1	Title page
2	Title
3	Evaluation of bioelectrical impedance analysis in measuring body fat in 6-to-12-year-old boys
4	compared to air displacement plethysmography
5	
6	Authors
7	Ryan Mahaffey <sup>*1</sup>
8	Nicola Brown <sup>1</sup>
9	Mary Cramp <sup>2</sup>
10	Stewart C. Morrison <sup>3</sup>
11 12	Wendy I Drechsler <sup>4</sup>
13	* Corresponding author
14	Email: <u>ryan.mahaffey@stmarys.ac.uk</u>
15	Tel: +44 (0)7708258741
16	St Mary's University, Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, TW1 4SX
17	
18	<sup>1</sup> School of Sport, Health and Applied Sciences, St Mary's University, Twickenham, UK
19	<sup>2</sup> Department of Allied Health Professions, University of the West of England Bristol, UK
20	<sup>3</sup> School of Life Course and Population Sciences, King's College London, UK

21 <sup>4</sup>Haemophilia Centre, East Kent Hospitals University NHS Trust, UK.

22

## 23 Abbreviations

- 24 Percentage fat mass (%FM), dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DXA), three-compartment model
- 25 (3C), four-compartment model (4C), air displacement plethysmography (ADP), limits of agreement
- 26 (LoA), bioelectrical impedance analysis (BIA), percentage fat mass measured by air displacement
- 27 plethysmography (%FM<sub>ADP</sub>), percentage fat mass measured by bioelectrical impedance analysis
- 28 (%FM<sub>BIA</sub>), intraclass correlation coefficients (ICCs), Technical error of the measurement (TEM), body
- volumes (Vb), thoracic gas volumes (TGV), skin surface area (SSA), Effect size (ES), 95% confidence
- 30 intervals (95%CI).

32	Running Title
33	Body fat by BIA v ADP in 6-12 year olds
34	
35	Keywords
36	Body composition, obesity, pediatric, concurrent validity, reliability
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	

- 56 Evaluation of bioelectrical impedance analysis in measuring body fat in 6-to-12-year-old boys
- 57 compared to air displacement plethysmography
- 58 59

## 60 Introduction

61

Childhood obesity is associated with significant morbidity and mortality.<sup>1,2</sup> Comorbidities associated 62 with childhood obesity affect almost every body system, including, but not limited to, endocrine, 63 64 cardiovascular, cardiometabolic, and musculoskeletal systems.<sup>3</sup> Worldwide prevalence of childhood overweight and obesity increased from 12.8% in 2000 to 14.2% in 2013 and is expected to reach 65 15.8% in 2025.<sup>4</sup> Growth trajectories for childhood obesity into adulthood indicate that 57.3% of 66 67 today's children and 75% of children currently with obesity will be obese at the age of 35.5 68 Monitoring and tracking of obesity in childhood appears critical to determine when preventative or 69 management interventions should be taken.

70

71 Obesity is defined as excess fat accumulation that may impair health.<sup>6</sup> However, obesity is

commonly measured by Body Mass Index (BMI) which, in children, is transformed into BMI z-scores

to define age- and gender-specific cut-offs for overweight and obesity.<sup>7</sup> Body Mass Index is useful for

74 tracking changes in obesity prevalence in populations, however, the relationship between BMI and

adiposity is not consistent across populations and assumes a linear increase in body mass and fat

76 mass through childhood.<sup>8,9</sup> Measures of adiposity (i.e. fat mass relative to body mass [%FM]), rather

than weight relative to height, provide accurate assessment of obesity status and may provide

78 better indication of the effectiveness of weight loss programmes.<sup>10,11</sup>

79

Reference methods of measuring adiposity include computerised tomography, magnetic resonance
imaging, dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DXA), isotope dilution, and combinations of methods to
construct three (3C) and four (4C) compartment models. Reference methods are accurate
assessments of %FM (compared to 'gold-standard' cadaver analysis),<sup>12</sup> because measurements of
hydration status and mineral content are included in the %FM calculation.<sup>9</sup> However, in comparison
to two compartment (2C) models of body composition, that partition the body into fat mass and fatfree mass (e.g. air displacement plethysmography and bioelectrical impedance analysis), reference

87 methods are costly, time consuming, invasive, and may not be suitable for children.<sup>13</sup> Although 2C

88 models of body composition are subject to error arising from variation in fat-free mass composition,<sup>9</sup>

89 they are more accessible to clinicians and researchers and less burdensome on participants.

