

CLINICAL ARTICLE

Maternal sleep duration and infant birthweight: A population-based cohort study

Marcella Marinelli^{1,2,3}, Anne-Elie Carsin^{1,2}, Michelle C Turner^{1,2,4}, Ana Fernández-Somoano^{2,5}, Ana Cristina Rodríguez-Dehli⁶, Mikel Basterrechea^{2,7,8}, Loreto Santa-Marina^{2,7,8}, Carmen Iñiguez^{2,9}, Maria-Jose Lopez-Espinosa^{2,9}, Jordi Sunyer^{1,2,4,10}, Jordi Julvez^{1,2,11,*}

¹Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), Barcelona, Spain

²Spanish Consortium for Research on Epidemiology and Public Health (CIBERESP), Madrid, Spain

³Agència de Qualitat i Avaluació en Salut de Catalunya (AQuAS), Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

⁴McLaughlin Centre for Population Health Risk Assessment, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

⁵University of Oviedo, Oviedo, Asturias, Spain

⁶Servicio de Pediatría, Hospital San Agustín, Avilés, Asturias, Spain

⁷Public Health Division of Gipuzkoa, Basque Government, Spain

⁸Health Research Institute, Biodonostia, San Sebastián, Spain

⁹FISABIO - Universitat Jaume I - Universitat de València Joint Research Unit of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, Valencia, Spain

¹⁰Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

¹¹Institut d'Investigació Sanitària Pere Virgili (IISPV), Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus, Reus, Catalonia, Spain

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1
2 ***Correspondence**
3

4 Jordi Julvez, Institut d'Investigació Sanitària Pere Virgili (IISPV), Hospital Universitari
5
6 Sant Joan de Reus, Reus, Catalonia, Spain.
7

8
9 Email: jordi.julvez@iispv.cat.
10
11

12
13 **Keywords**
14

15
16 birthweight, birth outcomes, maternal health, population-based birth cohort, sleep
17
18 duration
19
20

21 **Synopsis**
22

23
24 In this study, we found an inverse U-shaped association between maternal sleep
25
26 duration before and during pregnancy and infant birthweight, using data from a large
27
28 cohort study.
29
30

31 **Abbreviations:** g (grams); BCPE (Box-Cox power exponential models); coef.
32
33 (Coefficient); GAM (Generalized Additive Models); INMA (Infancia y Medio Ambiente
34
35 [Environment and Childhood] Project); LPM (last menstrual period); MET (metabolic
36
37 equivalent of task); SCL-90-R (Revised Symptom Checklist).
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

Abstract

Objective: Sleep duration is an important health indicator. Our aim was to investigate the association between maternal sleep duration and infant birthweight.

Methods: The study included 2,536 mother-infant pairs of a Spanish birth cohort (2004-2006, INMA project). The exposures were questionnaire-based measures of sleep duration before and during pregnancy. The primary outcome was infant birthweight score (g) standardized to 40 weeks of gestation.

Results: In women sleeping less than 7 hours per day before pregnancy, each additional hour of sleep increased birthweight score by 44.7 g ($p = 0.049$) in the minimally-adjusted model, although findings were not statistically significant after considering other potential confounders ($p > 0.05$). However, increasing sleep duration for the group of mothers who slept more than 9 hours per day decreased birthweight score by 39.2 g per additional hour ($p = 0.001$). Findings were similar after adjusting for several socio-demographic confounders and maternal depression-anxiety clinical history as an intermediate factor. Similar but attenuated associations were observed with sleep duration in the second pregnancy trimester.

Conclusion: The relationship between maternal sleep duration before and during pregnancy and infant birthweight is an inverse U-shaped curve. Excessive sleep duration may adversely affect infant health through its impact on birthweight.

1 Introduction

1
2 Humans sleep one third of their lives and adequate sleep is an important factor in
3
4 preventing a variety of metabolic and psychiatric disorders. Sleep disturbances
5
6 including alterations in sleep duration, poor sleep quality, restless leg syndrome, and
7
8 breathing sleep disorders caused by hormonal, metabolic, and psychological
9
10 changes, are common during pregnancy [1, 2]. Alterations in sleep duration in
11
12 pregnancy may include both longer naps and shorter sleep periods at night [3].
13
14
15
16
17
18

19 Some studies have considered diverse aspects of the potential association between
20
21 sleep disturbances during pregnancy and birthweight [4–6]. A cross-sectional study
22
23 of 457 women of gestational age ≥ 37 weeks in Iran reported a positive correlation
24
25 between sleep quality (as defined as self-reported refreshing sleep) but not sleep
26
27 duration and neonatal birthweight [6]. A prospective study of 1,091 women in Greece
28
29 reported a positive association between being a severe snorer during the third
30
31 trimester of pregnancy and low birthweight (below 2500 grams) [5]. There was no
32
33 association with reported sleep length. In a longitudinal study of 885 pregnant
34
35 mothers in Sri Lanka recruited up to 16 weeks of gestation, sleeping eight hours or
36
37 less per day during either the second or the third trimester was related to a lower
38
39 infant birthweight [4].
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48

49 Other reports have also highlighted the potential role of increased sleep duration in
50
51 poor health and mortality outcomes among adults [7–10]. A meta-analysis of 16
52
53 studies reported a U-shaped association between sleep duration and the risk of all
54
55 cause-mortality [7]; in particular, shorter sleepers (< 7 hours per night) had a 12%
56
57 greater mortality risk and longer sleepers ($> 8 - 9$ hours per night) a 30% greater
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 mortality risk compared to those sleeping between 7 to 8 hours per night. However, it
2 remains unclear whether oversleeping is a marker for other health issues, such as
3 depression or reduced physical activity. Oversleeping may also be related with the
4 use of alcohol or medications [11].
5
6
7
8
9

10
11 Further research examining the association pattern between sleep quantity and birth
12 outcomes using data from a large population-based cohort is needed. Additional
13 statistical analyzes of the role of a large range of socio-demographic confounders
14 and mental health intermediate factors is also important, this is in order to better
15 understand the link between two essential health indicators (sleep duration and
16 birthweight).
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

