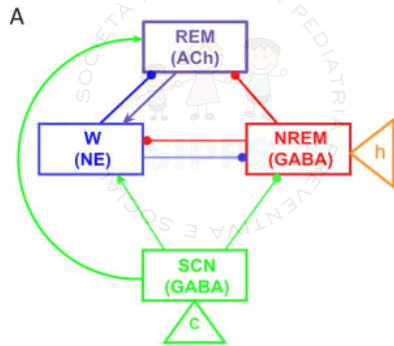
Mathematical Biosciences

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/mbs](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/mbs)



Original Research Article

NREM-REM alternation complicates transitions from napping to non-napping behavior in a three-state model of sleep-wake regulation\*



## ABSTRACT

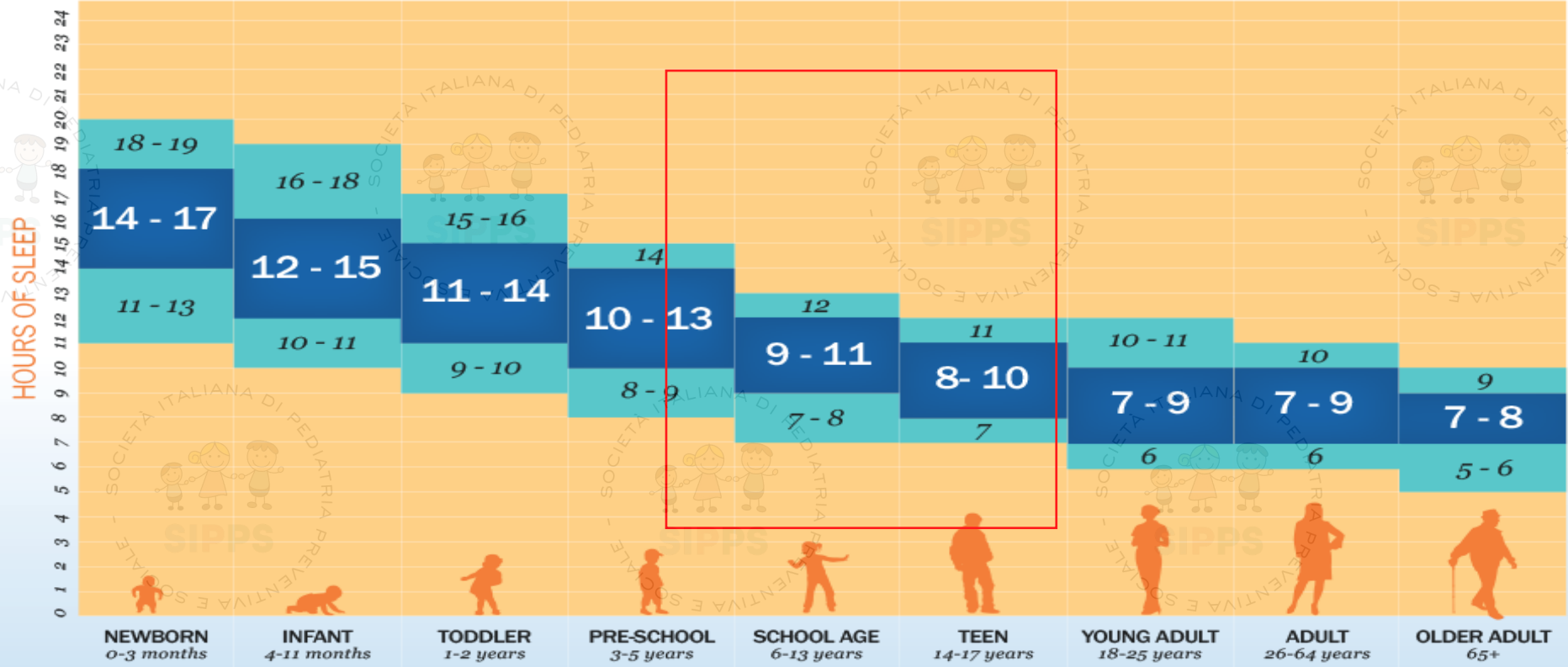
The temporal structure of human sleep changes across development as it consolidates from the polyphasic sleep of infants to the single nighttime sleep episode typical in adults. Experimental studies have shown that changes in the dynamics of sleep need may mediate this developmental transition in sleep patterning, however, it is unknown how sleep architecture interacts with these changes. We employ a physiologically-based mathematical model that generates wake, rapid eye movement (REM) and non-REM (NREM) sleep states to investigate how NREM-REM alternation affects the transition in sleep patterns as the dynamics of the homeostatic sleep drive are varied. To study the mechanisms producing these transitions, we analyze the bifurcations of numerically-computed circle maps that represent key dynamics of the full sleep-wake network model by tracking the evolution of sleep onsets across different circadian (~ 24 h) phases. The maps are non-monotonic and discontinuous, being composed of branches that correspond to sleep-wake cycles containing distinct numbers of REM bouts. As the rates of accumulation and decay of the homeostatic sleep drive are varied, we identify the bifurcations that disrupt a period-adding-like behavior of sleep patterns in the transition between biphasic and monophasic sleep. These bifurcations include border collision and saddle-node bifurcations that initiate new sleep patterns, period-doubling bifurcations leading to higher-order patterns of NREM-REM alternation, and intervals of bistability of sleep patterns with different NREM-REM alternations. Furthermore, patterns of NREM-REM alternation exhibit variable behaviors in different regimes of constant sleep-wake patterns. Overall, the sequence of sleep-wake behaviors, and underlying bifurcations, in the transition from biphasic to monophasic sleep in this three-state model is more complex than behavior observed in models of sleep-wake regulation that do not consider the dynamics of NREM-REM alternation. These results suggest that interactions between the dynamics of the homeostatic sleep drive and the dynamics of NREM-REM alternation may contribute to the wide interindividual variation observed when young children transition from napping to non-napping behavior.





NATIONAL SLEEP FOUNDATION

# SLEEP DURATION RECOMMENDATIONS



  Recommended
   May be Appropriate
   Not Recommended

SLEEPFOUNDATION.ORG | SLEEP.ORG

Hirshkowitz M, The National Sleep Foundation's sleep time duration recommendations: methodology and results summary, Sleep Health (2015), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.sleh.2014.12.010>

From: **Effects of Limiting Recreational Screen Media Use on Physical Activity and Sleep in Families With Children: A Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial**

JAMA Pediatr. 2022;176(8):741-749. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2022.1519

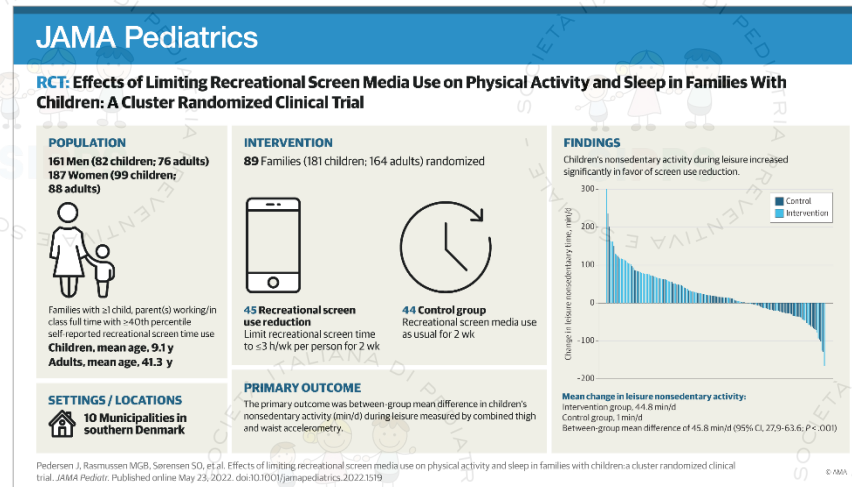
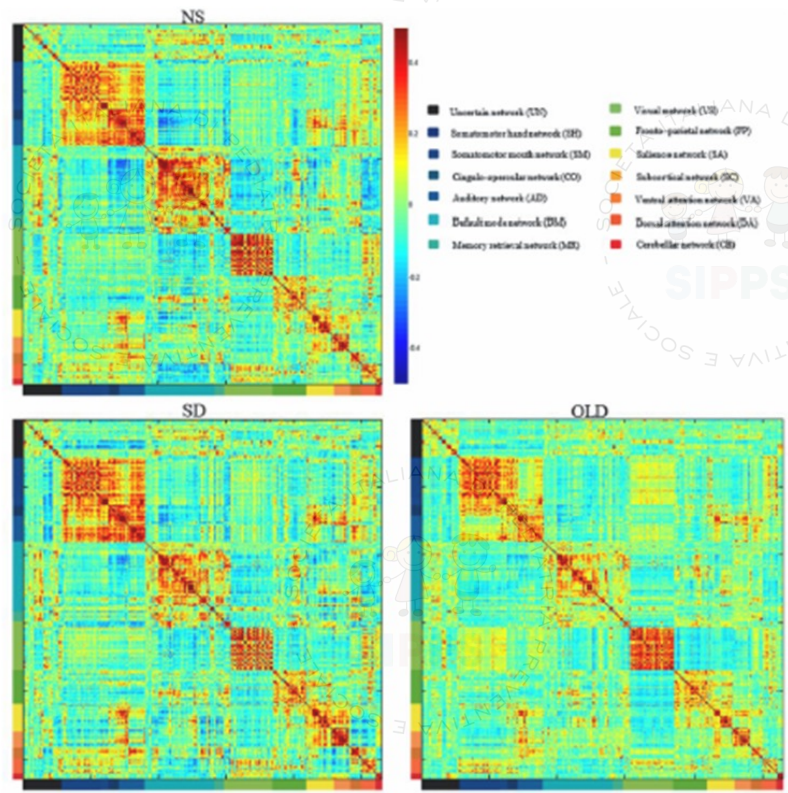
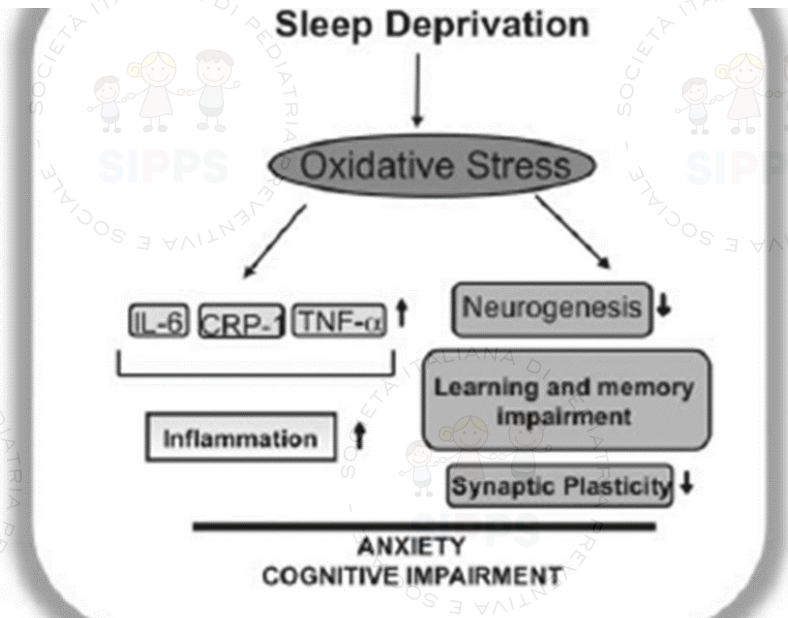


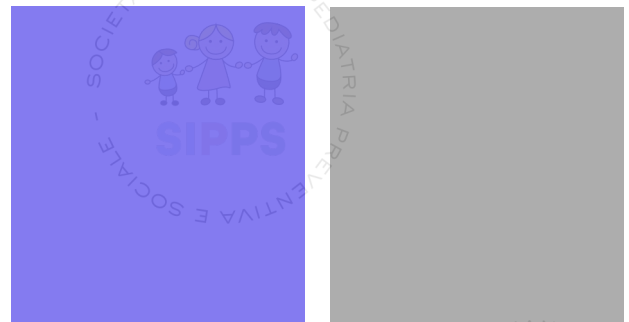
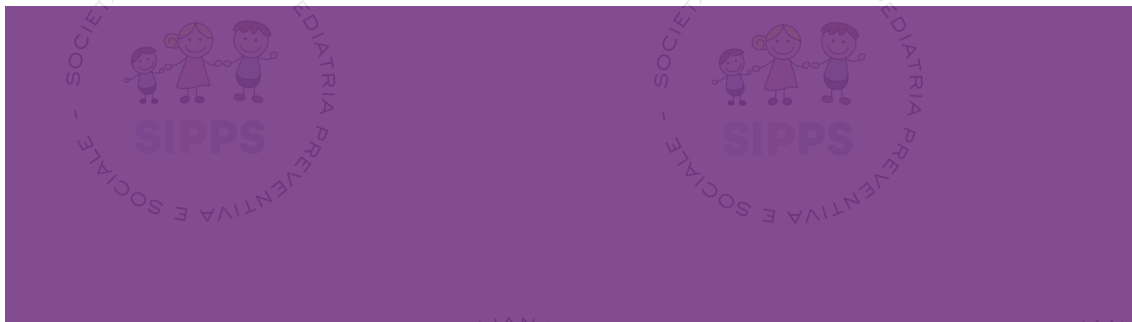
Figure Legend:

Effects of Limiting Recreational Screen Media Use on Physical Activity and Sleep in Families With Children: A Cluster Randomized Clinical Trial