90

91 Air displacement plethysmography (ADP) is an indirect method to determine body volume, using a

92 volumetric chamber into which a participant is introduced, by recording pressure changes under

- isothermal and adiabatic conditions.<sup>14</sup> Equations that include assumed densities of fat and lean
   tissues are used to calculate %FM. Bioelectrical impedance analysis (BIA) is an indirect measure of
- 95 total body water from which an empirical relationship with fat-free mass can be derived using
- 96 subject-specific regression equations. Previous studies generally indicate that measures of %FM by
- 97 ADP (%FM<sub>ADP</sub>)<sup>11,15, 16</sup>, rather than BIA (%FM<sub>BIA</sub>)<sup>9,17</sup>, have better agreement with reference measures in
- 98 paediatric populations. However, age, gender, BMI, and BIA device all impact the estimation of
- 99 %FM, and should therefore be considered in %FM prediction equations.<sup>11,13</sup>

- 101 Few studies have compared measures of %FM derived from ADP and BIA in paediatric populations,<sup>19</sup>
- 102 generally finding that  $%FM_{ADP}$  was greater than  $%FM_{BIA}$ <sup>20,21</sup>. Whilst these studies benefit from large
- sample sizes, comparisons between methods were not distinguished based on weight status which
- 104 can impact estimates of body composition.<sup>22</sup> One study which did compare %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> in
- both participants with and without obesity<sup>23</sup>, measured %FM<sub>BIA</sub> using a foot-to-foot device
- 106 (measuring only part of the body) and %FM<sub>ADP</sub> using general,<sup>24</sup> rather than child-specific regression
- 107 equations.<sup>11,25</sup> Comparisons between %FM methods should be made using age-specific equations,
- 108 controlling for gender and weight status.<sup>16,26,27</sup>
- 109
- 110 Reliability of %FM measurements in children have been conducted, showing intraclass correlation
- 111 coefficients (ICCs) of >0.90 from BIA,<sup>12</sup> and >0.93 from air displacement plethysmography.<sup>28</sup> Vicente-
- 112 Rodriguez et al<sup>29</sup> reported intra-day reliability of %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> in 84 adolescents (13-to-17-
- 113 years-old). Technical error of the measurement (TEM) was 1.07% and 0.74% for ADP and BIA
- respectively, with correlation coefficients of 0.989 and 0.993 for ADP and BIA respectively. However,
- there is a paucity of research that has assessed the reliability of ADP and BIA methods in one cohort,
- 116 with no studies investigating this in a cohort of children < 12 years.
- 117
- 118 A recent systematic review suggests that ADP has similar validity to DXA and isotopic dilution
- 119 methods to assess %FM in children with obesity.<sup>30</sup> ADP has been considered as a 'standard' method
- 120 of body composition assessment<sup>23</sup> to which BIA methods can be compared for validity and
- 121 reliability.<sup>20,21</sup> Measures of body fat by ADP offers greater agreement with reference measures, but
- 122 BIA offers faster, more convenient and inexpensive field-based measures of body fat. Therefore, the
- aim of this study was to measure concurrent validity and reliability of %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> in 6-to-12-
- 124 year-old children with and without obesity. We hypothesise that %FM<sub>BIA</sub> will be underestimated
- 125 compared to %FM<sub>ADP</sub>, and that in boys with obesity, %FM<sub>BIA</sub> will be underestimated to a greater
- extent compared to boys without obesity. Compared to studies that have not used age-specific
- 127 equations for body composition, we expect to find less difference between %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub>.
- 128 Finally, we hypothesise that both %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> methods will be reliable, in keeping with
- literature involving older children. The findings will help practitioners determine whether %FM<sub>ADP</sub>
   and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> can be used interchangeably and reliably in children.
- 131
- 132

# 133 Method

134

# 135 Participants

- 136 Seventy-one boys underwent assessment of body composition by BIA and ADP (age:  $10.1 \pm 1.70$ years, height: 1.43 ± 0.11 m, mass: 39.4 ± 11.2 kg). Ten boys took part in the intra-day reliability 137 analysis of BIA and ADP (age:  $10.0 \pm 2.63$  years, height  $1.39 \pm 0.17$  m, mass  $33.8 \pm 10.8$  kg). This 138 139 study was conducted according to the guidelines laid down in the Declaration of Helsinki and all 140 procedures involving human subjects/patients were approved by the host institution (Ref No. 141 ETH/13/11). Written and verbal informed consent were obtained from parents and children (verbal 142 consent was witnessed and formally recorded). Parents completed a health medical questionnaire prior to data collection; all participants were reportedly healthy at the time of the study. Obesity 143
- 144 was defined as an %FM >25%.<sup>23</sup>

146

### 147 Procedure

148 Participants were tested in pairs and a randomised, cross over design was used whereby pairs were randomly assigned to be tested by either ADP or BIA, after which they completed the other test 149 150 procedure immediately after the first. Each participant wore tight fitting swimming shorts with no 151 shoes or socks throughout both testing procedures. Participants were instructed not to eat, drink, or 152 exercise two hours before the measurement and to void their bladder 30 minutes before testing. 153 Estimates of %FM from ADP (%FM<sub>ADP</sub>) and BIA (%FM<sub>BIA</sub>) were measured within the same day by the lead author. For assessment of reliability, %FMADP, %FMBIA, body volume, and resistance 154 155 measurements were repeated within 10 minutes of the first test in order to avoid biological 156 variation in hydration and temperature.