29 The aim of this study was to evaluate the association between maternal sleep
30 duration before pregnancy and during the second trimester and infant birthweight
31 using prospective data from four Spanish cohorts with detailed information on
32 important socio-demographic and lifestyle factors, as well as maternal depression-
33 anxiety clinical history.
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42

43 **2 Methods**

44 *Design and Study Participants*

45
46 The Spanish INfancia y Medio Ambiente (Environment and Childhood) Project
47 (INMA) is a mother-and-infant cohort study established in different areas of Spain
48 following a common protocol (recruitment period: 2003-2008) [12]. This study
49 included the INMA cohorts of Asturias (n = 489), Guipuzkoa (n = 574), Sabadell (n =
50 652) and Valencia (n = 821) with two measures on maternal sleep duration.
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 Pregnant women agreed to participate and met the inclusion (≥ 16 years of age,
2 singleton pregnancy, intention to deliver at the reference hospital) and exclusion (no
3 communication difficulties, no fetuses with malformations, no assisted conception)
4 criteria.
5
6
7

8
9
10
11 In total, 2375 infants with no missing data on birthweight, (463 from Asturias, 533
12 from Guipuzkoa, 599 from Sabadell, and 780 from Valencia) were included in the
13 present study. The study was approved by the appropriate ethical committees, and
14 written informed consent was obtained from the parents of all infants prior to
15 enrollment into the study.
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

24 *Assessment of sleep duration*

25
26 Sleep duration of the mother before pregnancy was assessed by an interviewer-
27 administered questionnaire at the moment of recruitment into the study during the
28 first pregnancy trimester according to the following open-ended question: "How long
29 did you sleep during the day (minutes) and during the night (hours) on average
30 during week-days before getting pregnant?" And again, at the second trimester of
31 pregnancy, but in terms of current sleep duration. Total sleep duration, including both
32 naps and sleep at night, either before pregnancy or during the second trimester, was
33 expressed in hours per day (h/d). These assessments by questionnaires are valid
34 measurements but can generate some recall bias [13].
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

51 *Assessment of infant birthweight*

52
53 Infant birthweight was measured in grams by trained midwives. Gestational age was
54 estimated from the date of the last menstrual period (LPM) reported at recruitment
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 and was confirmed using ultrasound examination in week 12 of gestation. If
2 gestational age (based on reported LMP and ultrasound) differed ≥ 7 days (12% of
3 newborns), the duration of gestation was recalculated using a formula with crown-
4 rump length from an early ultrasound measurement [14]. We standardized the
5 measure of birthweight at 40 weeks to control for gestational week of pregnancy
6 (birthweight score). Each birthweight score was expressed in terms of birthweight at
7 40 weeks of gestational age using Box-Cox power exponential models (BCPE)
8 considering the reference study group. This transformation permits to account for
9 differences in gestational age at birth [15].
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

24 *Covariates*

25 Questionnaires administered to mothers during pregnancy and at delivery collected
26 information on smoking status (yes/no) during pregnancy, alcohol consumption
27 (grams per day) during pregnancy, medical conditions and pregnancy complications,
28 maternal diet and medication use during pregnancy, maternal ethnicity and
29 education (primary or less, secondary school, or university), maternal age at birth,
30 and parity (0, 1, ≥ 2 infants). Maternal height and weight during pregnancy were
31 measured and pre-pregnancy weight was reported by the mother at the first trimester
32 visit. Both were used to calculate pre-pregnancy BMI (kg/m^2) and weight gain during
33 pregnancy. Mother's social class was obtained according to the UK Registrar
34 General's 1990 classification and according to current ISCO88 parental occupation:
35 Class I-II, Class III and Class IV-V. Maternal marital status (whether the parents
36 were living together or not) and maternal medical history of depression and anxiety
37 was recorded by the interviewer-administered questionnaire during the first trimester
38 of pregnancy. Paternal weight and height were reported by the mother and used to
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 calculate paternal BMI (kg/m^2). At week 32 of pregnancy, information on whether the
2 mother worked during pregnancy (yes/no) was collected as well as physical activity
3 level during pregnancy as measured by metabolic equivalent of task (MET's
4 hour/day).
5
6
7
8
9

10 11 *Statistical Analysis*

12 Mixed regression models were used to examine the association between selected
13 parental and infant characteristics and birthweight score adjusting for cohort as a
14 random intercept [16, 17].
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23

24 Generalized additive models (GAM) were used to examine the shape of the
25 relationship between maternal sleep duration and birthweight score. We found
26 evidence of non-linearity in both models and therefore we fitted a piecewise
27 regression model to estimate the slopes of sleep duration <7 , 7 to 9, and ≥ 9 hours
28 per day adjusting for covariates. Cut-off points were chosen based on visual
29 inspection of the GAM plot, considering of the distribution of the variable and in
30 accordance to previous published results [7].
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

44 The association between maternal sleep duration both before pregnancy and during
45 the second trimester of pregnancy and birthweight score was examined using
46 piecewise mixed regression models adjusting for cohort as a random intercept.
47
48
49
50
51
52

53 The main analysis included infant sex, pre-pregnancy maternal BMI, paternal BMI,
54 gestational weight gain, and maternal age as mandatory covariates and adjusted for
55 cohorts as random intercept to account for differences between cohorts. In sensitivity
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 analyses we also assessed models to account for some other potential confounders:
2 alcohol consumption, smoking status, parity, maternal marital status, social class,
3
4 education level, total physical activity and working activity during pregnancy. Further
5
6 the impact of maternal depression and anxiety clinical history reported during the first
7
8 trimester of pregnancy as potential intermediate variables was also assessed. Other
9
10 collected variables described above in *Covariates* section were not included in the
11
12 final models due to no crude statistical relation with either the determinant and/or
13
14 outcome (data not shown).
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

22 The level of Evidence has been classified as II.
23
24
25

26 **3 Results**

27
28 Median maternal sleep duration was 8 hours in all cohorts both before pregnancy
29
30 and in the second trimester of pregnancy (Table 1). The distribution of sleep duration
31
32 is shown in (Figure 1).
33
34
35
36
37
38