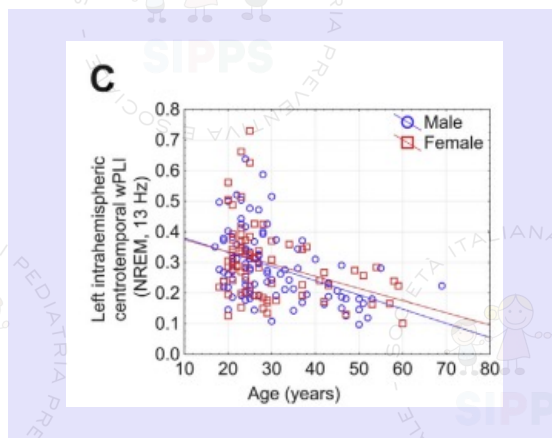
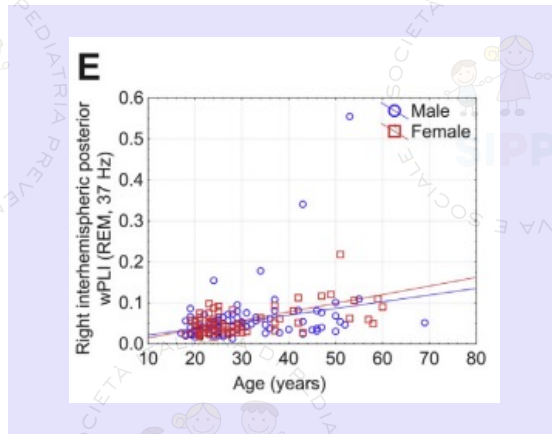
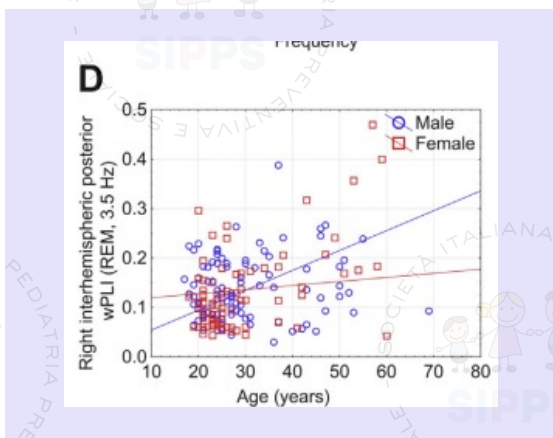
**Effects of SD and/or Regular Exercise, or Caffeine on the Basal Levels of Sirtuin Expression**

	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Exercise/SD</b>	<b>Caffeine</b>
	No change	No change	No change
	No change	No change	Increase
	No change	No change	No change
	Increase	Increase	No change
	Increase	Increase	No change
	No change	No change	No change
	No change	No change	No change



Sleep EEG functional connectivity varies with age and sex, but not general intelligence

Péter P. Ujma<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Boris N. Konrad<sup>c</sup>, Péter Simor<sup>a,d</sup>, Ferenc Gombos<sup>e,f</sup>, János Körmendi<sup>g</sup>, Axel Steiger<sup>h</sup>, Martin Dresler<sup>c,h</sup>, Róbert Bódizs<sup>a,b</sup>



- Connectivity greater in females in the high sigma frequency range
- An opposite pattern in the alpha/low sigma and beta range
- General intelligence was not significantly associated with connectivity in either sex.
- Strong age effects on sleep spindle-frequency activity, which loses synchrony as a function of aging.

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS

## Effect of sleep habits on academic performance in schoolchildren age 6 to 12 years: a cross-sectional observation study

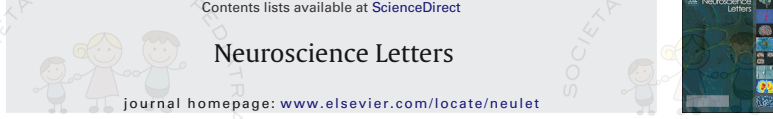
Chithambara Thanu Sivakumar, MD; Mahalakshmi Rajan, MD; Umopathy Pasupathy, MD; Sathya Chidambaram, MBBS; Nithya Baskar, MD

**Study Objectives:** Sleep plays a vital role in the cognitive and neurodevelopmental outcome of children; therefore, adequate sleep is needed to improve academic performance. The primary objective of this study was to determine the prevalence of sleep behaviors and their effect on academic performance in schoolchildren age 6–12 years and to translate the findings into greater opportunity for healthy development and academic success.

**Methods:** Our study included 791 healthy children between ages 6 and 12 years from schools that are parts of the Central Board of Secondary Education in the South Indian urban population. Pro forma and The Children's Sleep Habits Questionnaire (CSHQ in local language translation) was given to the parents, and any doubts regarding the questionnaire were clarified during parent-teacher meetings. The previous 2 cycles of academic grades for these children were collected and categorized into A, B, and C grades accordingly. Then a statistical analysis of the completed CSHQ questionnaires was performed.

**Results:** On analyzing the CSHQ questionnaire, 71.9% of the children studied had a score higher than 41, which is in the clinical range indicating a significant prevalence of altered sleep habits. Other risk factors included nocturnal enuresis (3.5%), snoring (10.6%), night terrors (8%), and teeth grinding (6.4%).

**Conclusions:** Altered sleep habits have a major effect on the academic performance of the school-age children. Assessment of sleep habits should be included in routine pediatric office visits.



## Borderline intellectual functioning and sleep: The role of cyclic alternating pattern

Maria Esposito, Marco Carotenuto\*

**Table 3**

Spearman correlation analysis between sleep parameters (macrostructure and microstructure) and IQ (verbal IQ, VIQ; performance IQ, PIQ; total IQ, TIQ) both in BIF and control group children.

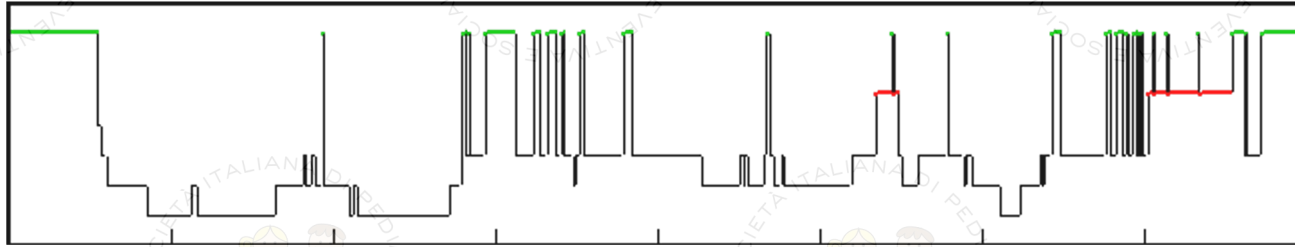
	VIQ	PIQ	TIQ
TIB, min	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.58</b>
SPT, min	<b>0.52</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.68</b>
TST, min	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.72</b>
SOL, min	0.28	0.35	0.30
FRL, min	<b>-0.45</b>	-0.09	-0.34
SS, h	<b>-0.63</b>	-0.46	-0.64
AWN, h	<b>-0.70</b>	<b>-0.53</b>	<b>-0.70</b>
SE%	0.36	0.31	0.43
WASO, spt	<b>-0.46</b>	<b>-0.42</b>	<b>-0.51</b>
S1, spt	<b>0.37</b>	0.12	0.25
S2, spt	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.63</b>
SWS, spt	<b>-0.56</b>	<b>-0.47</b>	<b>-0.56</b>
REM, spt	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.64</b>
CAP_tot_num	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>0.79</b>
CAP rate%	0.29	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.39</b>
CAP rate%S1	<b>0.57</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.72</b>
CAP rate%S2	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.47</b>
CAP rate%SWS	0.17	<b>0.39</b>	0.24
Tot_num_A1%	<b>0.75</b>	0.26	<b>0.61</b>
Tot_num_A2%	<b>-0.74</b>	-0.32	<b>-0.64</b>
Tot_num_A3%	<b>-0.38</b>	-0.12	-0.29
A1_mean_dur	<b>-0.57</b>	<b>-0.50</b>	<b>-0.59</b>
A2_mean_dur	<b>-0.67</b>	<b>-0.65</b>	<b>-0.72</b>
A3_mean_dur	-0.05	-0.08	-0.10
A1 index	0.76	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.82</b>
A2 index	-0.41	0.08	-0.25
A3 index	0.05	<b>0.38</b>	0.21
B_mean_dur	0.05	-0.33	-0.17
Cycle_mean_dur	<b>-0.55</b>	<b>-0.51</b>	<b>-0.63</b>
Seq_mean_dur	-0.09	0.06	-0.04
Num_of_seq	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.81</b>
A1/A3 N TOT	<b>0.67</b>	0.21	<b>0.53</b>
A2/A3 N TOT	<b>-0.56</b>	-0.31	<b>-0.53</b>

	<b>BIF</b>		<b>Control</b>		<b>M-W UTest</b>
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>p value*</b>

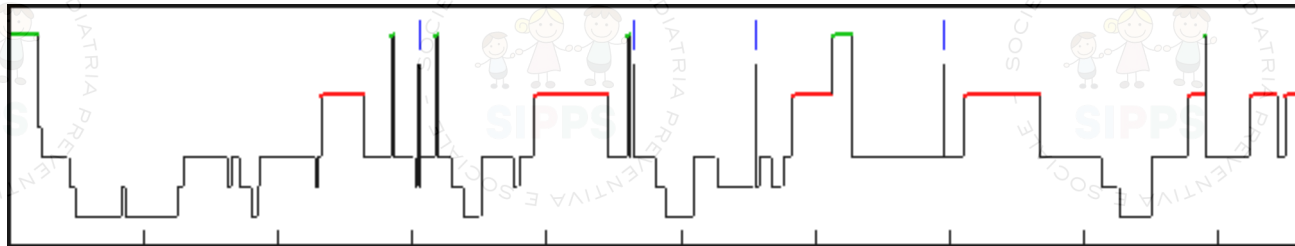
<b>TIB-min</b>	495.500	26.668	540.118	48.399	NS
<b>SPT-min</b>	461.000	32.332	509.882	45.220	NS
<b>TST-min</b>	<b>387.417</b>	<b>80.730</b>	<b>496.677</b>	<b>45.513</b>	<b>0.010</b>
<b>SOL-min</b>	15.333	14.423	24.088	14.172	NS
<b>FRL-min</b>	152.792	70.318	111.353	35.552	NS
<b>SS-h</b>	<b>9.992</b>	<b>2.708</b>	<b>5.082</b>	<b>1.585</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>AWN-h</b>	<b>4.092</b>	<b>2.315</b>	<b>0.500</b>	<b>0.555</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>SE%</b>	78.117	14.985	92.088	5.302	NS
<b>WASO %</b>	<b>16.308</b>	<b>14.289</b>	<b>2.565</b>	<b>3.042</b>	<b>0.023</b>
<b>S1 %</b>	2.008	2.179	3.712	4.312	NS
<b>S2 %</b>	<b>32.875</b>	<b>10.238</b>	<b>46.841</b>	<b>5.551</b>	<b>0.007</b>
<b>SWS %</b>	<b>35.150</b>	<b>11.183</b>	<b>23.259</b>	<b>5.652</b>	<b>0.023</b>
<b>REM %</b>	<b>13.633</b>	<b>7.961</b>	<b>23.612</b>	<b>5.036</b>	<b>0.025</b>

	BIF		Control		Mann-Whitney Test
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	p value*
<b>CAP total number</b>	<b>226.750</b>	<b>48.372</b>	<b>428.706</b>	<b>88.132</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>CAP Rate%</b>	30.375	15.700	37.241	6.874	NS
<b>CAP Rate%S1</b>	<b>7.490</b>	<b>21.169</b>	<b>32.706</b>	<b>21.846</b>	<b>0.024</b>
<b>CAP Rate%S2</b>	23.475	11.832	32.600	9.435	NS
<b>CAP Rate%SWS</b>	39.800	20.855	48.006	8.332	NS
<b>Total number of A1%</b>	<b>35.117</b>	<b>25.565</b>	<b>78.429</b>	<b>8.329</b>	<b>0.001</b>
<b>Total number A2%</b>	<b>48.467</b>	<b>24.077</b>	<b>12.253</b>	<b>6.870</b>	<b>0.001</b>
<b>Total number A3%</b>	16.433	10.447	9.324	3.107	NS
<b>A1 mean duration, s</b>	<b>13.858</b>	<b>4.475</b>	<b>4.765</b>	<b>0.339</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>A2 mean duration, s</b>	<b>19.167</b>	<b>5.010</b>	<b>7.924</b>	<b>1.762</b>	<b>0.001</b>
<b>A3 mean duration, s</b>	15.375	4.559	15.506	4.901	NS
<b>A1 index, n/h</b>	<b>11.967</b>	<b>10.234</b>	<b>46.300</b>	<b>10.594</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>A2 index, n/h</b>	17.175	13.627	8.094	6.028	NS
<b>A3 index, n/h</b>	5.192	4.912	5.318	3.168	NS
<b>B phase mean duration</b>	20.517	5.750	20.853	4.192	NS
<b>Cycle mean duration</b>	<b>37.300</b>	<b>6.711</b>	<b>26.659</b>	<b>4.254</b>	<b>0.006</b>
<b>Sequences mean duration</b>	232.775	123.823	193.482	43.412	NS
<b>Number of sequences</b>	<b>25.083</b>	<b>4.757</b>	<b>44.824</b>	<b>9.901</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>A1/A3 total number</b>	<b>3.194</b>	<b>3.311</b>	<b>9.732</b>	<b>4.587</b>	<b>0.003</b>
<b>A2/A3 total number</b>	4.202	3.758	1.381	0.682	NS