157

158

ADP 159

160 Air displacement plethysmography (ADP) was measured using the Bodpod device following 161 manufacturer's protocols.<sup>14</sup> Each participant wore a swim cap to cover and compress head hair. The 162 Bodpod weighing scale was calibrated before each testing session with known 20kg weights; all calibrations were within ±0.01kg. The chamber was calibrated against a known volume cylinder 163 164 (50.024l) before each testing session. Five repeated measures of cylinder volume were made during

165 the calibration procedure. The average estimated volume was 50.047 ± 0.007l, within the accuracy 166 and variability range of repeated measures previously reported for volumetric measures by the Bodpod.<sup>14</sup> 167

168

169 The ADP procedure involved three successive measurements of raw body volume, the total 170 procedure time was less than one minute. If body volume differed by more than 0.015L between 171 the measures the procedure was repeated. The mean of the three raw body volumes (Vb) was 172 corrected for isothermal conditions of air in the lungs and around the skin surface. Raw Vb was 173 corrected for thoracic gas volumes (TGV) (and skin surface area [SSA]) using child specific equations

174 detailed in Table 1. Body density was calculated by dividing the corrected body volume by body mass and converted to %FM using gender- and age specific equations published by Lohman<sup>25</sup> (Table 1).

- 175
- 176

177

178 Table 1.

179

180

181 BIA

182 A multi-frequency BIA device (Quantum II, RJL systems, Inc. Clinton Township, Michigan, USA) was used to measure body impedance in the participants. The BIA device was calibrated before each 183 184 testing session using known resistance and reactance. The device recorded mean resistance figures 185 of  $384 \pm 0.34\Omega$  and reactance of  $44.9 \pm 1.22\Omega$  which were within the manufacturer's guidelines. 186

187 The participants were instructed to lay supine on a portable couch for five minutes prior to testing as 188 per the manufacturer's instructions to allow extracellular water to level out across the body.

- 189 Electrodes were placed on the ipsilateral bony prominences of the wrist and ankle (metacarpal and190 metatarsal lines) ensuring the electrodes were 5 cm apart.
- 191
- 192 Reactance (*X*) and resistance (R) were outputted for each participant for calculation of %FM based
- 193 on gender- and age-specific equations. The equation of Horlick et al<sup>33</sup> was chosen to estimate FFM
- 194 (Table 1) based on regression analysis of impedance measures from the same manufacturer (RJL)
- used in the current study and has shown to be valid in paediatric populations.<sup>19</sup> FFM was then
- 196 converted to %FM (Table 1).
- 197

- 198 Statistical analysis
- 200 Concurrent validity

201 With obesity and without obesity group differences for age, height, body mass, raw body volume 202 (m<sup>3</sup>), resistance ( $\Omega$ ), %FM<sub>ADP</sub>, and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> were assessed by independent t tests. Comparisons 203 between %FM<sub>ADP</sub>, and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> were made for the full sample, and within the with obesity and 204 without obesity groups. Differences between %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> were assessed by paired samples t 205 tests. Effect sizes (ES) were calculated based on Cohen's d and defined as <0.2 weak, 0.2 to 0.49 small, 0.5 to 0.79 medium, and >0.79 large.<sup>34</sup> Pearson correlation coefficients were performed to 206 207 measure the strength of association between %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub>, with 95% confidence intervals 208 (95%CI). Correlation coefficients <0.29 were defined as weak, between 0.3 and 0.49 moderate, and 209 >0.5 strong.<sup>34</sup> Agreement between %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> were analysed using Bland-Altman analysis.<sup>35</sup> 210 This involved the calculation of the mean difference between two methods together with LoA, based 211 on 95% confidence intervals (95%CI), calculated from the SD of the mean difference for each 212 participant (multiplied by 1.96). Proportional bias, error affected by the magnitude of measurement, 213 were determined by Pearson's correlation coefficient r>0.5.<sup>36</sup> Predicting %FM<sub>ADP</sub> is considered the 214 'standard' method for this study, to which %FMBIA was compared. To address clinical acceptability, a 215 minimal acceptable standard for estimating %FM of ± 3.5% (group-level difference) from the reference measure was employed.<sup>37</sup> The sample size of 71 was calculated based on the minimal 216 acceptable standard,<sup>37</sup> standard error of measurement for BIA,<sup>12</sup> with 80% power and two-sided 217 218 significance of 0.05. 219 220 Reliability 221 For comparison with previous literature on the reliability of %FM measures, three reliability statistics 222 were calculated; technical error of the measurement (TEM and TEM%), coefficient of reliability  $(r_{xx})$ , 223 and ICC as detailed in Table 2. 224 225 Table 2.

