

**Additional educational resources**

- Cochrane Collaboration. Cochrane health promotion and public health field. [www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/Cochrane](http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/Cochrane)  
Website gives updates on current work by the collaboration, opportunities for involvement, and guidelines on systematic reviews to answer many types of public health questions, not only those answerable by randomised controlled trials
- CPAN—Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition Research. [www.deakin.edu.au/hbs/cpan/index.php](http://www.deakin.edu.au/hbs/cpan/index.php)  
Website provides a link to CPAN's interdisciplinary, public health approach to better nutrition and exercise. Its five programmes include one for obesity prevention
- IASO—International Association for the Study of Obesity. [www.iaso.org/](http://www.iaso.org/)  
This organisation of obesity researchers and professionals publishes the journals *International Journal of Obesity and Obesity Reviews* and sponsors several scientific meetings that include basic science and clinical and public health research about adult and childhood obesity
- Centre for Health Evidence. [www.cche.net/cche/home.asp](http://www.cche.net/cche/home.asp)  
This non-profit organisation, part of the University of Alberta, is involved in projects to make clinical care more evidence based and research evidence more relevant to real life and routine practice. Its main function is to meet the health information needs of decision makers at all levels

**Information resources for patients**

- American Obesity Association. [www.obesity.org/](http://www.obesity.org/)  
This advocacy and education organisation focuses on changing public policy and perceptions of obesity. The website also contains patients' stories of being obese

experts agree that the obesity epidemic is environmental, but the research has largely ignored this factor.<sup>24</sup> It is time to be realistic with individuals about the limited effectiveness of lifestyle interventions and obesity drugs, and to focus on public health interventions rather than individual treatments to halt the obesity epidemic.

This article is based on the monograph "What works for obesity? A summary of the evidence behind obesity interventions," which was published in association with *Clinical Evidence* by the BMJ Publishing Group and commissioned, funded, and distributed by the United Health Foundation. I thank Matt M Davis and Boyd Swinburn for reviewing earlier versions of this manuscript and offering helpful comments.

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Competing interests: None declared.

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- (Accepted 21 September 2005)

**Corrections and clarifications***More drug trials end early hiding potential problems*

In this news story by Day (*BMJ* 2005;331:1103, 12 Nov) the wrong page numbers were given for the review by Montori et al that the story referred to. The correct reference is *JAMA* 2005;294:2203-9 [not 2228-30].

*Croatia's brain drain*

This letter by Polasek and Kolcic (*BMJ* 2005;331:1204, 19 Nov) contains a couple of errors. Firstly, the second author's name is given the wrong way round—it should be Ivana Kolcic, rather than the more unusual Kolcic Ivana. Secondly, the authors provided the wrong results from their analysis of final year medical students from Zagreb's medical school. The last sentence of the second paragraph should read: "The logistic regression results indicate that better ranked students (odds ratio 2.60, 95% confidence interval 1.16 to 5.82), younger medical students (odds ratio 0.83, 0.73 to 0.95), and those interested in scientific work (odds ratio 3.10, 1.10 to 8.84) considered emigrating from Croatia."

*Lords back bill to legalise assisted suicide*

Professor Baroness Finlay of Llandaff has written to correct this news story by Dyer (*BMJ* 2005;331:1160, 19 Nov). She points out that the title of the headline to the story is misleading in that "a first reading of a bill is never opposed—it is a formality when the title of a bill is laid before parliament; the bill is not debated then." She also considers that the story "does not accurately reflect the contents of the bill. It is not simply the previous [Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Bill] with voluntary euthanasia removed."