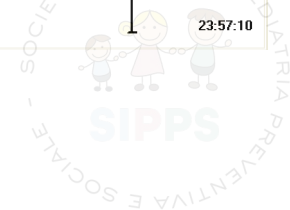
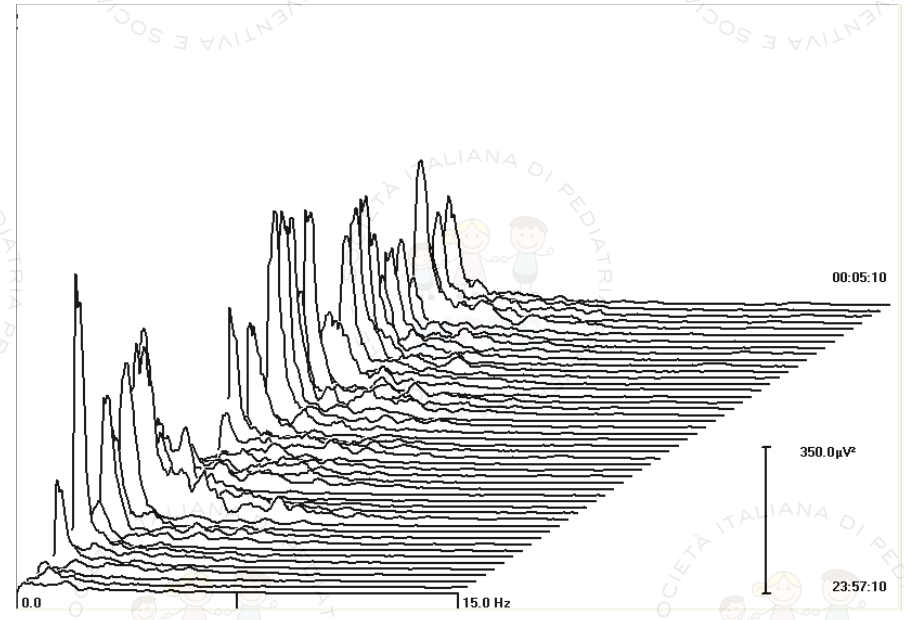
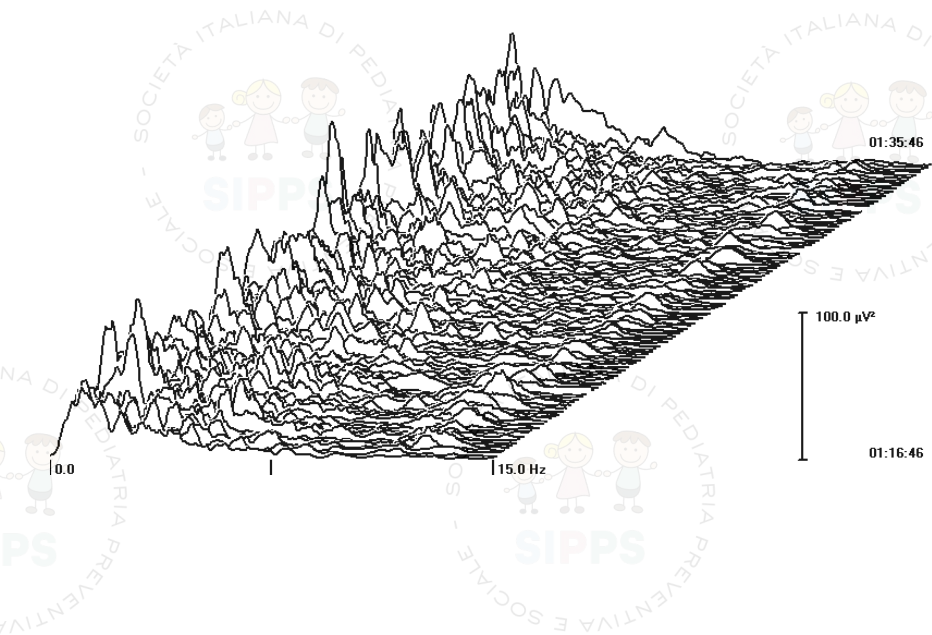
IQ 71-84



IQ 85-115

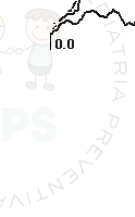
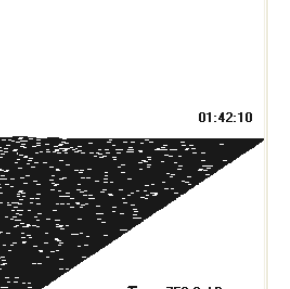
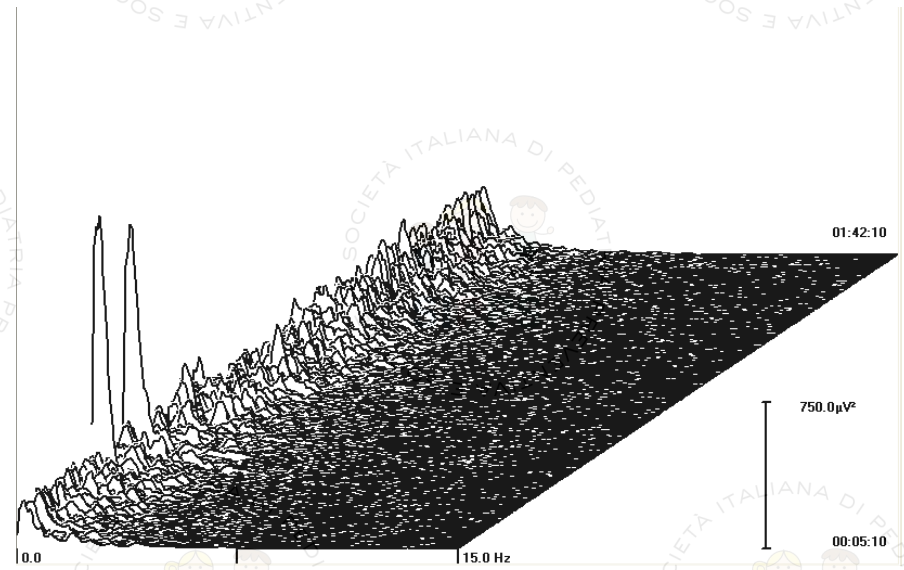
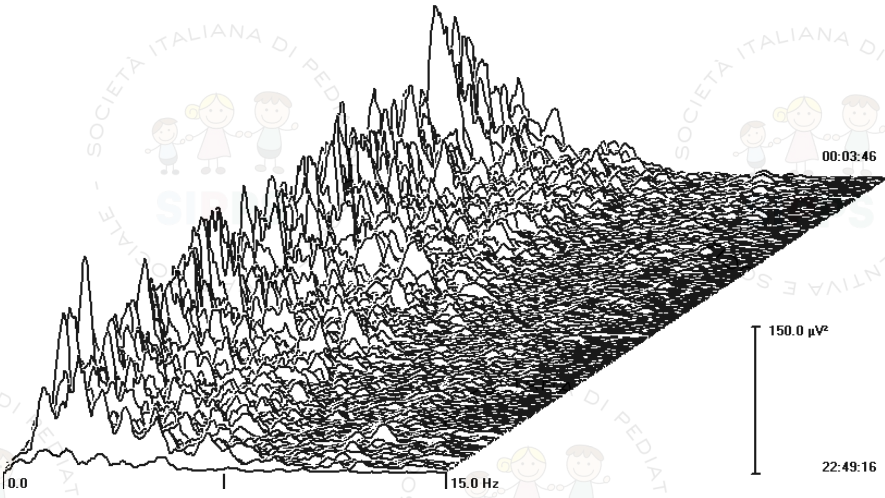


# N2



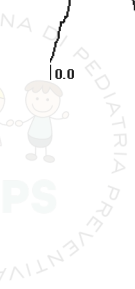
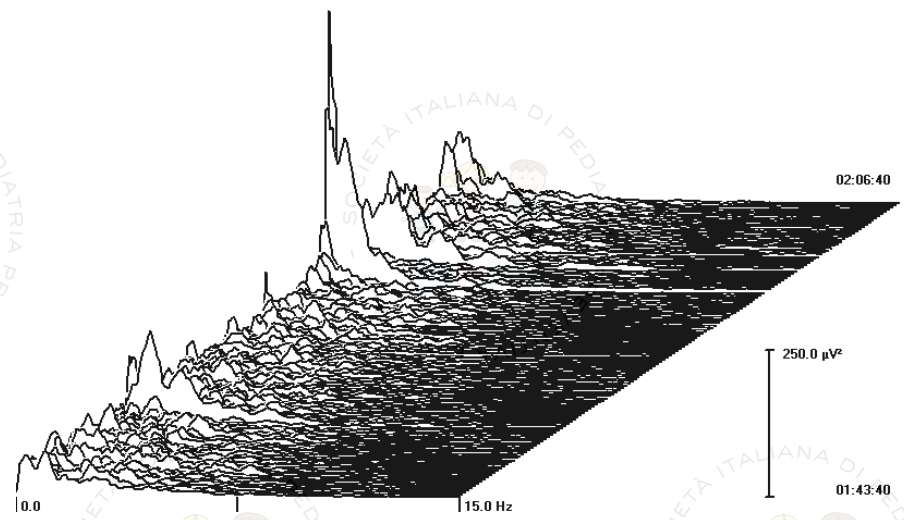
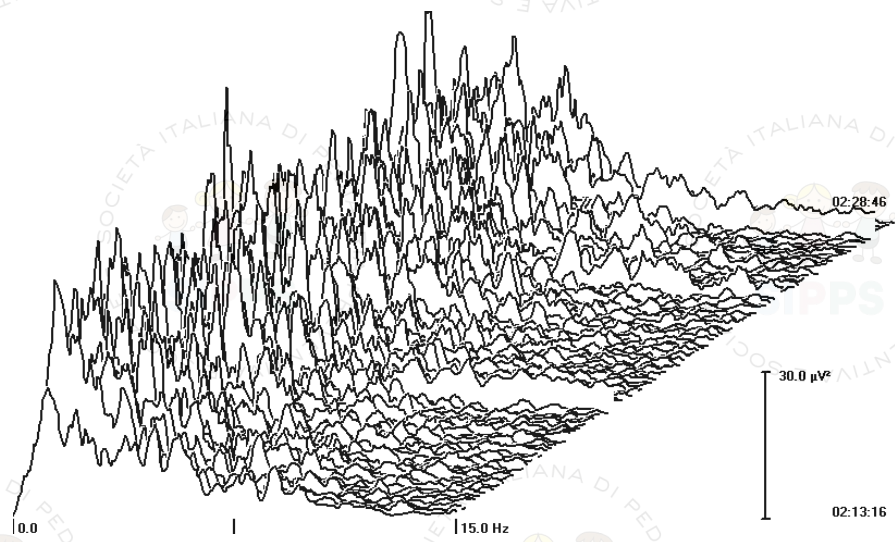


# N3





# REM



### Safety, Connection and Problem-Solving



**Survival State**  
**lateral pallium**  
 The brain state responds to immediate and into the question, "What's in it for me?" The only way to solve the problem is through the creation of a...