- 226
- 227
- 228
- 229 Results
- 230
- Table 3 presents data for all participants, and for the with obesity and without obesity groups. No
- significant differences were found between groups for age ( $t_{(69)} = 1.85$ , p = 0.069), height ( $t_{(69)} = 1.09$ ,

```
p = 0.212), and resistance (t<sub>(69)</sub> = 0.32, p = 0.748). The with obesity group were significantly heavier
233
        (t_{(69)} = 2.36, p = 0.021), had a higher BMI (t_{(69)} = 4.97, p < 0.001), greater raw body volume (t_{(69)} = 0.75, p < 0.001)
234
235
        p = 0.004), and a higher %FM<sub>ADP</sub> (t<sub>(69)</sub> = 14.15, p < 0.001), and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> (t<sub>(69)</sub> = 8.80, p < 0.001).
236
237
238
        Table 3.
239
240
241
        Concurrent validity
242
        Table 4 presents the mean difference and LoA of %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> for all participants, the with
243
244
        obesity group, and the without obesity group. Compared to %FM<sub>BIA</sub>, %FM<sub>ADP</sub> was significantly higher
245
        in all participants (t_{(70)} = 5.11, p < 0.001, ES = 0.42) and in the without obesity group (t_{(45)} = 2.98, p =
246
        0.005, ES 0.52; Table 3); although mean differences observed were clinically acceptable (< 3.5%), LoA
247
        were 22.3% and 21.8% in all participants and those without obesity, respectively . In the with
248
        obesity group, %FM<sub>ADP</sub> was significantly higher compared to %FM<sub>BIA</sub> (t_{(24)} = 4.76, p < 0.001, ES = 0.90;
249
        Table 3), with the mean difference (-5.20 \pm 5.46%) exceeding the clinically acceptable threshold of
250
        3.5%, and LoA of 21.8%. A strong, significant positive correlation was found between %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and
251
        %FM<sub>BIA</sub> when examining all participants (r = 0.80, p < 0.001, 95%CI 0.64 to 0.95). and participants
252
        with obesity (r = 0.60, p = 0.001, 95%Cl 0.11 to 1). In the without obesity group, a moderate,
253
        significant positive correlation was found (r = 0.44, p = 0.003, 95%CI 0.26 to 1). Figure 1 presents
254
        Bland-Altman plots of %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> for all participants, those with obesity, and those without
        obesity. No proportional bias was detected (r = 0.001) meaning agreement between measures was
255
256
        not affected by the magnitude of %FM.
257
258
        Table 4.
259
260
261
        Figure 1.
262
263
264
        Reliability
265
266
        Reliability analysis revealed that ADP resulted in lower error of %FM measures compared to BIA,
267
        with TEMs of 0.55% and 0.65%, respectively. Coefficient of reliability and ICCs were also higher in
268
        %FM<sub>ADP</sub> measures (0.92 and 0.95, for r<sub>xx</sub> and ICC respectively) compared to %FM<sub>BIA</sub> measures (0.89
269
        and 0.93; Table 5).
270
271
        Table 5.
272
273
274
275
```

- 276 Discussion
- 277

278 The aim of this study was to compare validity of %FM<sub>BIA</sub> to the 'standard' %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and assess intra-

279 day reliability of both methods in the same cohort. Compared to ADP, BIA underestimated %FM in 280

the study population, but there was no bias in differences between methods relating to obesity

281 status (i.e. magnitude of %FM). Despite the significant correlation, there was a significant difference

- and large limits of agreement between measures of %FM<sub>BIA</sub> and %FM<sub>ADP</sub>. The reliability findings 282 283 reported in this study reveal that %FM<sub>ADP</sub> is a more reliable measure compared %FM<sub>BIA</sub>, but both
- 284 methods were highly reliable in the cohort.
- 285
- 286 **Concurrent Validity**
- 287

288 Underestimation of %FM<sub>BIA</sub> compared %FM<sub>ADP</sub> in the current study is in general agreement with previous studies.<sup>20,21,23,40</sup> Previous studies have shown %FM<sub>BIA</sub> to be underestimated by 0.5 – 5.6% in 289 290 children and adolescents compared to %FMADP; although some %FMBIA prediction equations have 291 resulted in an overestimation.<sup>21</sup> The mean underestimation of 3.4% found in the present study is within the range previously reported. The differences between %FM<sub>BIA</sub> and %FM<sub>ADP</sub> within the with-292 and without obesity groups also agree with Azcona et al<sup>23</sup> who reported mean underestimation of 293 294 %FM<sub>BIA</sub> compared to %FM<sub>ADP</sub> among the full sample (3.39%), without obese (2.49%) and with obesity 295 groups (5.01%). Despite different BIA devices and %FM equations used between the current study

- 296 and Azcona et al,<sup>23</sup> the mean differences between %FM<sub>BIA</sub> and %FM<sub>ADP</sub> are similar.
- 297

Compared to the clinically acceptable differences reported by Heyward and Wagner,<sup>37</sup> %FM 298

299 differences in the without obesity group were within the  $\pm$  3.5% clinically acceptable threshold, but 300 in the with obesity group differences would be deemed clinically unacceptable (> 3.5%). Despite no 301 significant bias in differences between devices detected across levels of body fat, it does appear that 302 BIA underestimates %FM to a greater extent. Furthermore, the LoA found in the current study are in

general agreement with values of 15.3-20.6% reported in previous studies.<sup>20,21,23</sup> Whilst no 303

consensus has been reached on what level of LoA is clinically acceptable (a range of 2 to 20% has 304

been reported in the literature),<sup>30,41,42</sup> the large LoA in the current study indicates that BIA and ADP 305 cannot be used interchangeably to measure an individual's %FM. Assessment of body composition

306

307 must be accurate on an individual basis to correctly identify overweight and obesity.<sup>43</sup>

- 308
- 309
- 310 Reliability

311

312 The findings from the current study suggest that repeated measurements of %FM from ADP and BIA 313 are highly reliable in young children. These findings are comparable to other studies examining the 314 intra-day reliability of %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> in older children. Vicente-Rodriguez et al<sup>29</sup> measured 315 intra-day reliability in 84 adolescents (13-17 years old), finding %FM<sub>ADP</sub> TEM of 1.07% FM and  $r_{xx}$  = 0.99, and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> TEM of 0.74% and r<sub>xx</sub> = 0.99. Resistance and body volume reliability in the current 316 study also compare well with values of Vicente-Rodriguez et al<sup>29</sup>; resistance TEM of  $10.2\Omega$  and  $r_{xx}$  = 317 318 0.99, and body volume TEM of  $0.58m^3$  and  $r_{xx} = 0.99$ . Comparable reliability in the current younger

- 319 cohort to adolescents reveals that children were able to adhere to the BIA and ADP procedures and
- 320 follow instructions.