39 Birthweight score (g) decreased with maternal alcohol consumption, smoking status
40
41 during pregnancy, and lower social class (III, IV-V). Birthweight score increased in
42
43 male infants, with increasing maternal age, higher pre-pregnancy maternal BMI,
44
45 higher weight gain during pregnancy, higher paternal BMI, higher maternal education
46
47 level, and higher parity (Table 2).
48
49
50
51
52

53 We found a significant curvilinear relationship between maternal sleep duration
54
55 before pregnancy and infant birthweight score (Figure 2) and between sleep duration
56
57 during the second trimester of pregnancy and infant birthweight score (Figure 3).
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1
2 In women sleeping less than 7 hours per day before pregnancy, each hour of sleep
3
4 increased birthweight score by 44.7 g (Table 3). In contrast, in women reporting 9 or
5
6 more hours of sleep, birthweight score decreased by 39.2 g per additional hour of
7
8 sleep ($p=0.001$). The association between sleep duration during the second trimester
9
10 of pregnancy and birthweight score was similar but attenuated (Table 3).
11
12
13
14
15

16
17 Associations between maternal sleep duration before pregnancy and infant
18
19 birthweight score were similar after adjusting for additional confounders including
20
21 maternal alcohol consumption during pregnancy, smoking during pregnancy,
22
23 education level, parity, marital status, working activity during pregnancy, social class
24
25 and physical activity during pregnancy (Table 4).
26
27
28
29
30

31
32 We also considered the potential intermediate role of maternal anxiety and
33
34 depression clinical history reported during the first trimester of pregnancy. However,
35
36 we found similar associations as those observed in the main analysis (Table 5).
37
38

39 After excluding 116 women with pregnancy hypertension and/or risk of pregnancy
40
41 lost, main results were unchanged (data not shown).
42
43
44

45 46 **4 Discussion**

47
48 We observed an inverse U-shaped association between maternal sleep duration
49
50 before pregnancy and infant birthweight. Similar, but weaker associations were
51
52 observed with maternal sleep duration during the second trimester of pregnancy.
53
54 Consequently, a background of excessive sleep duration (higher than 9 hours per
55
56 day) may result in adverse impacts on infant health. This longitudinal study assessed
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 the association between two different time points of maternal sleep duration (before
2 pregnancy and in 2nd trimester), in terms of both reduced and excessive sleep, and
3 infant birthweight. Further adjustments for important socio-demographic confounders
4 did not alter the findings; neither maternal depression-anxiety clinical history did
5 explain such associations.
6
7
8
9
10

11
12 In agreement with previous studies, birthweight increases with the age of the mother,
13 a higher maternal BMI, the sex of new born (male) and mothers reporting a higher
14 parity [4]. In addition to this, Abeyseena et al.[4] studied whether sleep duration during
15 the second, third or both trimesters together affected birthweight. They observed a
16 reduced infant birthweight (<2500 gr.) among women sleeping less than 8 hours per
17 day and a similar inverse U-shaped association pattern as that observed here.
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27

28 Another small cohort study analyzed maternal sleep duration trajectories and child
29 birthweight, they reported that an increased trajectory of sleep duration was
30 associated with lower birthweight [18]. Furthermore, a recent cohort study observed
31 that pregnant women sleeping less than 7 hours per day had a higher risk of having
32 neonates with lower birthweight [19]. Micheli et al.[5], reported no relationship
33 between sleep duration and infant with low birthweight. Another Japanese study
34 reported no association between maternal sleep duration and small for gestation age
35 children [20]. However, in both studies, they did not examine potential thresholds in
36 the association as we did in the present study.
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

51 A range of mechanisms have been proposed to explain the negative health effects of
52 oversleeping: sleep fragmentation, fatigue, immune function (e.g., change in immune
53 function), photoperiodic abnormalities, lack of challenge (e.g., lack of physiological
54 challenge), or an underlying disease process such as sleep apnea, heart disease, or
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 failing health [21]. Moreover the use of certain substances such as alcohol and drugs
2 may be the cause for fatigue and sleep problems, however in our data set; alcohol
3 use did not affect the findings on oversleeping and birthweight. A possible
4 explanation for the negative association observed between oversleeping and
5 birthweight is pre-pregnancy depression of the mother. Antenatal depressed
6 pregnant women tend to gain less weight[22] and sleep more [23]. Also, maternal
7 stress can be similarly related to sleeping duration in a short term [23]. Stressed
8 women are overly tired at the end of the day and tend to sleep more. However, we
9 could not confirm such pathways in the present data related to these factors.
10 Although it is difficult to evaluate whether increased sleeping duration is related to
11 changes in hormone levels during pregnancy, or a sign of other health problems, in
12 this study, the strongest associations with sleep duration occurred at the beginning,
13 or before pregnancy, rather than in the middle of the pregnancy, suggesting that
14 hormone changes during pregnancy were not the reason for birthweight differences
15 observed here. An alternative explanation could be that mother with excessive sleep
16 duration may show more unhealthy nutritional habits and inadequate caloric intake
17 that may last by affecting newborns with lower birthweight.
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

44 One of the main strengths of the present study is its longitudinal design examining
45 sleep duration at two distinct moments: before and during pregnancy. Furthermore,
46 the exhaustive range of potential confounders described above weakens the
47 possibility of residual confounding playing an important role here. Additionally,
48 results were unchanged after adjusting for one of the potential explanatory
49 pathways, maternal mental health status (as a clinical history reported at the first
50 trimester and as a rating scale assessed at 4 years of the child). Finally, since this
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 study is based on four population-based birth cohorts with a high participation
2 rate;[12] the findings can be considered to imply a certain degree of external validity.
3
4