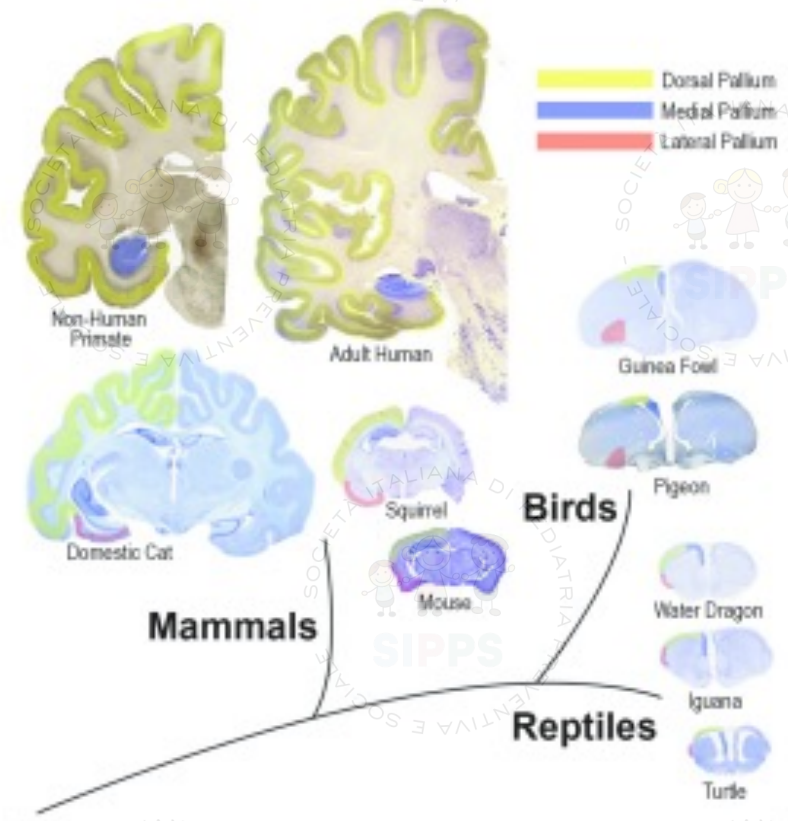


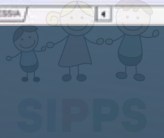
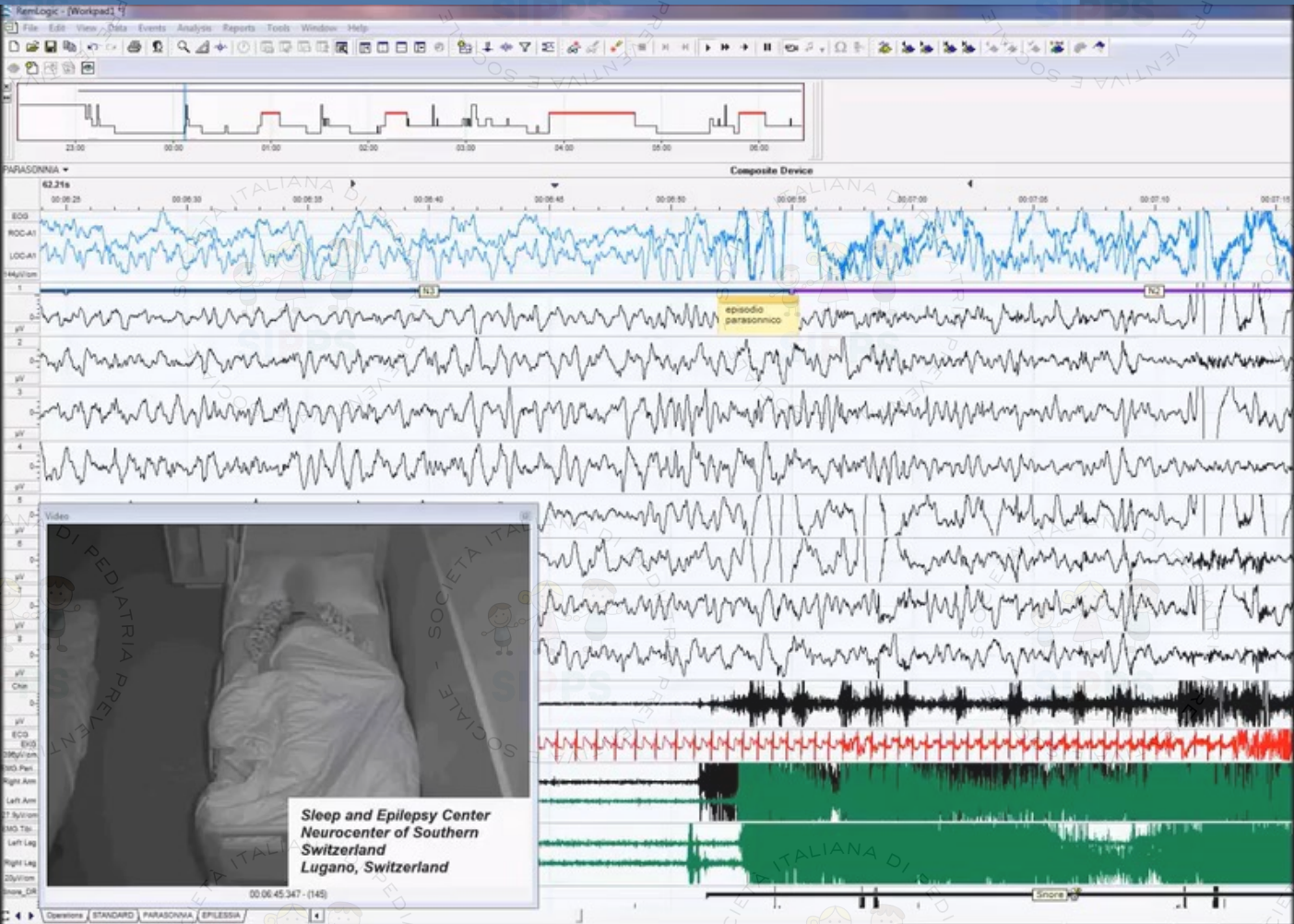
**Emotional State**  
**medial pallium**  
 The brain state responds to social hierarchy. It asks the question, "Who's in charge?" The only way to solve the problem is through...

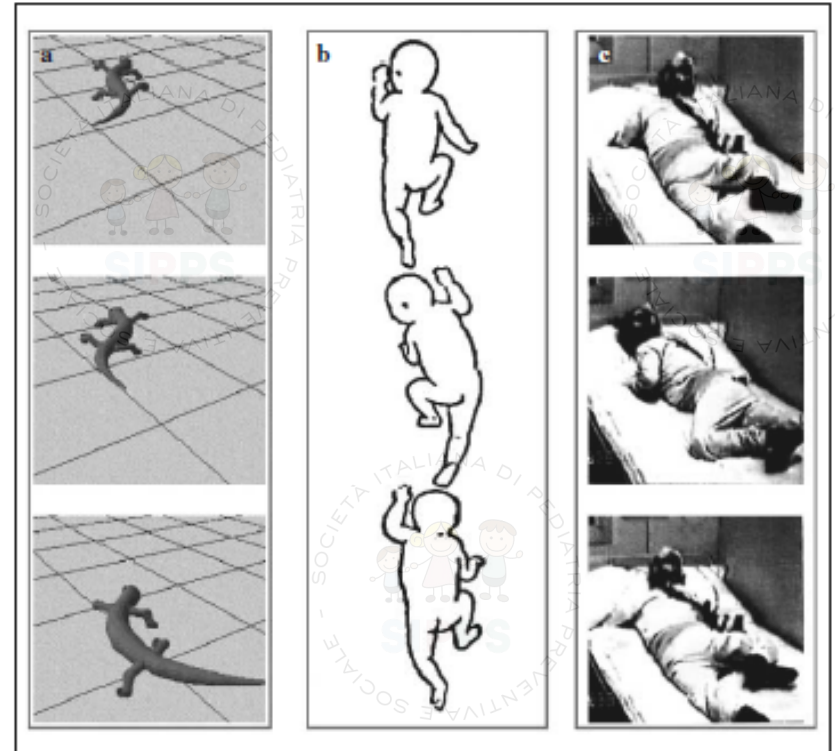
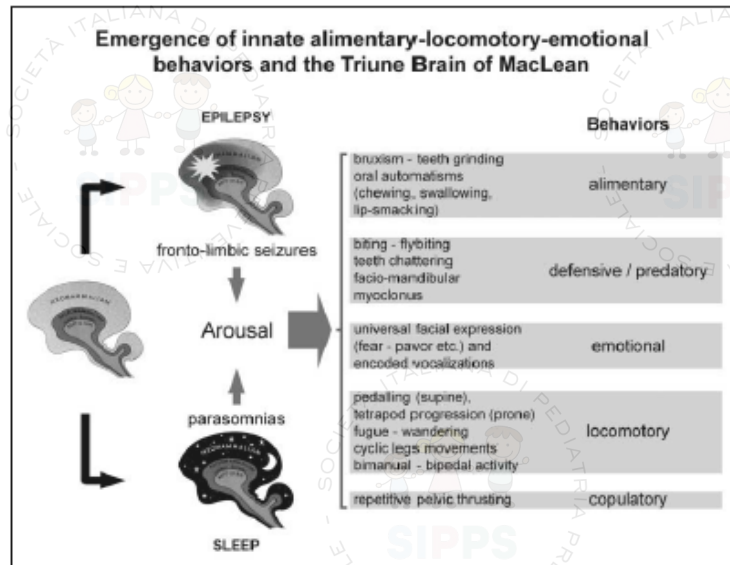
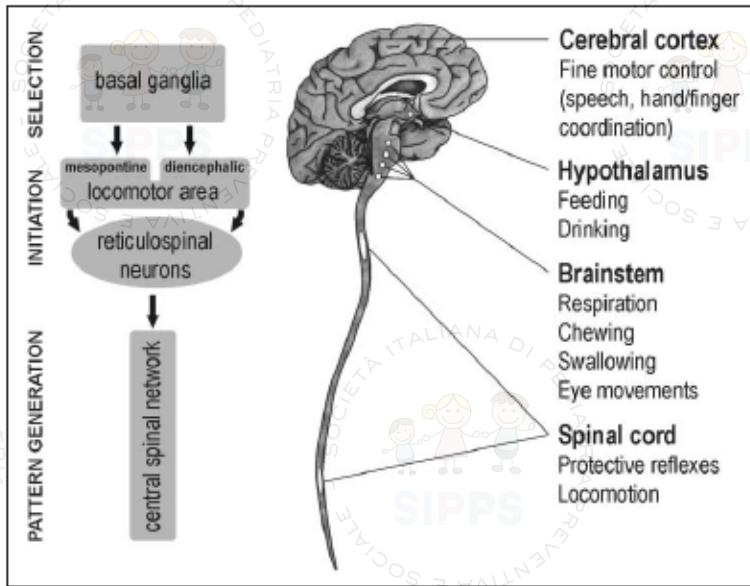


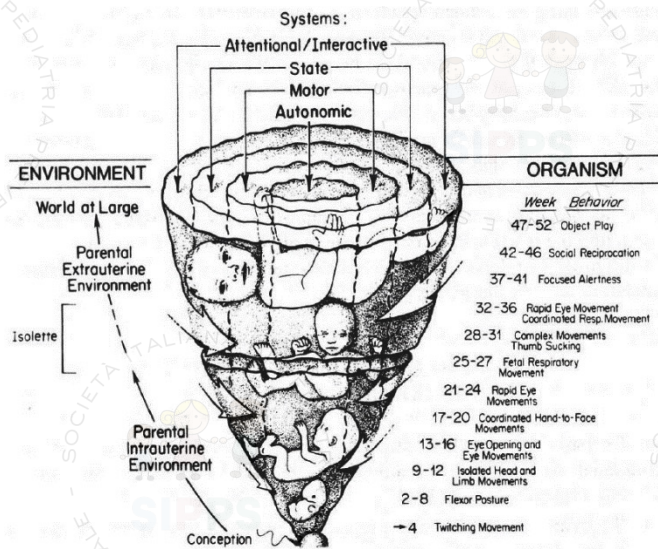
**Executive State**  
**dorsal pallium**  
 The brain state responds to complex, long-term problems. It asks the question, "How do I solve this?" The only way to solve the problem is through...

<https://www.sipps.com/math-factors-for-analytical-model>

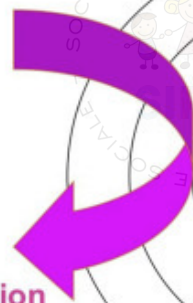




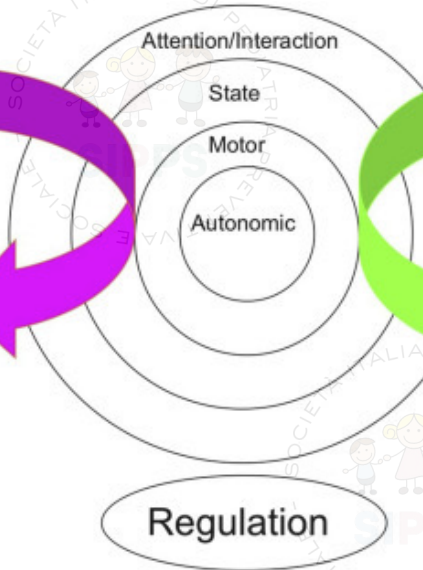




Inadequate stimulus



Stress reaction



Adapted stimulus



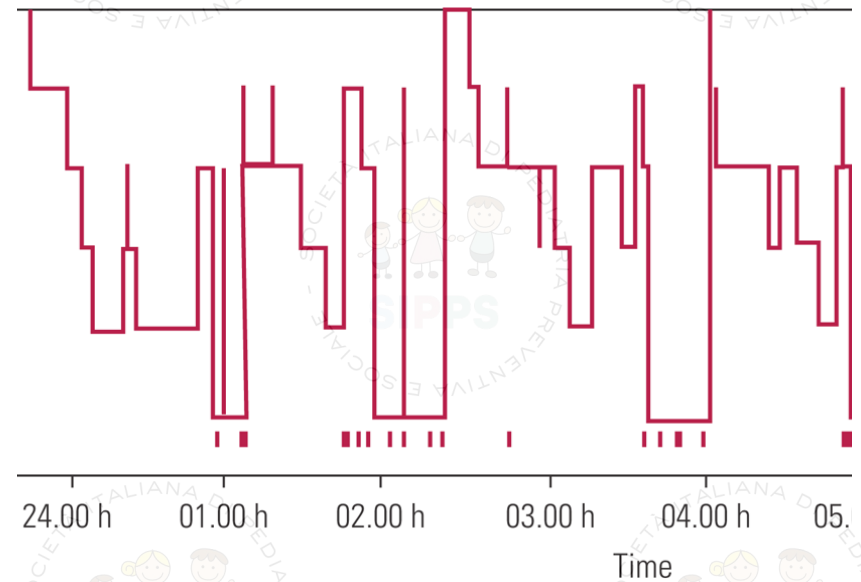
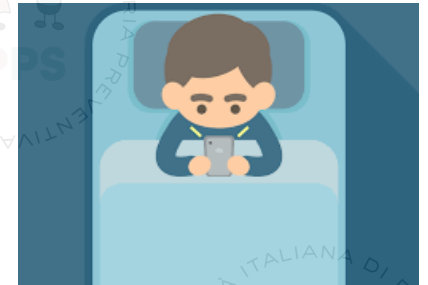
Interactive reaction



