

## Margaret H. Zeller, PhD

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### Description of Research:

Dr. Zeller's research aims to identify potentially modifiable individual, parent, and family factors that are associated with excessive weight gain in youth and that serve as barriers to successful pediatric weight management, both behavioral and surgical. A recipient of a K23 award, Dr. Zeller has recently completed a study which examined the social, emotional, and family functioning of treatment-seeking obese youth as compared to demographically matched nonoverweight controls. A longitudinal follow-up of these youth, who are now adolescents is planned (R21 pending). Dr. Zeller also has focused on instrument development, specifically in the area of weight-specific health related quality of life. Most recently, Dr. Zeller has expanded her research to include psychosocial predictors of successful bariatric surgical outcomes when performed in adolescents (R03). Dr. Zeller also is a collaborator on a multi-site study to examine the benefits and define complications to be expected when bariatric surgery is performed in adolescence compared to the standard approach of performing bariatric surgery in adulthood. Adolescents will be recruited from several high volume adolescent bariatric centers and a comparison cohort from adult bariatric centers participating in the Longitudinal Assessment of Bariatric Surgery (LABS).

### Collaborations:

Dr. Zeller collaborates with Dr. Inge studying the psychosocial outcomes of adolescent bariatric surgery. As a new member, Dr. Zeller has not used DHC cores.

### Representative Data:

**Table 5.** Hierarchical regression analysis predicting self-report of child ( $n = 62$ ) and adolescent ( $n = 59$ ) psychological adjustment

BASC-SRP Composite Hierarchical Step	Depression		Anxiety		Social Stress		Self-Esteem		Interpersonal Relations		Relations with Parents	
	<i>R</i>	$\Delta R^2$	<i>R</i>	$\Delta R^2$	<i>R</i>	$\Delta R^2$	<i>R</i>	$\Delta R^2$	<i>R</i>	$\Delta R^2$	<i>R</i>	$\Delta R^2$
Child												
Step 1: Race	.01	.01	.04	.00	.04	.00	.11	.01	.01	.00	.03	.00
Step 2: Race, zBMI§	.11	.00	.05	.00	.06	.00	.20	.03	.08	.01	.03	.00
Step 3: Race, zBMI, GSI	.49	.23‡	.20	.04	.36	.13†	.35	.08*	.37	.13†	.38	.15†
Step 4: Race, zBMI, GSI, Insurance	.49	.00	.21	.00	.36	.10	.39	.03	.41	.03	.41	.01
Adolescent												
Step 1: Race	.02	.00	.03	.00	.08	.01	.30	.09*	.01	.00	.05	.00
Step 2: Race, zBMI	.06	.00	.07	.01	.12	.01	.30	.00	.13	.02	.29	.09*
Step 3: Race, zBMI, GSI	.31	.10*	.21	.04	.41	.15†	.48	.14†	.14	.00	.34	.03
Step 4: Race, zBMI, GSI, Insurance	.35	.03	.22	.00	.43	.01	.48	.00	.21	.02	.39	.03

\*  $p < .05$ ; †  $p < .01$ , ‡  $p < .001$ .

§ zBMI = youth BMI standardized to age and gender norms.

|| GSI = Global Severity Index of SCL90R measuring maternal distress.

Table 5 from  
Obes Res,  
2004; 12:1576-  
1586.