5
6
7 This study also has some limitations: sleep duration before pregnancy and during the
8 second trimester was reported by the mother. As mothers answered the question
9 regarding sleep duration before pregnancy during the first pregnancy trimester, we
10 speculate that current (pregnancy) sleep habits may influence recall of past (pre-
11 pregnancy) sleep habits [13], a phenomenon known as “recall bias”. Consequently,
12 sleep duration before pregnancy could be partly considered as a proxy of sleep
13 duration during the first trimester. Furthermore, while there were no objective
14 measures of sleep duration and sleep quality, the sleep data collected before
15 delivery, may reduce the risk of recall bias associated with delivering preterm or
16 having an SGA infant. Self-reported sleep abnormalities in young adults were highly
17 correlated with objective measurements of sleep status [24]. Little is known about the
18 validity of self-reported survey assessments of sleep duration in pregnancy. A recent
19 study reported no correlation between self-reported and actigraphy measures,
20 though there were no data on validation of actigraphy measures and the sample was
21 small and heterogeneous [25]. However, recent cohort studies with pregnant women
22 used questionnaire-based data as a common measurement for sleep duration, and
23 showed consistent findings with birthweight outcomes [18–19]. Finally, more detailed
24 data on the quality of sleep was not available in order to examine factors beyond
25 duration and their potential association with birthweight.
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53

54
55
56 Further longitudinal studies are needed to confirm the association pattern described
57 here between maternal sleep duration and infant birthweight, studies need to
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1 represent different population samples and use two time-point measurements of
2 sleep duration before and during the entire pregnancy period, and probably include
3 hormone and mental health biomarkers in order to better understand the underlying
4 mechanisms. The use of objective measures of sleep duration and quality such as
5 currently available on many smart watches such as FitBit or Apple are also required
6 in future studies.
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16

17 **5 Conclusion**

18
19 This longitudinal study showed that excessive maternal sleep before pregnancy and
20 probably during pregnancy is associated with lower birthweight in infants after
21 adjusting for various potential confounding and intermediate factors. Similarly, but as
22 a weaker association pattern, lower sleep duration may reduce infant's birthweight.
23
24 Further prospective studies are required to confirm these findings and to investigate
25 the mechanisms that may underlie the possible association. Sleep duration is
26 becoming an important health indicator for the general population.
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

36 **Author contributions**

37 This study was conceived and designed by Marcella Marinelli and Jordi Julvez

38
39 The analysis was conducted by Marcella Marinelli and Anne-Elie Carsin.

40
41 A first draft of the manuscript was prepared by Marcella Marinelli.

42
43 The rest of the co-authors reviewed and edited the MS.
44
45
46
47

48 **Acknowledgements**

49 This study was funded by Instituto de Salud Carlos III through the projects

50
51 'CP14/00108 & PI16/00261' (co-funded by European Regional Development Fund 'A
52 way to make Europe'). This study was funded by grants from the EU: NEWGENERIS

53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205
206
207
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
219
220
221
222
223
224
225
226
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234
235
236
237
238
239
240
241
242
243
244
245
246
247
248
249
250
251
252
253
254
255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263
264
265
266
267
268
269
270
271
272
273
274
275
276
277
278
279
280
281
282
283
284
285
286
287
288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297
298
299
300
301
302
303
304
305
306
307
308
309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330
331
332
333
334
335
336
337
338
339
340
341
342
343
344
345
346
347
348
349
350
351
352
353
354
355
356
357
358
359
360
361
362
363
364
365
366
367
368
369
370
371
372
373
374
375
376
377
378
379
380
381
382
383
384
385
386
387
388
389
390
391
392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418
419
420
421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428
429
430
431
432
433
434
435
436
437
438
439
440
441
442
443
444
445
446
447
448
449
450
451
452
453
454
455
456
457
458
459
460
461
462
463
464
465
466
467
468
469
470
471
472
473
474
475
476
477
478
479
480
481
482
483
484
485
486
487
488
489
490
491
492
493
494
495
496
497
498
499
500
501
502
503
504
505
506
507
508
509
510
511
512
513
514
515
516
517
518
519
520
521
522
523
524
525
526
527
528
529
530
531
532
533
534
535
536
537
538
539
540
541
542
543
544
545
546
547
548
549
550
551
552
553
554
555
556
557
558
559
560
561
562
563
564
565
566
567
568
569
570
571
572
573
574
575
576
577
578
579
580
581
582
583
584
585
586
587
588
589
590
591
592
593
594
595
596
597
598
599
600
601
602
603
604
605
606
607
608
609
610
611
612
613
614
615
616
617
618
619
620
621
622
623
624
625
626
627
628
629
630
631
632
633
634
635
636
637
638
639
640
641
642
643
644
645
646
647
648
649
650
651
652
653
654
655
656
657
658
659
660
661
662
663
664
665
666
667
668
669
670
671
672
673
674
675
676
677
678
679
680
681
682
683
684
685
686
687
688
689
690
691
692
693
694
695
696
697
698
699
700
701
702
703
704
705
706
707
708
709
710
711
712
713
714
715
716
717
718
719
720
721
722
723
724
725
726
727
728
729
730
731
732
733
734
735
736
737
738
739
740
741
742
743
744
745
746
747
748
749
750
751
752
753
754
755
756
757
758
759
760
761
762
763
764
765
766
767
768
769
770
771
772
773
774
775
776
777
778
779
780
781
782
783
784
785
786
787
788
789
790
791
792
793
794
795
796
797
798
799
800
801
802
803
804
805
806
807
808
809
810
811
812
813
814
815
816
817
818
819
820
821
822
823
824
825
826
827
828
829
830
831
832
833
834
835
836
837
838
839
840
841
842
843
844
845
846
847
848
849
850
851
852
853
854
855
856
857
858
859
860
861
862
863
864
865
866
867
868
869
870
871
872
873
874
875
876
877
878
879
880
881
882
883
884
885
886
887
888
889
890
891
892
893
894
895
896
897
898
899
900
901
902
903
904
905
906
907
908
909
910
911
912
913
914
915
916
917
918
919
920
921
922
923
924
925
926
927
928
929
930
931
932
933
934
935
936
937
938
939
940
941
942
943
944
945
946
947
948
949
950
951
952
953
954
955
956
957
958
959
960
961
962
963
964
965
966
967
968
969
970
971
972
973
974
975
976
977
978
979
980
981
982
983
984
985
986
987
988
989
990
991
992
993
994
995
996
997
998
999
1000