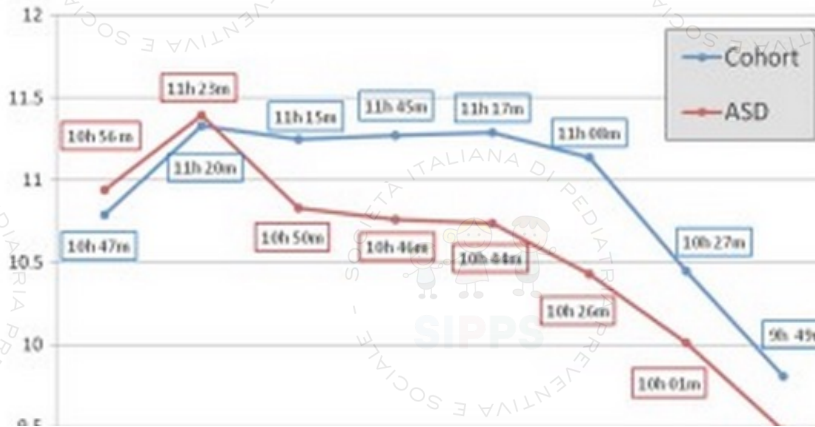


# ADHD

- Bedtime resistance
- Sleep onset difficulties
- Night awakenings
- Difficulties with morning awakenings
- Sleep disordered breathing
- Daytime sleepiness
- No established consensus on how to treat sleep disorders in ADHD
- Melatonin may be an option
- Abnormal melatonin genetic pathways
- Five trials of melatonin in doses ranging from 3 to 6 mg/night) significantly reduced sleep onset delay and increased total sleep duration
- **No impact on daytime ADHD core symptoms**



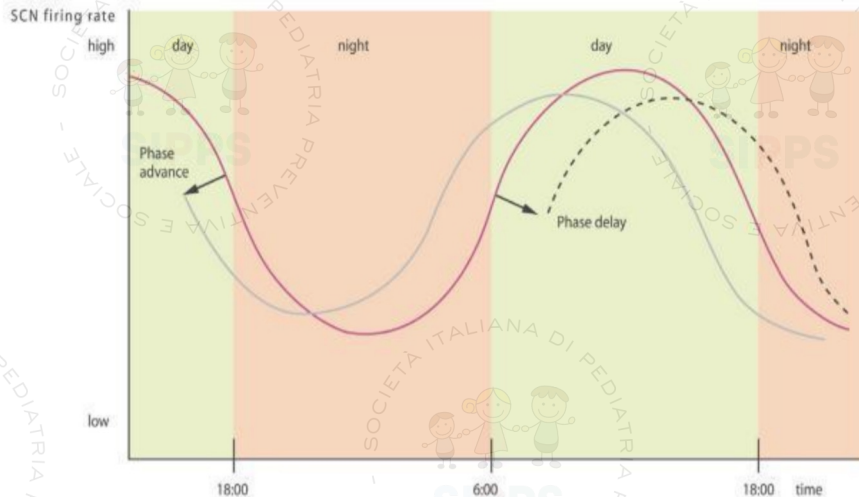
Time in hours

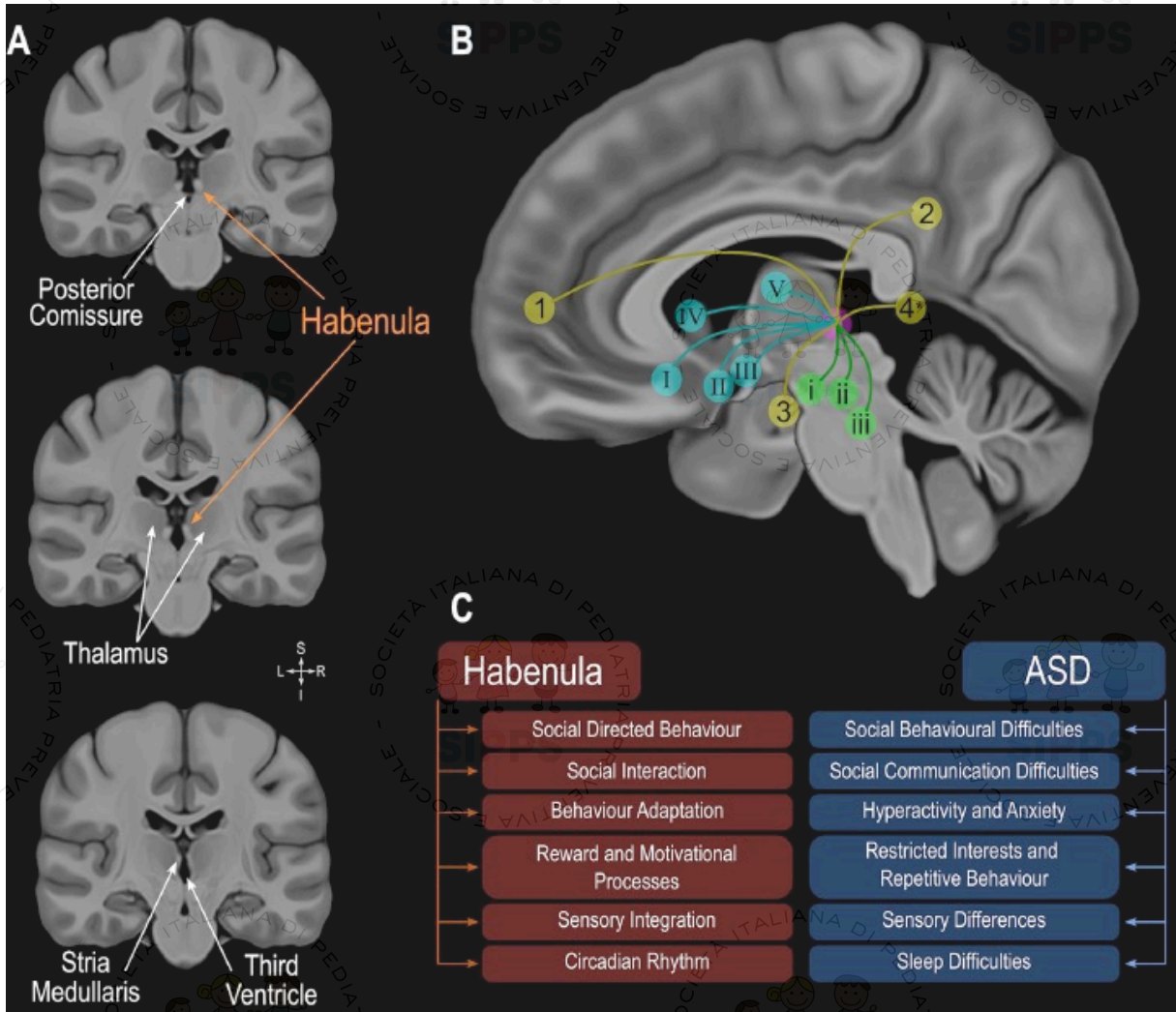


# ASD

Tab. 1. Differenze percentuali e OR tra le due popolazioni per le singole categorie di disturbi del sonno: DIMS, disturbi di inizio e mantenimento del sonno; DRS, disturbi respiratori del sonno; DA, disordini dell'arousal; DTVS, disturbi della transizione veglia-sonno; DES, disordini da eccessiva sonnolenza; IPN, iperidrosi notturna

	ASD (n = 65) (%)	Controlli (n = 114) (%)	OR	95% IC	Z	p
DIMS	30.77	10.53	2.63	16.44 - 58.088	4.349	< 0.0001
DRS	53.85	10.53	9.92	4.583 - 21.455	5.827	< 0.0001
DA	36.92	8.77	8.77	6.09 - 13.843	4.310	< 0.0001
DTVS	49.23	10.53	8.24	3.813 - 17.817	5.363	< 0.0001
DES	29.23	7.89	4.82	2.027 - 11.45	3.561	0.0004
IPN	23.08	4.39	6.54	2.252 - 18.991	3.453	0.0006
TOT	18.46	3.51	4.82	1.916 - 20.224	3.043	0.0023





Prader-Willi syndrome

Down syndrome

Fragile X syndrome

DiGeorge syndrome

Williams syndrome

Sotos syndrome

9q34 del syndrome

SMS

Cardiovascular

Hypotonia

Renal/urinary tract

Obesity

Craniofacial

Chronic infections

Growth

MR

Behavior Sleep

Cleft lip/palate

Hearing loss



SIPPS



SIPPS



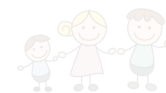
SIPPS



SIPPS



SIPPS



SIPPS



SIPPS



SIPPS

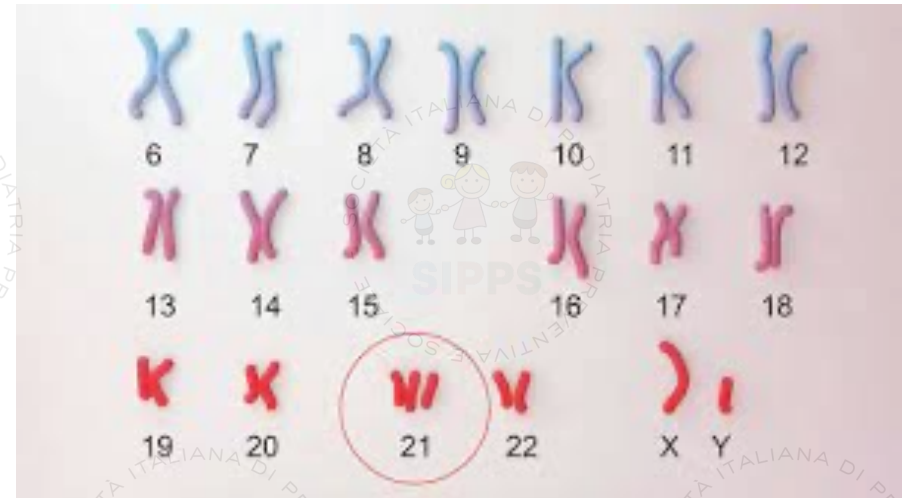
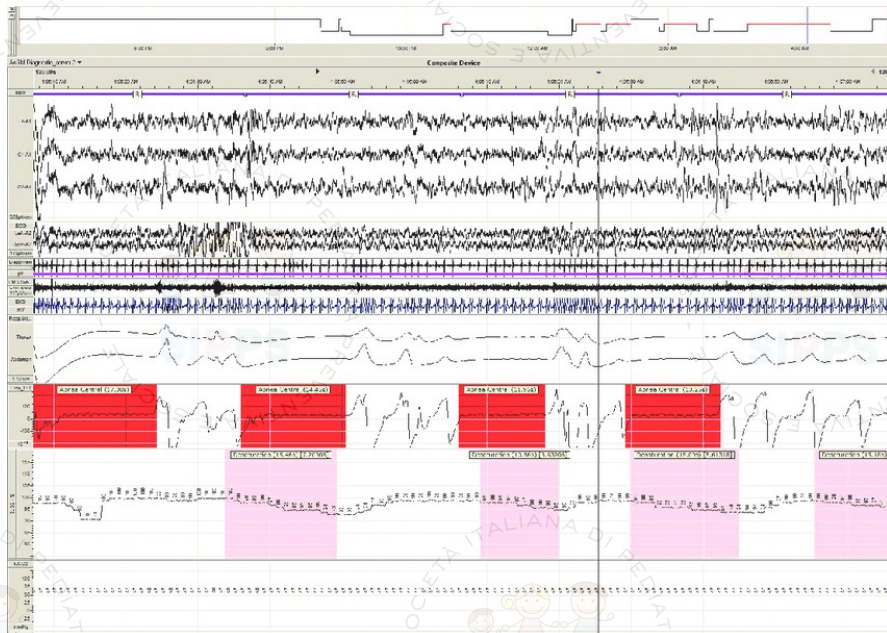