322 The intra-day reliability of body fat mass measures from ADP and BIA are dependent on 323 environmental conditions, instructor competence, and participant adherence to the procedures. Environmental variation includes pressure changes within the laboratory (from opening doors or 324 325 drafts) during the procedure that can affect ADP reliability and, temperature changes in the ten minutes between repeated measures that can affect BIA reliability. Correct electrode placement on 326 327 the ipsilateral bony prominences of the wrist and ankle (the metacarpal and metatarsal lines)<sup>44</sup> can be subjective. Electrode placement variability can alter impedance readings by 4%,<sup>45</sup> and would 328 329 have reduced reliability in this study. Variability due to procedural adherence includes movement of the participant in the Bodpod chamber or irregular breathing. These can cause pressure changes 330 within the Bodpod influencing raw body volumes.<sup>46</sup> For this reason, ADP measures from Bodpod 331 were taken in triplicate and, if the raw body volumes differed by >0.015L, the procedure was started 332 333 again. In order to maximise intra-day reliability of %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> measures environmental conditions, protocols and participant preparation should be strictly monitored throughout testing 334 335 procedures.

336

337 Limitations of the current study comprise the use of predicted lung volumes in ADP measurements which may impact the accuracy of %FM<sub>ADP</sub>. However, young children struggle with the protocol for 338 339 lung volume measurement and error in the correction of raw body volume for air in the lungs is relatively small.<sup>47</sup> Other age- and gender-specific %FM equations are available for ADP that account 340 341 for changes in hydration status with age and gender.<sup>11</sup> However, the Lohman<sup>25</sup> equation has been validated against 4C<sup>48</sup> and, in boys, compares well with more recent equations for %FM<sub>ADP</sub>.<sup>11</sup> The 342 relatively short duration of food and drink abstention may have affected BIA measurements. 343 However, longer abstention may be unethical and impractical.<sup>49</sup> We could not collect pubertal status 344 345 from our sample and it is acknowledged that pubertal status may have improved the accuracy of 346 both %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub>. Particularly for %FM<sub>BIA</sub> measurements, puberty/maturation status has an 347 impact on total body water (TBW), but the current study used standardised procedures and ageappropriate equations to limit extraneous variation. Indeed, as reported by Horlick et al<sup>33</sup> when 348 349 developing the BIA equation used in the current study, including Tanner stage to the regression 350 model for TBW had little effect on the predictive power above measures of age, height, mass and 351 gender.

352

353

# 354 Conclusion

355 The results of the intra-day reliability tests revealed that both %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> are highly reliable 356 in boys age 6-to-12-years-old. %FM<sub>BIA</sub> was significantly correlated with %FM<sub>ADP</sub> in children with and 357 without obesity. However, %FM<sub>BIA</sub> was significantly underestimated in both groups, but only in the 358 with obesity group was it beyond the minimal acceptable standard of ±3.5% (Heyward & Wagner, 359 2004). Therefore, BIA may be suitable for determining %FM in boys without obesity age 6-to-12 360 years-old. Similar to the findings of previous studies that have used different devices (e.g. foot-to-361 foot BIA), %FM equations (proprietary or adult), sample age (e.g. adolescents), and do not consider 362 obesity status, the large limits of agreement between %FM<sub>ADP</sub> and %FM<sub>BIA</sub> in the current study 363 indicate that the devices cannot be used interchangeably in boys age 6-to-12-years-old.

365	Conflicts of Interest statement
366	The authors declare no conflict of interest in relation to this study.
367	
368	Author Contributions
369 370 371	All authors contributed to conceptualisation, study design, data analysis, data interpretation, presentation of tables and figures, writing of the manuscript and manuscript revisions. Ryan Mahaffey collected data.
372	
373	Acknowledgments
374	We thank the children who participated in the study and the technical teams for their support.
375	
376	Finical Support
377	The research was funded by the Dr William M. Scholl Podiatric Research and Development Fund.
378	
379	
380	
381	
382	
383	
384	
385	
386	
387	
388	
389	
390	
391	
392	
393	
394	