1 and grants from Spain: Instituto de Salud Carlos III (Red INMA G03/176,
2 CB06/02/0041, FIS-FEDER PI03/1615, PI04/1509, PI04/1112, PI04/1931,
3
4 PI04/2018, PI04/1436, PI05/1079, PI05/1052, PI06/1213, PI07/0314, PI08/1151,
5
6 PI09/02647, PI09/02311, PI11/01007, MS11/0178, PI11/02591, PI11/02038,
7
8 PI13/1944, PI13/02429, PI14/0891, and PI14/1687), Conselleria de Sanitat
9
10 Generalitat Valenciana, Generalitat de Catalunya (CIRIT 1999SGR 00241),
11
12 Diputación Foral de Guipúzcoa (DFG/004), Departamento de Sanidad y Consumo
13
14 Gobierno Vasco (2005111093), Obra Social Cajastur and Oviedo University. Miguel
15
16 Servet (MS) fellowship (MS14/00108) awarded by the Spanish Institute of Health
17
18 Carlos III (Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness). Michelle C Turner was
19
20 funded by a Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship. Jordi Julvez holds Miguel Servet-II
21
22 contract (CP119/00015) awarded by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III (Co-funded by
23
24 European Social Fund "Investing in your future").
25
26
27
28
29
30
31

32 33 34 **Conflict of interests** 35

36 The authors have no conflicts of interest relevant to this article to disclose.
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

References

- 1
2
3
4
5 1. Baratte-Beebe KR, Lee K. Sources of midsleep awakenings in childbearing
6
7 women. *Clin Nurs Res* 1999; 8:386-397.
- 8
9
10 2. Okun ML, Roberts JM, Marsland AL, Hall M. How disturbed sleep may be a
11
12 risk factor for adverse pregnancy outcomes. *Obstet Gynecol Surv* 2009; 64:273-280.
- 13
14 3. Tsai SY, Lin JW, Kuo LT, Lee CN, Landis CA. Nighttime sleep, daytime
15
16 napping, and labor outcomes in healthy pregnant women in Taiwan. *Res Nurs*
17
18 *Health* 2013; 36:612-622.
- 19
20
21 4. Abeysena C, Jayawardana P, Seneviratne RA. Effect of psychosocial stress
22
23 and physical activity on low birthweight: a cohort study. *J Obstet Gynaecol Res*
24
25 2010; 36:296-303.
- 26
27
28 5. Micheli K, Komninou I, Bagkeris E *et al.* Sleep patterns in late pregnancy and
29
30 risk of preterm birth and fetal growth restriction. *Epidemiology* 2011; 22:738-744.
- 31
32
33 6. Zafarghandi N, Hadavand S, Davati A, Mohseni SM, Kimiaimoghadam F,
34
35 Torkestani F. The effects of sleep quality and duration in late pregnancy on labor and
36
37 fetal outcome. *J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med* 2012; 25:535-537.
- 38
39
40 7. Cappuccio FP, D'Elia L, Strazzullo P, Miller MA. Sleep duration and all-cause
41
42 mortality: a systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective studies. *Sleep* 2010;
43
44 33:585-592.
- 45
46
47 8. Cohen-Mansfield J, Perach R. Sleep duration, nap habits, and mortality in
48
49 older persons. *Sleep* 2012; 35:1003-1009.
- 50
51
52 9. Stranges S, Dorn JM, Shipley MJ *et al.* Correlates of short and long sleep
53
54 duration: a cross-cultural comparison between the United Kingdom and the United
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

1
2 States: the Whitehall II Study and the Western New York Health Study. *Am J*
3 *Epidemiol* 2008; 168:1353-1364.

4
5 10. Tamakoshi A, Ohno Y. Self-reported sleep duration as a predictor of all-cause
6 mortality: results from the JACC study, Japan. *Sleep* 2004; 27:51-54.

7
8
9
10 11. Dauvilliers Y. Differential diagnosis in hypersomnia. *Curr Neurol Neurosci.Rep*
11 2006; 6:156-162.

12
13
14 12. Guxens M, Ballester F, Espada M *et al.* Cohort Profile: the INMA--Infancia y
15 Medio Ambiente--(Environment and Childhood) Project. *Int J Epidemiol* 2012;
16 41:930-940.

17
18
19
20 13. Bunin GR, Gyllstrom ME, Brown JE, Kahn EB, Kushi LH. Recall of diet during
21 a past pregnancy. *Am J Epidemiol* 2001; 154:1136-1142.

22
23
24
25
26 14. Westerway SC, Davison A, Cowell S. Ultrasonic fetal measurements: new
27 Australian standards for the new millennium. *Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol* 2000;
28 40:297-302.

29
30
31
32
33 15. Rigby RA, Stasinopoulos DM. Smooth centile curves for skew and kurtotic
34 data modelled using the Box-Cox power exponential distribution. *Stat Med* 2004;
35 23:3053-3076.

36
37
38
39
40
41 16. Chu R, Thabane L, Ma J, Holbrook A, Pullenayegum E, Devereaux PJ.
42 Comparing methods to estimate treatment effects on a continuous outcome in
43 multicentre randomized controlled trials: a simulation study. *BMC Med Res Methodol*
44 2011; 11:21.

45
46
47
48
49
50 17. Dadvand P, Sunyer J, Basagana X *et al.* Surrounding greenness and
51 pregnancy outcomes in four Spanish birth cohorts. *Environ Health Perspect* 2012;
52 120:1481-1487.

1
2
3
4
5
6
18. Plancoulaine S, Flori S, Bat-Pitault F, Patural H, Lin JS, Franco P. Sleep Trajectories Among Pregnant Women and the Impact on Outcomes: A Population-Based Cohort Study. *Matern Child Health J.* 2017 May;21(5):1139-1146.

7
8
9
10
11
12
13
19. Wang W, Zhong C, Zhang Y *et al.* Shorter sleep duration in early pregnancy is associated with birth length: a prospective cohort study in Wuhan, China. *Sleep Med.* 2017 Jun;34:99-104.

