Title: Contribution of parents and children in selection and use of school bags among primary school children in Tabriz

Abstract: Introduction: Consideration of the needs of school-aged children is an important factor that influences children's health and performance. One important consideration in this respect includes selection and use of school bags among school children and attitudes of parents and children toward this issue. This information can be used to promote child and parent awareness about selection of appropriate school bags. Unfortunately, there are limited studies in our country in this respect.

Materials & Methods: Therefore, the present cross-sectional, descriptive study was conducted in Tabriz city to address this issue in more detail. Data were collected from a sample of 250 parents that were randomly selected from different educational regions of Tabriz city as participants in the study. The participants were asked to complete self-reported questionnaires and the data were analyzed using SPSS software.

Results: The results of this study showed that only 10% of school bags are selected by contribution of both parents and children. Most school bags were selected by children (54%), followed by mothers (21%) and fathers (12%), respectively. Most of the students (89%) carried their school bags to/from school, whereas 11% of parents carried the school bags for their children. About half of the students (49%) walked to/from school and 51% carried their school bags for more than 15 minutes a day.

Discussion & Conclusions: The findings of the present study suggest that parent’s awareness about contribution for school bag selection and the use of school bags should be promoted to prevent future prevalence of musculoskeletal problems among school children. It is recommended that these measures are better to be considered in school's health promotion programs.

Presentation: Poster