### 396 References

- 397 1. Sommer A & Twig G. The Impact of Childhood and Adolescent Obesity on Cardiovascular Risk in 398 Adulthood: a Systematic Review. Curr Diab Rep. 2018; 18 (91): 1062-9 399 2. Lindberg L, Danielsson P, Persson M, Marcus C, Hagman E. Association of childhood obesity with 400 risk of early all-cause and cause-specific mortality: A Swedish prospective cohort study. Plos Med. 401 2020; 17(3): e1003078 402 3. Kumar S & Kelly AS. Review of Childhood Obesity: From Epidemiology, Etiology, and 403 Comorbidities to Clinical Assessment and Treatment. Mayo Clin Proc. 2017; 92(2): 251-265 404 4. Lobstein T & Jackson-Leach R. Planning for the worst: estimates of obesity and comorbidities in school-age children in 2025. Pediatr Obes. 2016; 11(5): 321-5 405 406 5. Ward ZJ, Long MW, Resch SC, Giles CM, Cradock AL, Gortmaker SL. Simulation of Growth 407 Trajectories of Childhood Obesity into Adulthood. N Engl J Med. 2017; 377: 2145-53 408 6. World Health Organization (2021, June 9). Obesity and Overweight. https://www.who.int/news-409 room/fact-sheets/detail/obesity-and-overweight 410 7. Cole TJ, Freeman JV, Preece MA. British 1990 growth reference centiles for weight, height, body 411 mass index and head circumference fitted by maximum penalized likelihood. Stat Med. 1998; 412 17(4): 407-429. 413 8. Maynard LM, Wisemandle W, Roche AF, Chumlea WC, Guo SS, Siervogel RM. Childhood body 414 composition in relation to body mass index. *Pediatrics*. 2001; 107(2): 344-350. 415 9. Wells JC, Fuller NJ, Dewit O, Fewtrell MS, Elian M, Cole TJ. Four-component model of body 416 composition in children: Density and hydration of fat-free mass and comparison with simpler 417 models. Am J Clin Nutr. 1999; 69: 904-912. 418 10.Kyle UG, Earthman CP, Pichard C, Cross-Bu JA. Body composition during growth in children: 419 limitations and perspectives of bioelectrical impedance analysis. Eur J Clin Nutr. 2016; 69: 1298-420 1305
- 421 11.Wells JCK, Williams JE, Chomtho S, et al. Pediatric reference data for lean tissue properties:
  422 density and hydration from age 5 to 20 y. *Am J Clin Nutr*. 2010; 91: 610-618
- 423 12.Talma H, Chinapaw MJM, Bakker B, HiraSing RA, Terwee CB, Altenburg TM. Bioelectrical
- 424 impedance analysis to estimate body composition in children and adolescents: a systematic
- review and evidence appraisal of validity, responsiveness, reliability and measurement error. *Obes Rev.* 2013; 14(11): 895-905
- 427 13.Lobstein T, Baur L, Uauy R, IASO International Obesity TaskForce. Obesity in children and young
  428 people: A crisis in public health. *Obes Rev.* 2004; 5 Suppl 1: 4-104.
- 429 14.Dempster P & Aitkens S. A new air displacement method for the determination of human body
  430 composition. *Med Sci Sports Exerc,* 1995; 27(12): 1692-1697.
- 431 15.Wells JC, Fuller NJ, Wright A, Fewtrell MS, Cole TJ. Evaluation of air-displacement
- 432 plethysmography in children aged 5-7 years using a three-component model of body
  433 composition. *Br J Nutr.* 2003; 90(3): 699-707.
- 434 16.Gately PJ, Radley D, Cooke CB, et al. (2003) Comparison of body composition methods in
  435 overweight and obese children. *J Appl Physiol.* 2003; 95(5): 2039-2046.
- 436 17.Lazzer S, Bedogni G, Agosti F, De Col A, Mornati D, Sartorio A. Comparison of dual-energy x-ray
- 437 absorptiometry, air displacement plethysmography and bioelectrical impedance analysis for the