14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
20 Morokuma S, Shimokawa M, Kato K, *et al.* Japan Environment & Children's Study Group. Maternal sleep and small for gestational age infants in the Japan Environment and Children's Study: a cohort study. *BMC Res Notes.* 2017 Aug 11;10(1):394.

24
25
26
27
28
29
30
21. Kurina LM, McClintock MK, Chen JH, Waite LJ, Thisted RA, Lauderdale DS. Sleep duration and all-cause mortality: a critical review of measurement and associations. *Ann Epidemiol* 2013; 23:361-370.

31
32
33
34
35
22. Heery E, Kelleher CC, Wall PG, McAuliffe FM. Prediction of gestational weight gain - a biopsychosocial model. *Public Health Nutr* 2015; 18:1488-1498.

36
37
38
39
40
41
42
23. Yonkers KA, Smith MV, Gotman N, Belanger K. Typical somatic symptoms of pregnancy and their impact on a diagnosis of major depressive disorder. *Gen Hosp Psychiatry* 2009; 31:327-333.

43
44
45
46
47
48
49
24. Stoohs RA, Blum HC, Haselhorst M, Duchna HW, Guilleminault C, Dement WC. Normative data on snoring: a comparison between younger and older adults. *Eur Respir J* 1998; 11:451-457.

50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
25. Herring SJ, Foster GD, Pien GW *et al.* Do pregnant women accurately report sleep time? A comparison between self-reported and objective measures of sleep duration in pregnancy among a sample of urban mothers. *Sleep Breath.* 2013; 17:1323-1327.

FIGURE LEGEND

Figure 1. Distribution of sleep duration

Figure 2. Prediction of birthweight score as a function of sleep duration before pregnancy from the main model presented in table 3

Figure 3. Prediction of birthweight score as a function of sleep duration during the 2nd trimester from the model presented in table 3

TABLE 1. Distribution of sleep duration by cohort, INMA Study (2003-2008).

	N	Min	P25	Median	P75	Max
Total Sleep duration (h/d) Before pregnancy						
Sabadell	610	3.00	7.00	8.00	8.33	15.00
Valencia	758	3.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	16.50
Guipuzkoa	534	5.00	7.00	8.00	8.25	15.00
Asturias	439	3.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	14.00
Nap time sleep (h/d) Before pregnancy						
Sabadell	610	0	0	0	0.00	3.00
Valencia	758	0	0	0	0.50	3.00
Guipuzkoa	534	0	0	0	0.17	3.00
Asturias	439	0	0	0	0.50	4.00
Total Sleep duration (h/d) Second Trimester						
Sabadell	610	3	7	8	9	16
Valencia	758	3	7	8	9	14
Guipuzkoa	534	4	8	8	9	12
Asturias	439	3	7	8	9	14
Nap time sleep (h/d) Second Trimester						
Sabadell	606	0	0	0.00	0.50	4.00
Valencia	747	0	0	0.25	1.00	4.00
Guipuzkoa	514	0	0	0.50	1.00	3.00
Asturias	439	0	0	0.00	0.50	3.00

TABLE 2. Association between selected parental and infant characteristics and birthweight score, INMA Study (2003-2008).

Variable	Mean birthweight (g)	Coeff (95% CI)	P	N =2375
Infant sex			<0.001	
Female	3274.39	1 (Reference)		1155
Male	3410.68	136.38 (104.60; 168.16)		1220
Age of the mother (years)		7.52 (3.77; 11.29)	<0.001	2375
Gestational weight gain (grams) #		371.52 (245.03; 498.01)	<0.001	2300
BMI before pregnancy #		12.45 (8.74; 16.16)	<0.001	2374
Paternal BMI #		7.55 (2.84; 12.27)	0.002	2333
Alcohol consumption during pregnancy (grams/day) #		-13.70 (-24.90; -2.49)	0.017	2370
Smoking during pregnancy #			<0.001	
No	3374.05	1 (Reference)		1576
Yes	3282.16	-90.82 (-125.87; -55.78)		738
Maternal education level #			0.067	
≤Primary studies	3329.53	1 (Reference)		586
Secondary studies	3328.58	-3.21 (-44.34; 37.92)		976
University studies	3373.24	38.77 (-4.45; 81.99)		809
Parity #			<0.001	
First infant	3286.13	1 (Reference)		1333
Second infant	3412.36	126.46 (92.80; 160.12)		880
> Second infant	3459.10	175.04 (110.19; 239.89)		160
Marital Status			0.535	
Parents were living together	3345.12	1 (Reference)		2333
Parents were not living together	3304.43	-38.77 (-161.18 ; 83.64)		42
Mother's social class #			0.032	
Class I-II	3387.30	1 (Reference)		503
Class III	3336.32	-48.32 (-95.54; -1.10)		613
Class IV-V	3330.38	-54.54 (-96.14; -12.94)		1258
Working during pregnancy #			0.192	
No	3371.26	1 (Reference)		380
Yes	3339.46	-29.59 (-74.00; 14.82)		1933
Total physical activity (METs hour/day) during pregnancy^a		2.17 (-2.46;6.80)	0.358	2375
Anxiety history at first trimester (Yes/No) #		-2.10 (-47.96; 43.76)	0.928	2373
Depression history at first trimester (Yes/No) #		-17.76 (-72.14; 36.63)	0.522	2373

Coefficient and 95%CI from mixed regression models including cohort as a random intercept.

Data reflect missing values in some subjects.^a METs-hour per day (Metabolic Equivalent of Task) reported at 32-weeks of pregnancy.

TABLE 3. Association (β Coeff. and 95 % CI) between sleep duration and birthweight, INMA Study (2003-2008), N=2,165.

Sleep duration	Birthweight (g) □ Coeff (95% CI)	P-values
Sleep before pregnancy		
< 7 hours per day	44.72 (0.28, 89.17)	0.049
≥ 7 and < 9 hours per day	15.75 (-9.37, 40.86)	0.219
≥ 9 hours per day	-39.22 (-61.46, -16.97)	0.001
Sleep in 2nd trimester		
< 7 hours per day	16.24 (-13.20, 45.69)	0.280
≥ 7 and < 9 hours per day	-13.39 (-39.03, 12.26)	0.306
≥ 9 hours per day	-15.97 (-42.55, 10.61)	0.239

Models from piecewise regression where sleep was including as spline with cut-off at 7 and 9 hours per day. Coefficients are the slopes over this given interval adjusted for maternal age, gestational weight gain, maternal pre-pregnancy BMI, paternal BMI, sex of the infant and a random effect for cohort.

