Cost-effectiveness of whole-of-community obesity prevention programs: An overview of the evidence

Whole-of-community obesity prevention programmes are a promising effective strategy to tackle the growing prevalence of obesity, particularly in high-income countries. Particularly, multi-component interventions focusing on diet and physical activity behaviours appear to be more successful than single-component interventions. The aim of this paper was to review the economic evaluation literature of multifaceted, community-based obesity prevention programmes.

The search identified a total of 11 programmes that had been economically evaluated. Increasingly, focus is brought to childhood obesity prevention, and therefore the school community was the most common delivery setting. All the included programmes aimed to gain an increased understanding in the healthcare-related costs.