438 assessment of body composition in severely obese caucasian children and adolescents. Br J Nutr. 439 2008; 100(4): 918-924. 440 18.Lohman TG & Goring SB. Body composition assessment for development of an international 441 growth standard for preadolescent and adolescent children. Food Nutr Bull. 2006;27(4): S314-442 S325 443 19. Chula de Castro JA, Rodrigues de Lima T, Santos Silva DA. Body composition estimation in children 444 and adolescents by bioelectrical impedance analysis: A systematic review. J Bodyw Mov Ther. 445 2018; 22: 134-146. 446 20. Foucart L, De Decker A, Sioen I, De Henauw S, Michels N. Hand-to-foot bioelectrical impedance 447 analysis to measure fat mass in healthy children: A comparison with air-displacement 448 plethysmography. Nutr Diet. 2017; 74: 516-520 449 21. Michels N, Huybrechts I, Bammann K, et al. Caucasian children's fat mass: routine anthropometry 450 v. air-displacement plethysmography. Br J Nutr. 2013; 109: 1528-1537. 451 22.Gutierrez-Marin D, Escribano J, Closa-Monasterolo R, et al. A novel approach to assess body 452 composition in children with obesity from density of the fat-free mass. Clin Nutr. 2021; 40: 1102-453 1107 454 23. Azcona C, Köek N, Frühbeck G. Fat mass by air-displacement plethysmography and impedance in 455 obese/non-obese children and adolescents. Int J Pediatr Obes. 2006; 1(3): 176-182. 456 24.Siri WE. Body composition from fluid spaces and density: Analysis of methods', in Brozek, J. and 457 Henschel, A. eds. Techniques for measuring body composition. Washington DC: National 458 Academy of Sciences, National Research Council; 1961: 223-224. 459 25.Lohman TG. (1989) Assessment of body composition in children. Pediatr Exerc Sci. 1989; 1: 19-30. 26.Joffe TH, Welle S, Roubenoff R, et al. A bioelectrical impedance analysis equation for predicting 460 461 total body water and fat-free mass in children with Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 in the pre-462 HAART and HAART eras. Int J Body Comp Res. 2005; 3(1): 1-10 463 27. Williams J, Wake M, Campbell M. Comparing estimates of body fat mass in children using 464 published bioelectrical impedance analysis equations. Int J Pediatr Obes. 2007; 2(3): 174-179. 465 28.Holmes JC, Gibson AL, Gualberto Cremades J, Mier CM. Body-Density Measurement in Children: 466 The BOD POD Versus Hydrodensitometry. Int J Sport Nutr Exerc Metab. 2011; 21: 240-247. 467 29. Vicente-Rodríguez G, Rey-López JP, Mesana MI, et al. Reliability and intermethod agreement for 468 body fat mass assessment among two field and two laboratory methods in adolescents. Obesity 469 (Silver Spring). 2012; 20(1): 221-228. 470 30.Orsso CE, Silva MIB, Gonzalez MC, et al. Assessment of body composition in pediatric overweight 471 and obesity: A systematic review of the reliability and validity of common techniques. Obes rev. 472 2020; 21: e13041 473 31. Fields DA, Hull HR, Cheline AJ, Yao M, Higgins PB. (2004) Child-specific thoracic gas volume 474 prediction equations for air-displacement plethysmography. Obes Res. 2004; 12(11): 1797-1804. 475 32. Haycock GB, Schwartz GJ, Wisotsky DH. (1978) Geometric method for measuring body surface 476 area: A height-weight formula validated in infants, children, and adults. J Pediatr. 1978; 93(1): 62-477 66. 33. Horlick M, Arpadi SM, Bethel J, et al. (2002) Bioelectrical impedance analysis models for 478 479 prediction of total body water and fat-free mass in healthy and HIV-infected children and 480 adolescents. Am J Clin Nutr. 2002; 76(5): 991-999. 481 34.Cohen J. Statistical Power Analysis for the Behavioural Sciences (2nd ed.): Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence 482 Earlbaum Associates; 1988

485	36. Mentiplay BF, Parraton LG, Bower KJ, et al. Assessment of lower limb muscle strength and power
486	using hand-held and fixed dynamometry: A reliability and validity study. <i>PLoS ONE</i> . 2015; 10(10).
487	37. Heyward V & Wagner D. Applied body composition assessment (2nd edn.). Champaign, IL: Human
488	Kinetic; 2004
489	38. Ulijaszek SJ & Kerr DA. Anthropometric measurement error and the assessment of nutritional
490	status. <i>Br J Nutr</i> . 1999; 82(3): 165-177.
491	39.Shrout PE & Fleiss JL. Intraclass correlations: Uses in assessing rater reliability. Psychol Bull. 1979;
492	86(2): 420-428.
493	40. Thajer A, Skacel G, Truschner K, et al. Comparison of Bioelectrical Impedance-Based Methods on
494	Body Composition in Young Patients with Obesity. MDPI Children. 2021; 8: 295-307
495	41.Brodie DA. Techniques of measurement of body composition: Part 1. Sports Med. 1988; 5: 11-40
496	42.Martinez EE, Smallwood CD, Quinn NL, et al. Body Composition in Children with Chronic Illness:
497	Accuracy of Bedside Assessment Techniques. J Pediatr. 2017; 190: 56-62
498	43.Radley D, Cooke CB, Fuller NJ, et al. Validity of foot-to-foot bio-electrical impedance analysis
499	body composition estimates in overweight and obese children. Int J Body Compos Res. 2009; 7(1):
500	15-20
501	44.Akern. BIA manual. Sri, Florence. <a href="https://www.akern.com/en/">https://www.akern.com/en/</a> . Published 2010. Accessed 12 <sup>th</sup>
502	November 2019.
503	45. Houtkooper LB, Lohman TG, Going SB, Howell WH. Why bioelectrical impedance analysis should
504	be used for estimating adiposity. Am J Clin Nutr. 1996; 64: 436S-48S
505	46. Fields DA, Goran MI, McCrory MA. Body-composition assessment via air-displacement
506	plethysmography in adults and children: A review. Am J Clin Nutr. 2002; 75(3): 453-467.
507	47.Wells JCK, Haroun D, Williams JE, et al. Evaluation of lean tissue density for use in air
508	displacement plethysmography in obese children and adolescents. Eur J Clin Nutr. 2011; 65:
509	1094-1101
510	48. Fields DA & Alison DB. Air-displacement plethysmography pediatric option in 2–6 years old using
511	the 4-compartment model as a criterion method. Obesity (Silver Spring). 2012; 20(8): 1732-1737
512	49.Brantov S, Ward LC, Jodal L, Rittig S, Lange A. Critical factors and their impact on bioelectrical
513	impedance analysis in children: a review. J Med Eng Technol. 2017; 41(1): 22-35
514	
<b>F</b> 4 <b>F</b>	
515	
516	
517	

35.Bland JM & Altman DG. Statistical methods for assessing agreement between two methods of

clinical measurement. Lancet. 1986; 1(8476): 307-310.