SIPPS

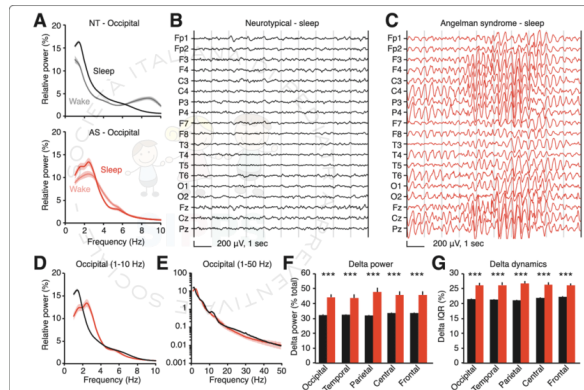


SIPPS

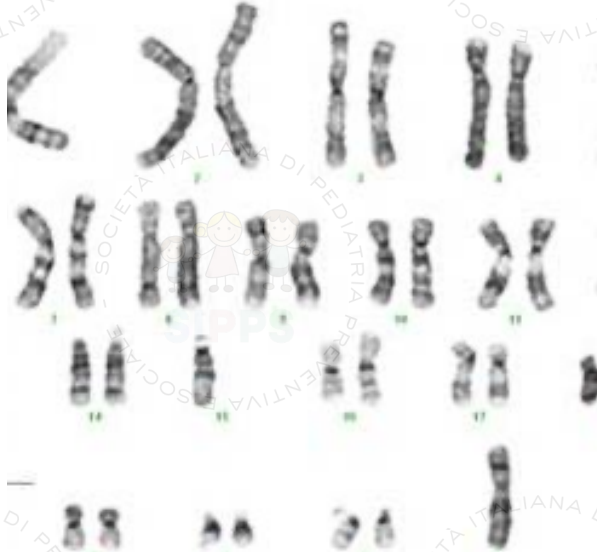
# Down syndrome



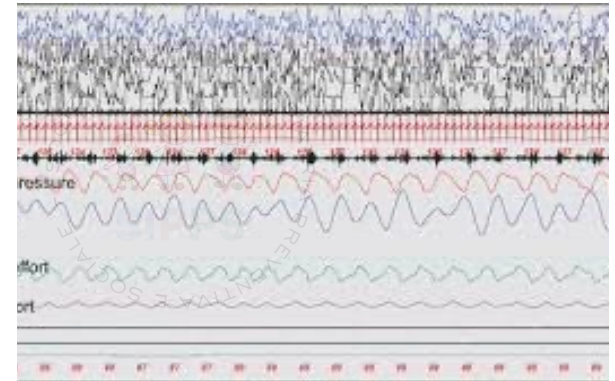
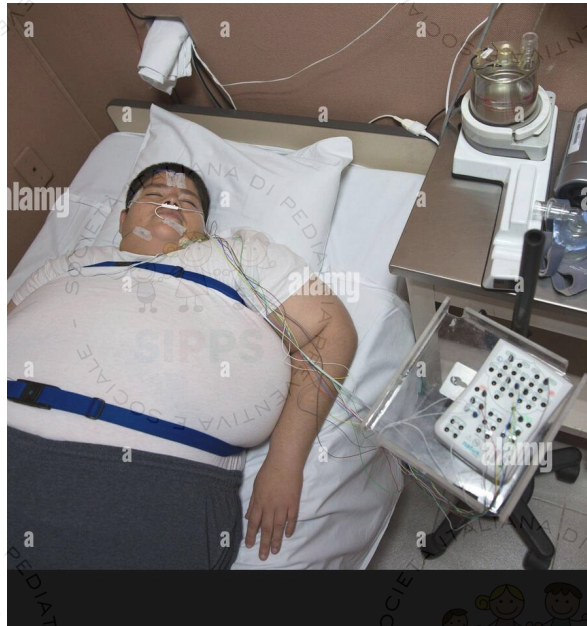
# Angelman syndrome



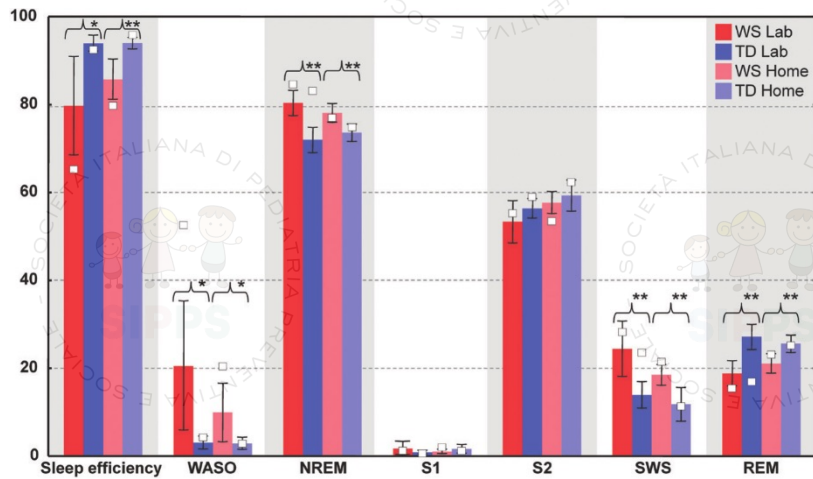
# Prader-Willi syndrome



45,XY,-15,der(19)t(15;19)(q13;p13.3)

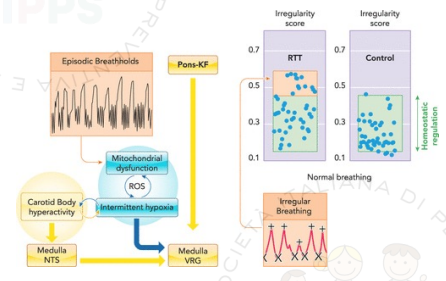


# Williams syndrome

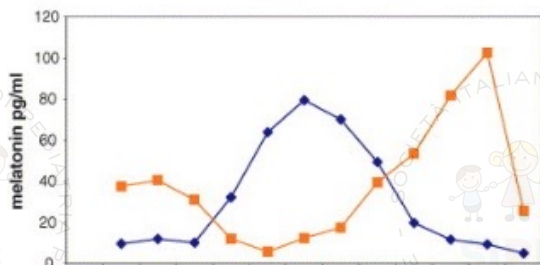
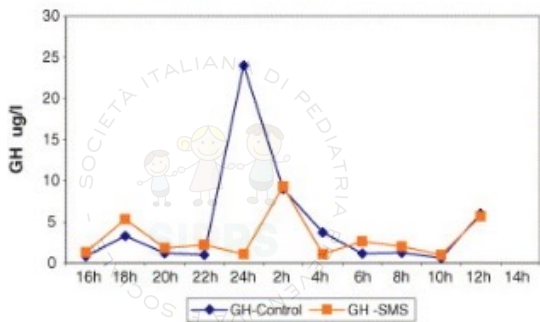
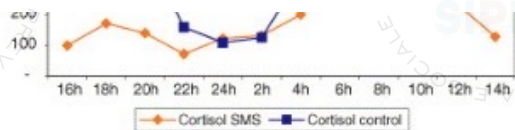




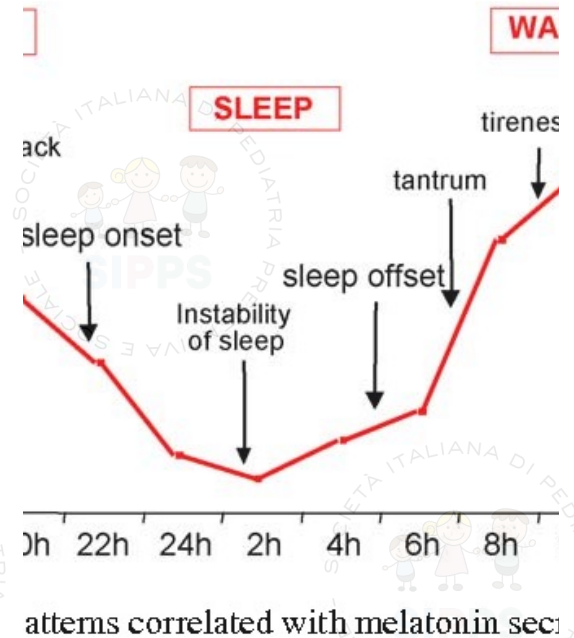
# Rett syndrome



# Smith-Magenis syndrome

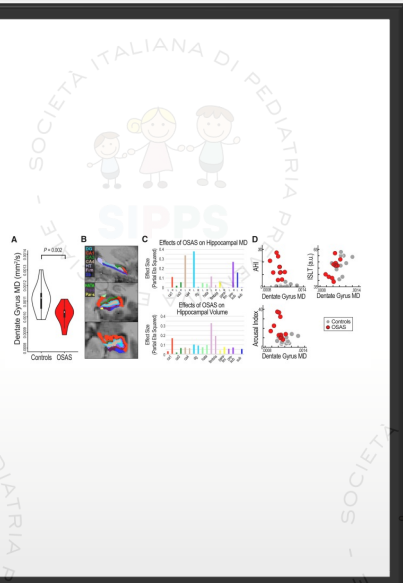


## DAY/NIGHT BEHAVIOR IN SMS

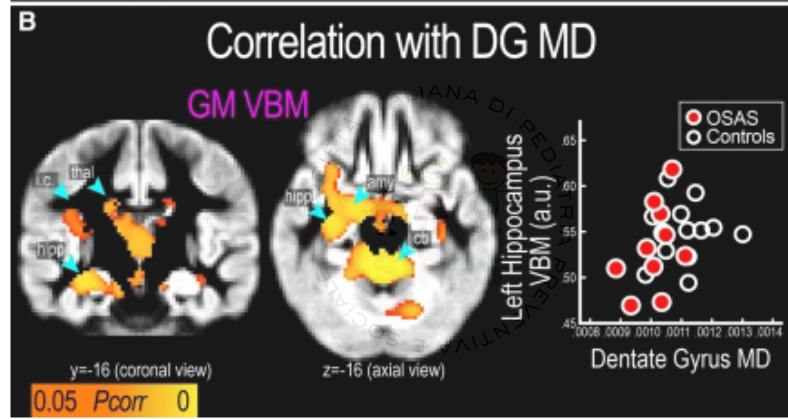
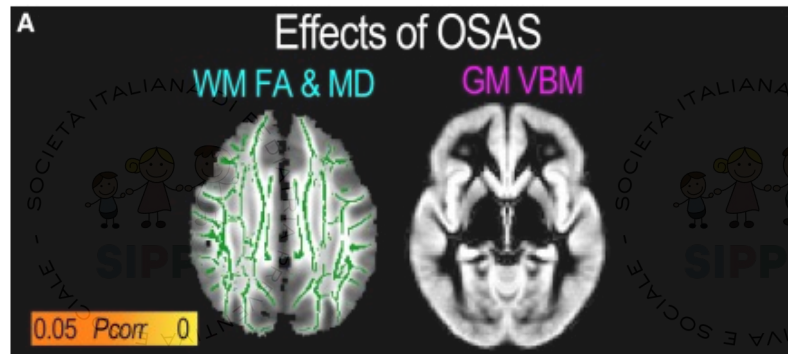


# The Effects of Obstructive Sleep Apnea Syndrome on the Dentate Gyrus and Learning and Memory in Children

Jiwook Cha,<sup>1\*</sup> Johanna A. Zea-Hernandez,<sup>2\*</sup> Sanghun Sin,<sup>2</sup> Katharina Graw-Panzer,<sup>2</sup> Keivan Shifteh,<sup>3</sup> Carmen R. Isasi,<sup>4</sup> Mark E. Wagshul,<sup>5</sup> Eileen E. Moran,<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Posner,<sup>1</sup> Molly E. Zimmerman,<sup>3</sup> and Raanan Arens<sup>2</sup>



**Significance Statement**  
 In this study we investigate the relationships between dentate gyrus structure, hippocampus-dependent cognition, and obstructive sleep apnea syndrome (OSAS). We demonstrate lower mass diffusivity of the dentate gyrus in children with OSAS, which correlates with a lower verbal learning and memory score. This study provides new evidence of disrupted microstructure of the dentate gyrus in children with OSAS that may help explain some of the neurocognitive deficits described in these children.



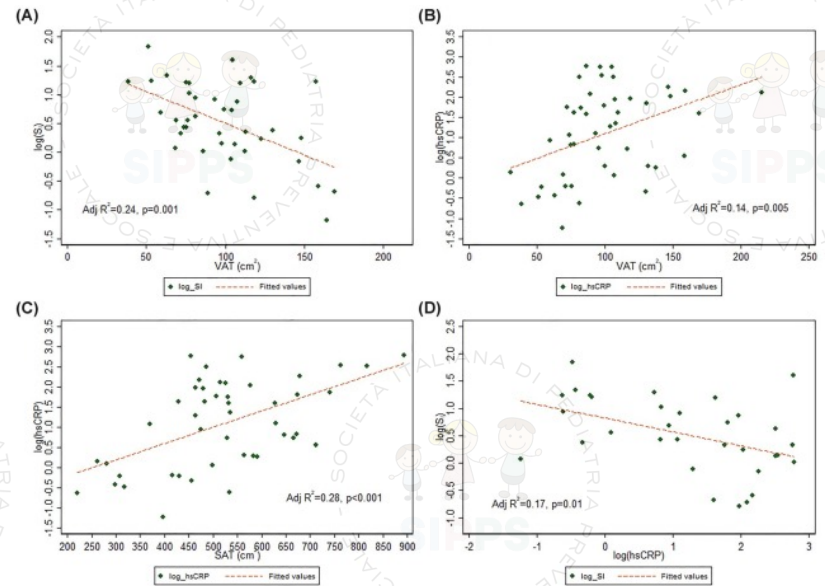


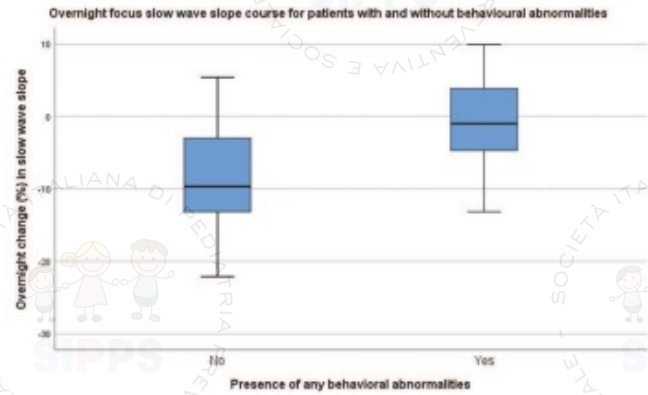
DE GRUYTER

J Pediatr Endocrinol Metab 2022; 35(8): 1069–1077

Mary Ellen Vajravelu\*, Joseph M. Kindler, Babette S. Zemel, Abbas Jawad, Dorit Koren, Preet Brar, Lee J. Brooks, Jessica Reiner and Lorraine E. Levitt Katz

## Visceral adiposity is related to insulin sensitivity and inflammation in adolescents with obesity and mild sleep disordered breathing