TABLE 4. Association (β Coeff. and 95 % CI) between maternal sleep duration before pregnancy and child birthweight score (g) adjusted for potential confounders

	Sleep before pregnancy			N
	≤ 7 hours per day	> 7 and ≤ 9 hours per day	> 9 hours per day	
	β (95% CI), p-value	β (95% CI), p-value	β (95% CI), p-value	
Model 1: Base model + alcohol	45.27 (0.86, 89.68), p=0.046	15.54 (-9.55, 40.64), p=0.225	-38.82 (-61.05, -16.58), p=0.001	2,165
Model 2: Base model + smoking	39.87(-4.26, 84.01) p=0.077	14.08 (-10.85, 39.02), p=0.268	-33.17 (-55.35, -10.99), p=0.003	2,163
Model 3: Model 2 + maternal education	39.06 (-5.20, 83.32), p=0.084	14.74 (-10.20, 39.68), p=0.247	-31.79 (-54.04, -9.54), p=0.005	2,161
Model 4: Model 2 + parity	35.73 (-7.85, 79.30) p=0.108	18.33 (-6.27, 42.94), p=0.144	-33.29 (-55.15, -11.44), p=0.003	2,161
Model 5: Model 2 + marital status	39.95 (-4.18, 84.09) p=0.076	14.12 (-10.81, 39.05) p=0.267	-33.33 (-55.52, -11.14) p=0.003	2,163
Model 6: Model 2 + working during pregnancy	41.00 (-3.18, 85.19) p=0.069	12.38 (-12.73, 37.49)	-35.06 (-57.45, -12.68) p=0.002	2,159

		p=0.334		
Model 7: Model 2 + mother's social class	38.88 (-5.25, 83.02) p=0.084	14.13 (-10.78, 39.03) p=0.266	-32.61 (-54.82, -10.41) p=0.004	2,162
Model 8: Model 2 + total physical activity	39.89 (-4.24, 84.03) p=0.076	14.09 (-10.84, 39.03) p=0.268	-33.21 (-55.39, -11.02) p=0.003	2,163

β (95% CI) beta, 95% confidence interval from multivariable mixed piecewise regression models.

Base model: adjusting for maternal and paternal BMI, weight-gain, maternal age, sex of the child and cohort as a random intercept.

Physical activity as METs (Metabolic Equivalent of Task)-hour per day reported at 32 weeks gestation

TABLE 5. Association (β Coeff. and 95 % CI) between maternal sleep duration and child birthweight score (g) adjusted for anxiety and depression during pregnancy as potential intermediate factors

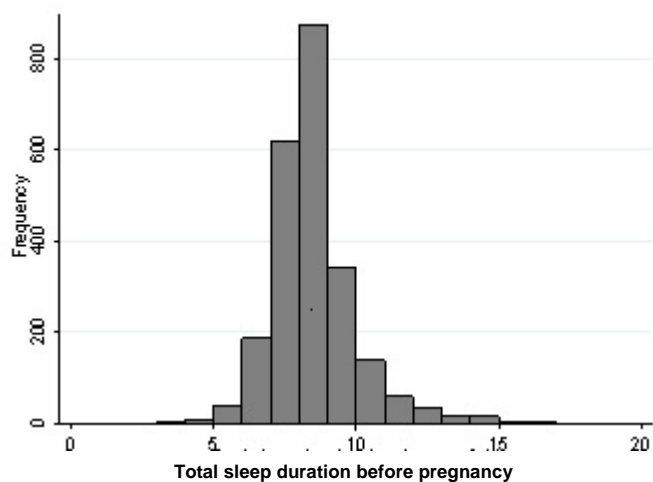
	Sleep before pregnancy			N
	≤ 7 hours per day	> 7 and ≤ 9 hours per day	> 9 hours per day	
	β (95% CI), p-value	β (95% CI), p-value	β (95% CI), p-value	
Model 1 + anxiety clinical history reported at first trimester (Yes/No)	39.97 (-4.23, 84.17), p=0.076	14.02 (-10.94, 38.97), p=0.271	-33.13 (-55.32, -10.93), p=0.003	2,161
Model 1+ depression clinical history reported at first trimester (Yes/No)	39.95 (-4.25, 84.15), p=0.076	14.10 (-10.85, 39.05), p=0.268	-33.30 (-55.51, -11.09), p=0.003	2,161

β (95% CI) beta, 95% confidence interval from multivariable mixed piecewise regression models.

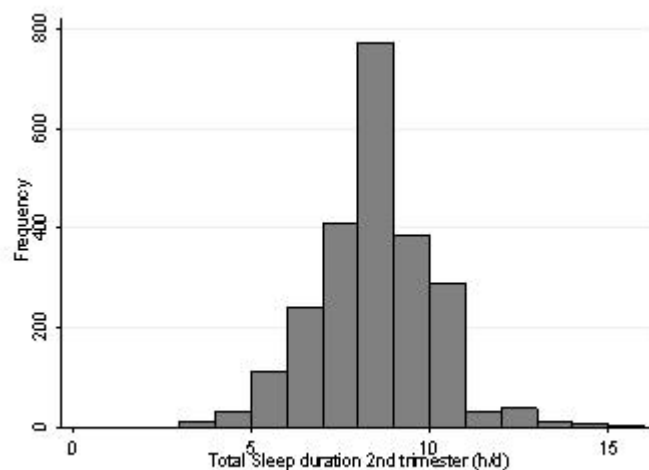
Model 1: adjusting for maternal and paternal BMI, weight-gain, maternal age, sex of the child and cohort as a random intercept.

In this study, we found an inverse U-shaped association between maternal sleep duration before and during pregnancy and infant birthweight, using data from a large cohort study.