- **FQ4**

526 Table 1. Equations used in ADP and BIA procedures

sed in ADP procedure	
$TGV = 0.00056Ht^2 - 0.02442Ht + 8.15194$ Fields et al <sup>31</sup>	
$SSA = (0.024265Wt^{0.5378})(Ht^{0.3964})100$ Haycock et al <sup>3</sup>	2
$2\% FM = 100[\left(\frac{k_1}{D_b}\right) - k_2]$ Lohman <sup>25</sup>	
Used in BIA procedure	
$FFM = \frac{(3.474 + 0.459 \frac{Ht^2}{R} + 0.064Wt)}{(0.769 - 0.009A - 0.016S}$ Horlick et al <sup>33</sup>	
$\% FM \ \frac{Wt - FFM}{Wt} \ 100$	
GV, thoracic gas volume; <i>Ht</i> , height in cm (derived by height in m x 100); SSA, skin surfa FM, percent fat mass; $k_1$ and $k_2$ , gender and age specific constants; <i>Db, body density;</i> FF	
ge in years; S, gender specific constants.	

### Table 2. Equations used to assess reliability of data

Equation	Reference
$TEM = \sqrt{\frac{(\sum d^2)}{2n}}$	
$\% TEM = \left(\frac{TEM}{x}\right) 100$	
$r_{xx} = 1 - \left(\frac{TEM^2}{SD^2}\right)$	Ulijaszek & Kerr <sup>38</sup>
$ICC(3,k) = \frac{BMS - EMS}{BMS}$	Shrout & Fleiss <sup>39</sup>

TEM, technical error of measurement; d, difference between measurements; n, number of individuals measured; x, mean percentage fat mass (%FM); rxx, reliability coefficient; SD, standard deviation; ICC, intraclass correlation coefficient; k, number of measurements; BMS, between subject variance; EMS, error (residual) mean square variance.

# 569 Table 3. Age and anthropometric variables according to weight status

570	-						
	All participa	<b>nts</b> (n = 71)	Without obe	<b>sity</b> (n = 46)	With obesity (n = 25)		
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Age (years)	10.1	1.70	10.3	1.94	9.56	0.96	
Mass (kg)	39.4	11.2	37.1	11.0	43.5	10.6*	
Height (m)	1.43	0.11	1.42	0.12	1.43	0.07	
Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	18.7	3.70	17.3	2.76	21.2	3.83*	
Raw body volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	36.6	10.9	34.0	10.2	41.5	10.7*	
Resistance (Ω)	674	96.2	677	101	669	89.5	
%FM <sub>ADP</sub>	21.6	9.00 <sup>+</sup>	16.1	4.03 <sup>+</sup>	32.2	5.49*†	
%FM <sub>BIA</sub>	18.2	8.87	13.7	6.14	27.0	6.59*	

571 %FM<sub>BIA</sub>, percentage body fat measured by bioelectrical impedance analysis; %FM<sub>ADP</sub>, percentage body fat measured by air

572 displacement plethysmography

573 \* denotes significant difference between non-obese and obese groups at 0.05 level

574 <sup>+</sup> denotes significant difference within group between ADP and BIA methods at 0.05 level

- --

### Table 4. Differences in %FM measured by ADP and BIA (%FM $_{\text{BIA}}$ - %FM $_{\text{ADP}})$

	All participants (n = 71)	Without obesity (n = 46)	With Obesity (n = 25		
	%FM	%FM	%FM		
Mean ± SD	-3.38 ± 5.60	-2.40 ± 5.45	-5.20 ± 5.46		
95% CI	-4.30, -2.46	-3.51, -1.28	-6.71, -3.68		
LoA	-14.5, 7.78	-13.3, 8.50	-16.1, 5.73		
%FM, percentage f	fat mass. 95% CI; 95% confidence int	erval; LoA, Limits of Agreement			

	Session 1		Session 2		TEM	TEM%	r <sub>xx</sub>	ICC (95%CI)
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD				
%FM <sub>BIA</sub>	11.4	7.92	12.5	7.86	0.65	-	0.89	0.93 (0.78-0.98
%FM <sub>ADP</sub>	13.3	9.16	14.1	8.17	0.55	-	0.92	0.95 (0.85-0.98
Resistance (Ω)	670	83.3	685	71.3	5.72	1.63	0.90	0.95 (0.85-0.98
Raw body volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	30.7	10.3	30.8	10.2	0.11	0.34	0.92	0.99 (0.98-1.00

Table 5. Mean, SD and within-day test re-test for intra-day reliability of %FM measures (n=10)

620 %FM<sub>BIA</sub>, percentage body fat measured by bioelectrical impedance analysis; %FM<sub>ADP</sub>, percentage body fat measured by air

621 displacement plethysmography. TEM% is not presented for %FM since the units are already a percentage

## 644 Figure Titles

- 646 Figure 1. Bland-Altman plot of percentage fat mass (%FM) from ADP and BIA. Black circles
- 647 represent the without obese group, and open circles represent the with obesity group. Dashed line is
- 648 mean difference (bias), solid lines are limits of agreement (± 1.96 SD). Dotted line is the line of best
- 649 fit (proportional bias).