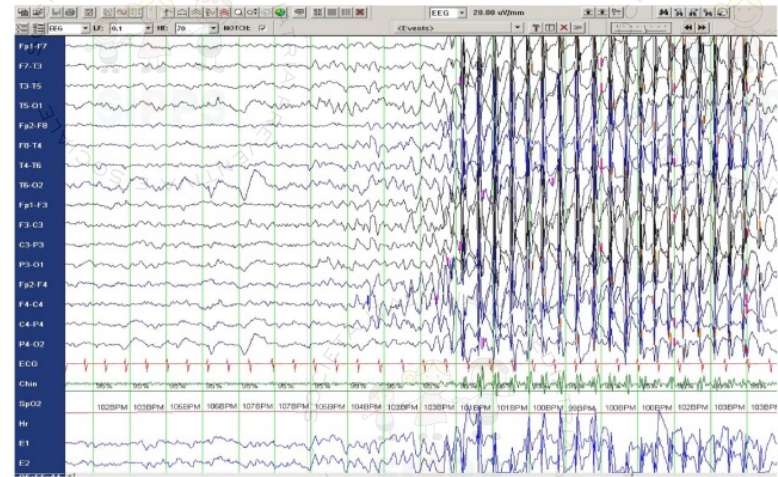


**Sleep slow-wave homeostasis and cognitive functioning in children with electrical status epilepticus in sleep**

van den Munckhof, Bart ; Gefferie, Silvano R ; van Noort, Suus A M ; van Teeseling, Heleen C ; Schijvens, Mischa P ; Smit, William ; Teunissen, Nico W ; Plate, Joost D J ; Huiskamp, Geert Jan M ; Leijten, Frans S S ; Braun, Kees P J ; Jansen, Floor E ; Bölsterli, Bigna K

## Sleep architecture and epileptic characteristics of drug naïve patients in childhood absence epilepsy spectrum. A prospective study

Argirios Dinopoulos<sup>a</sup>, Maria A. Tsirouda<sup>a,\*</sup>, Anastasios Bonakis<sup>b</sup>, Roser Pons<sup>c</sup>, Ioanna D. Pavlopoulou<sup>d</sup>, Konstantinos Tsoumakas<sup>d</sup>



### ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** Childhood absence epilepsy (CAE) is an epileptic syndrome presenting between 2nd–10th years. The spells are elicited with hyperventilation (HV) while sleep seems to exacerbate the electrical activity. Our aim is to describe sleep architecture and its relationship with epileptic discharges (EDs) in patients with CAE, before treatment and one year later.

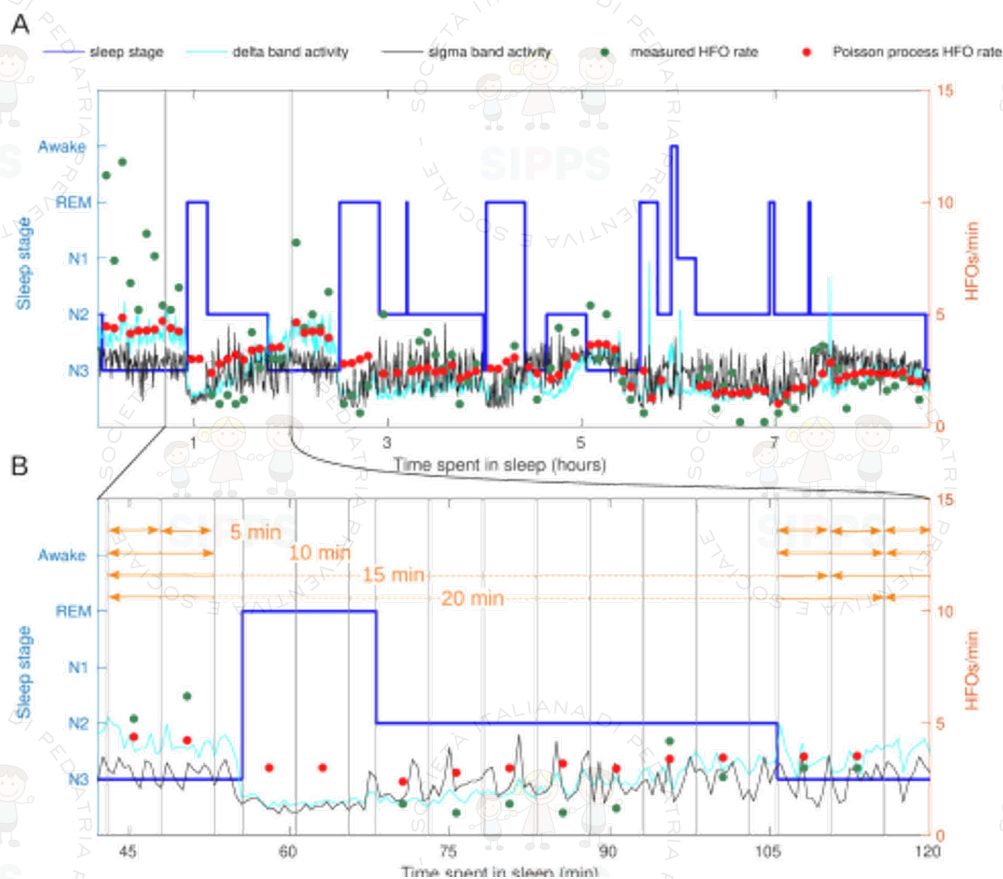
**Methods:** Twenty-eight, drug-naïve children were recruited (21 girls), mean age 90.1 ± 32.8 months. Routine-EEG and overnight EEG-polygraphy were conducted upon diagnosis and one year later. Patients were separated in two groups of similar mean age, according to their clinical response at the second recording: group A: children with absolute control of absences and group B: children with partial control. Sleep parameters, EDs and arousals were measured. The effect of medication on sleep parameters was examined, according to 2 groups: valproic-treated and non valproic-treated.

**Results:** Group A showed significant improvement in total sleep time, REM-sleep latency, REM-sleep, arousals-number/hour and arousals-duration/hour between the two recordings. Comparing the two groups for each recording separately, group A initially demonstrated greater epileptic activity and worse sleep parameters, whereas in the second recording exhibited total elimination of the EDs and significantly less arousals. Group B demonstrated persisting EDs and slight deterioration in some sleep parameters during the second recording, despite the lower epileptic load initially. No significant difference was identified between valproic and non-valproic treated patients, regarding the effect on sleep parameters.

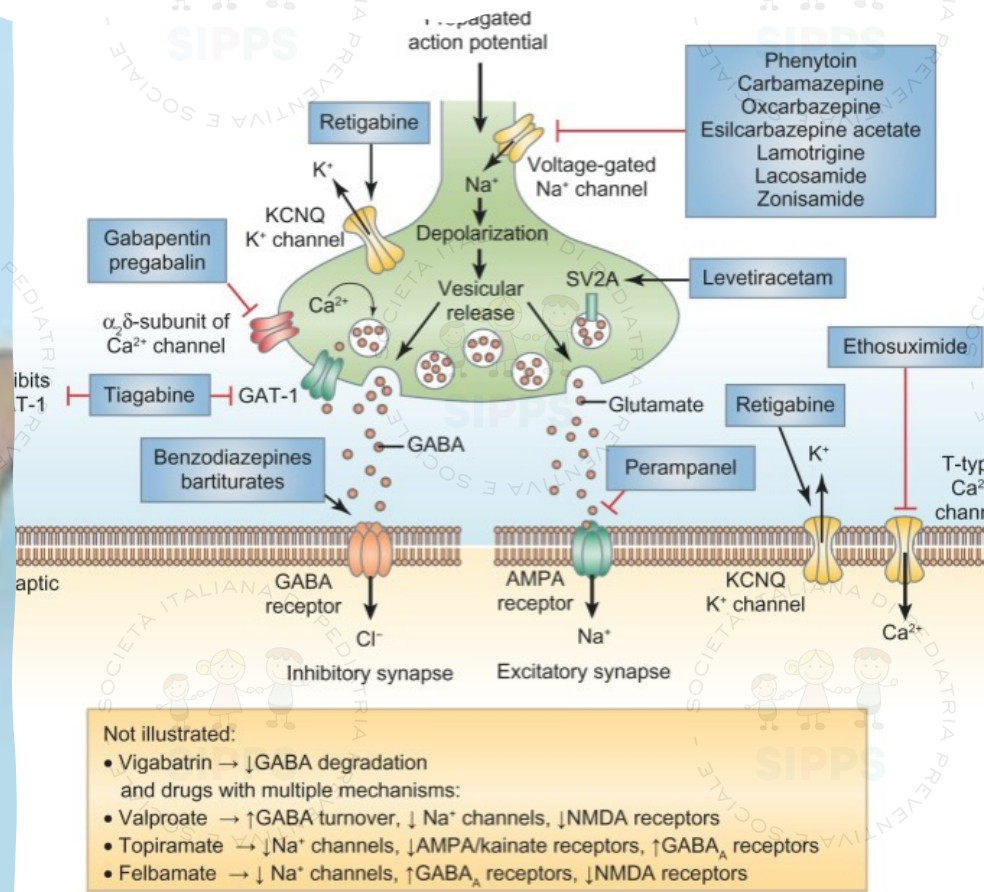
**Conclusion:** Absolute control of absences and normalization of the electroencephalogram are accompanied by more continuous, stable and efficacious sleep in children with CAE.

# Variation of scalp EEG high frequency oscillation rate with sleep stage and time spent in sleep in patients with pediatric epilepsy

Dorottya Cserpan<sup>a,b</sup>, Richard Rosch<sup>a</sup>, Santo Pietro Lo Biundo<sup>a</sup>, Johannes Sarnthein<sup>b,c,d</sup>,  
Georgia Ramantani<sup>a,c,e,\*</sup>



- AEDs could contribute to sleep disruption such as in the presence of cerebral lesions
- About 42% of patients with epilepsy have SRBD
- High rate of sleep problems regarding the qualitative aspects, the macrostructural organization, and the NREM sleep instability

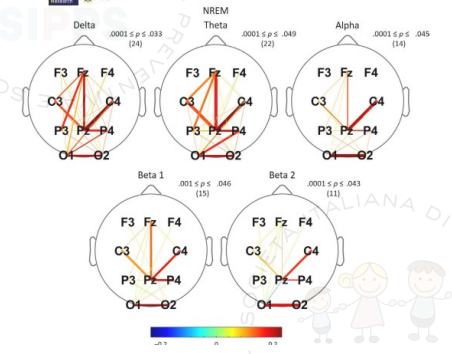
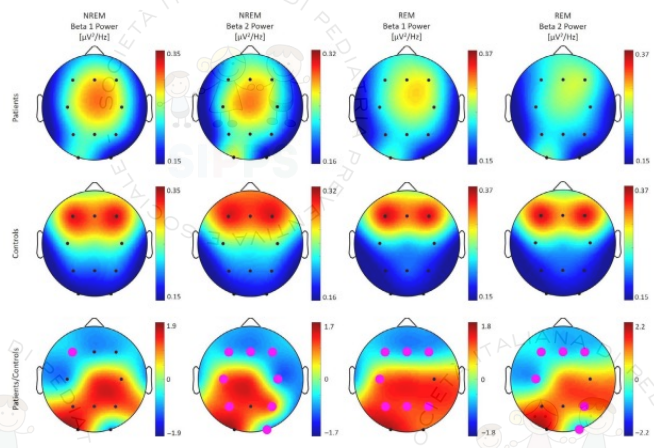
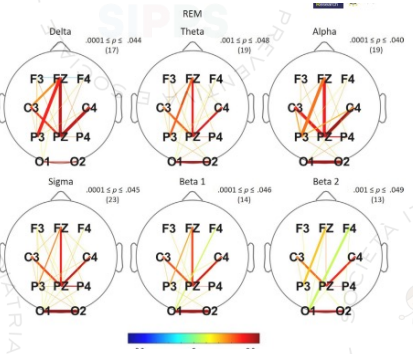
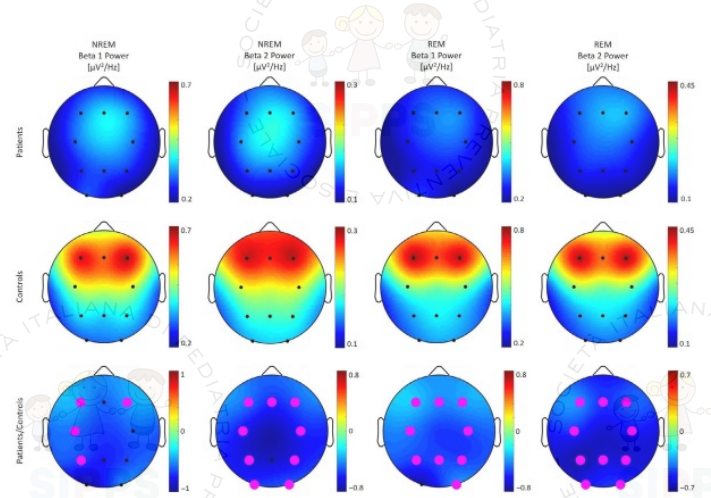






## Sleep neurophysiology in childhood onset schizophrenia

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REVIEW



## Pharmacotherapeutic management of sleep disorders in children with neurodevelopmental disorders

Oliviero Bruni<sup>a</sup>, Marco Angriman<sup>b</sup>, Maria Grazia Melegari<sup>a</sup> and Raffaele Ferri<sup>c</sup>

### Article highlights

- Sleep disturbances are associated with NDDs in as many as 70% of cases.
- Both subjective (i.e., detected with questionnaires) and objective (i.e., revealed by actigraphy or neurophysiologic tools) sleep alterations have been found to be significantly more frequent in individuals with NDDs, compared to controls.
- Clinicians should screen for sleep disturbances in patients with NDDs at each visit.
- There is a paucity of empirical evidence to guide treatment of sleep disturbances in NDDs.
- Melatonin and other pharmacological treatments, such as gabapentin, clonidine, trazodone, and mirtazapine, can constitute a valid option in the case of inefficacy of behavioral treatment.
- More rigorous evaluations of therapeutic strategies for sleep disorders are needed in individuals with NDDs. RCTs of pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions will be valuable to support the clinician in making evidence-based decisions in daily clinical practice.