Figure 1: Distribution of sleep duration

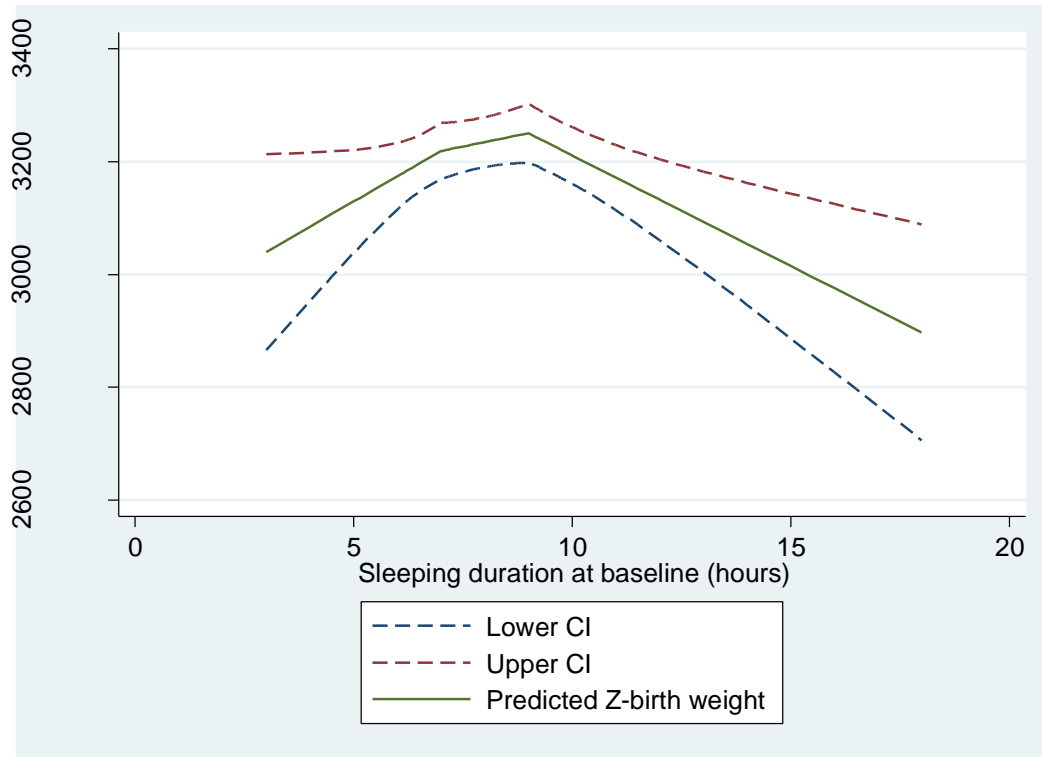


Sleep-duration before pregnancy	n (%)
< 7 h per day	236 (10.1%)
7 to <9 h per day	1491 (63.8%)
9 hours or more per day	608 (26.0%)



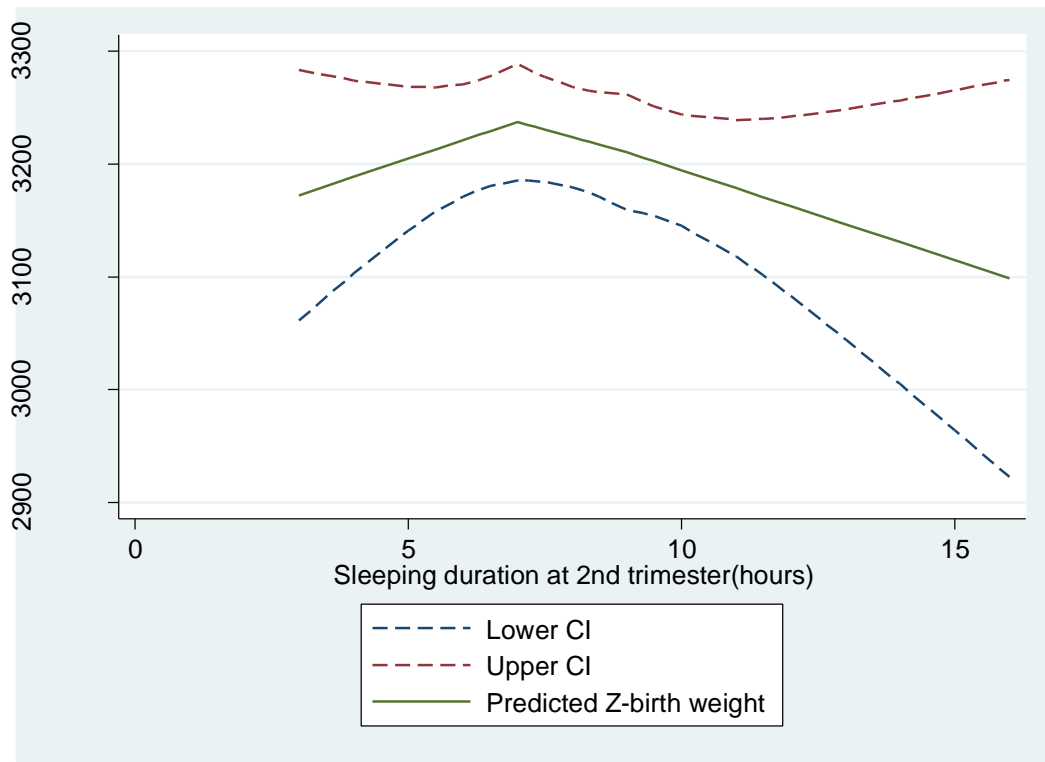
Sleep-duration 2nd trimester	n (%)
< 7 h per day	389 (16.7%)
7 to <9 h per day	1181 (50.6%)
9 hours or more per day	765 (32.8%)

Figure 2: Prediction of birthweight score as a function of sleep duration before pregnancy from the main model presented in table 3



Note: All covariates were set to their mean.

Figure 3. Prediction of birthweight score as a function of sleep duration during the 2nd trimester from the model presented in table 3



Note: all covariates from the model were set to their mean