The pathophysiology of sleep disorders in children with NDDs is multifactorial: in some patients, problematic sleep is a phenotypic characteristic of a particular disorder or genetic condition (as an example, inverted melatonin secretion in SMS), and knowledge of the distinctive features of sleep disorders in patients with NDDs is crucial for their effective treatment [11].

In other cases, sleep disorders represent one of the most important comorbidities, such as insomnia in Angelman syndrome, sleep disordered breathing in Down's Syndrome, excessive daytime sleepiness or narcolepsy in Prader Willi syndrome, and low levels of melatonin in ASD [1]. Sleep difficulties may also be related to unrecognized behavioral insomnia in childhood, which can be difficult to identify in children with NDDs due to their reduced communication skills, or factors related to poor sleep hygiene or, finally, to co-occurring medical conditions (e.g., epilepsy or gastroesophageal reflux). Moreover, sleep disorders might be aggravated by common issues linked to NDDs (such as sensory and motor deficits, psychopathological disturbances, respiratory disorders, epilepsy, and mental retardation), which can contribute to developmental delay.

# Melatonin for sleep problems in children with neurodevelopmental disorders

Children with neurodevelopmental disorders are at risk of sleep problems, typically difficulty getting to sleep, sleep/wake rhythm disturbances and reduced duration of sleep (insomnia).<sup>1,2</sup> This may be associated with abnormally timed or inadequate secretion of melatonin, a naturally-occurring hormone involved in coordinating the body's sleep-wake cycle.<sup>1,3</sup> Previously, we reviewed the use of a melatonin product licensed for primary insomnia in adults aged over 55 years.<sup>4</sup> Here we review off-label and unlicensed use of melatonin in children with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or autism spectrum disorder or related neurodevelopmental disorders.

## Conclusion

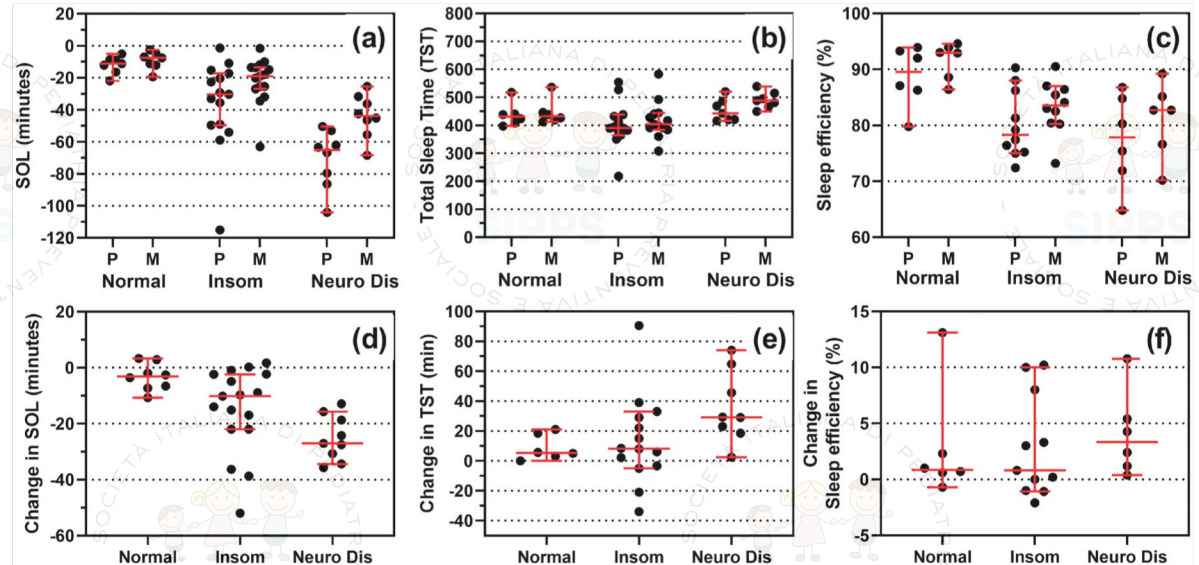
Sleep problems are common in children with neurodevelopmental disorders and may be associated with abnormalities in the metabolism of melatonin, a hormone involved in the sleep-wake cycle. The child's history should be carefully assessed as there may be features amenable to management (e.g. adjusting concomitant medication). Sleep hygiene and behavioural interventions are also sometimes helpful and should be tried before drug treatment is introduced. Based on a limited number of small, short-term clinical trials, melatonin has been shown to reduce the delay before sleep onset and increase the total duration of sleep. However, the absolute size of such changes is quite small. Little is known about melatonin's long-term effects in children.

Melatonin is available as a modified-release tablet licensed for short-term use in adults aged over 55 years and also as unlicensed formulations. Off-label use of the licensed product provides reassurance about manufacturing quality. If melatonin is to be used, the prescriber should provide sufficient information to allow parents and children to make an informed decision on the unlicensed use of melatonin. Prescribing should be initiated by a specialist and the arrangement for providing further supplies of melatonin clearly documented. An agreed treatment plan should be in place to ensure that children are followed up regularly to assess response to therapy, unwanted effects and the need for long-term treatment.



## What do we really know about the safety and efficacy of melatonin for sleep disorders?

David J. Kennaway 



### ABSTRACT

Melatonin is a hormonal product of the pineal gland, a fact that is often forgotten. Instead it is promoted as a dietary supplement that will overcome insomnia, as an antioxidant and as a prescription only drug in most countries outside the United States of America and Canada. The aim of this review is to step back and highlight what we know about melatonin following its discovery 60 years ago. What is the role of endogenous melatonin; what does melatonin do to sleep, body temperature, circadian rhythms, the cardiovascular system, reproductive system, endocrine system and metabolism when administered to healthy subjects? When used as a drug/dietary supplement, what safety studies have been conducted? Can we really say melatonin is safe when it has not been systematically studied and many studies show interactions with a wide range of physiological processes? Finally the results of studies investigating the efficacy of melatonin as a drug to alleviate insomnia are critically evaluated. In summary, melatonin is an endogenous pineal gland hormone with specific physiological functions in animals and humans, with its primary role in humans to maintain synchrony of sleep with the day/night cycle. When administered as a drug it affects a wide range of physiological systems and has clinically important drug interactions. With respect to efficacy for treating sleep disorders, melatonin can advance the time of sleep onset but the effect is modest and variable. In children with neurodevelopmental disabilities melatonin appears to have the greatest impact on sleep onset but little effect on sleep efficiency.

Increase MLT  
bioavailability

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Fluvoxamine

IMAO

Tricyclic antidepressant

VIP

PACAP

Opiates

# Decrease MLT bioavailability

- Beta1-blockers
- $\alpha$ 2-blockers
- Neuropeptide Y
- Dopamine
- Glutamate





**PROS**

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No hangover

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No tolerance

---

No physical dependence

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Few ADR





BIAS prescription

MLT long-term effects not surely safe for puberty onset

Lack of controlled data on TDC





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**No differences among  
children for sleeping**



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**No necessity to schedule  
MLT administration**

---

**No dose**

# Adherence to the Mediterranean Diet is Associated with Better Sleep Quality in Italian Adults

Justyna Godos <sup>1</sup>, Raffaele Ferri <sup>2</sup>, Filippo Caraci <sup>2,3</sup>, Filomena Irene Ilaria Cosentino <sup>2</sup>, Sabrina Castellano <sup>4</sup>, Fabio Galvano <sup>1,†</sup> and Giuseppe Grosso <sup>1,\*,†</sup>

	Mediterranean Diet Adherence Score *				p-Value
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
<b>Overall sleep quality, n (%)</b>					<0.001
Adequate	272 (58.9)	403 (68.0)	440 (72.6)	199 (72.4)	
Inadequate	190 (41.1)	190 (32.0)	166 (27.4)	76 (27.6)	
<b>Sleep duration, n (%)</b>					<0.001
>7 h	246 (53.2)	371 (62.6)	376 (62.0)	171 (62.2)	
6–7 h	111 (24.0)	130 (21.9)	137 (22.6)	57 (20.7)	
5–6 h	65 (14.1)	58 (9.8)	74 (12.2)	33 (12.0)	
<5 h	40 (8.7)	34 (5.7)	19 (3.1)	14 (5.1)	
<b>Sleep disturbance, n (%)</b>					0.311
None	53 (11.5)	54 (9.1)	74 (12.2)	35 (12.7)	
Low	335 (72.5)	444 (74.9)	451 (74.4)	207 (75.3)	
Medium	74 (16.0)	95 (16.0)	81 (13.4)	33 (12.0)	
High	0	0	0	0	
<b>Sleep latency, n (%)</b>					0.003
Very short	172 (37.2)	253 (42.7)	298 (49.2)	135 (49.1)	
Short	153 (33.1)	210 (35.4)	181 (29.9)	85 (30.9)	
Medium	101 (21.9)	94 (15.9)	97 (16.0)	41 (14.9)	
Long	36 (7.8)	36 (6.1)	30 (5.0)	14 (5.1)	
<b>Day dysfunction, n (%)</b>					<0.001
None	296 (64.1)	433 (73.0)	440 (72.6)	201 (73.1)	
Low	75 (16.2)	91 (15.3)	93 (15.3)	30 (10.9)	
Medium	35 (7.6)	28 (4.7)	27 (4.5)	23 (8.4)	
High	56 (12.1)	41 (6.9)	46 (7.6)	21 (7.6)	

**Conclusions:** High adherence to a Mediterranean diet is associated with better sleep quality either toward direct effect on health or indirect effects through improvement of weight status

Mediterranean product	Melatonin	Reference
<b>Grape products</b>		
Red wines	< 0.5 ng mL <sup>-1</sup>	Mercolini et al., 2008; Stege et al., 2010; Vitalini et al., 2013
White wines	< 0.5 ng mL <sup>-1</sup>	Mercolini et al., 2008; Stege et al., 2010; Vitalini et al., 2013
Dessert wines	< 0.5 ng mL <sup>-1</sup>	Vitalini et al., 2013
Grape juice (undisclosed cultivar)	< 0.5 ng mL <sup>-1</sup>	Mercolini et al., 2012
Albana grappa	0.3 ng mL <sup>-1</sup>	Mercolini et al., 2012
Modena balsamic vinegar (DO*)	~ 0.1 ng mL <sup>-1</sup>	Vitalini et al., 2013
<b>Olive oil</b>		
Extra virgin (DO)	71-119 pg mL <sup>-1</sup>	de la Puerta et al., 2007
Refined	53-75 pg mL <sup>-1</sup>	de la Puerta et al., 2007

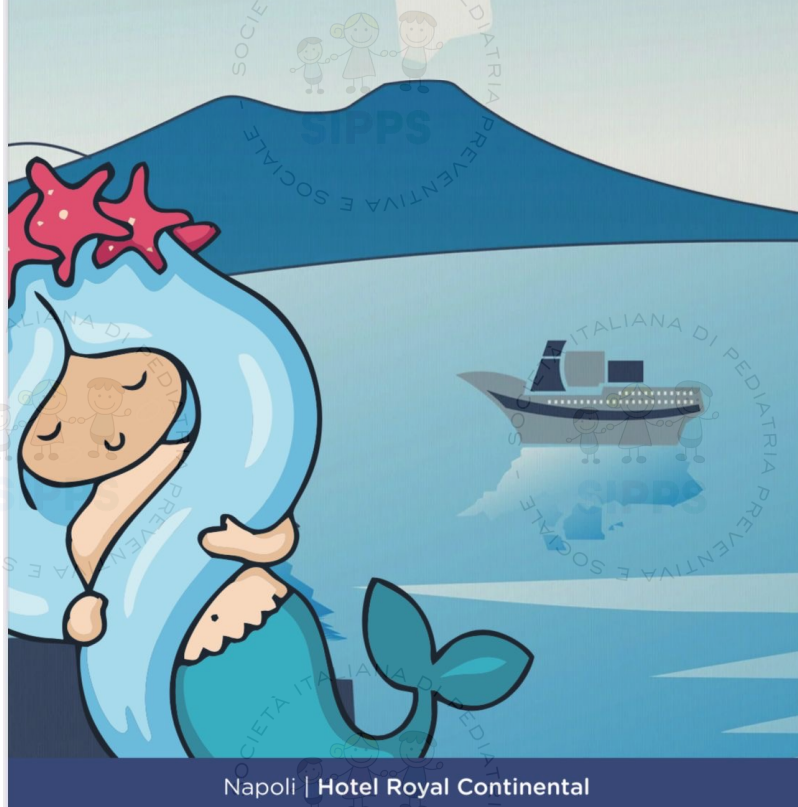
\*DO, Designation of Origin





# Il sonno nei disturbi del neurosviluppo

17.18 NOVEMBRE 2023



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EDITION**

[dreamstime.com](https://dreamstime.com)





*Grazie per l'attenzione*