

## Promote physical activity and reduce ageism across generations: effects of an intergenerational program





Alexandre Mouton, Corentin Heldenbergh, Allison Flamion, Stéphane Adam & Marc Cloes



## Being active...a forgotten need



Eaton & Eaton (2003)

## A major decline in physical activity across generations...



Morris (2013) Designedtomove.org

## ...that leads to a dangerous intergenerational cycle



## Small effort, great gains





### Small effort, great gains



Kahn (2012)

## Recommendations for older adults



Start active, Stay active guidelines, <u>www.bit.ly/startactive</u> (2011)

## Recommendations for kids



Start active, Stay active guidelines, <u>www.bit.ly/startactive</u> (2011)

## Why don't we move together ?



- ✓ Innovative interventions are required to help older adults increase and maintain healthy levels of PA (Flora & Faulkner, 2007)
- Emerging approaches targeting specific intergenerational dyads, such as grandparent-grandchild pairs, are recommended (*Marcus et al., 2006*)

✓ First results of family-based interventions to increase PA are promising (Brown et al., 2016)



Why don't we move together ?

✓ Intergenerational interactions could also combat aging stereotypes across generations (Ory et al., 2003)

Ageism = stereotyping and discriminating individuals or groups on the basis of their age

✓ To date, research in the field is weak (Mouton, Henrioulle & Cloes, 2014)

#### AIM

Examine the effects of an intergenerational PA program on <u>PA behaviours and aging stereotypes</u> of grandparent-grandchild pairs



# Methods





✓ Grandparents should be autonomous and older than 50

✓ Grandchild should be in primary (elementary) school (5-12)



✓ Adapted from a previous intervention (Mouton, Renier & Cloes, 2015)

✓ One weekly session of PA (1h) right after school during 12 weeks



roduction Methods Results				
3 Assessment tools				
Before (T0) & after (T1) intervention				
		病		
Sociodemographics	х	X		
Representations about old/young people (5 words each)		X		
Network of Relations Inventory – NRI (21 likert scale items)	х	X		
Grandchild-granparent relationship quality (37 diverse items)		X		
Fraboni ageism scale (23 likert scale items)				
Older adults Physical Activity Questionnaire (QAPPA)				
Short-form Health Survey (SF-36)				
UCLA Loneliness scale (17 likert scale items)				
Senior Fitness Test (7 physical tests for balance, strength, flexibility and endurance)	Х			
Child well-being (7 likert scale items with smiley icons)		X		

After each session: satisfaction questionnaire (10 likert scale items with smiley icons)

\*References for the tests are mentioned in the bibliography

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Methods

3

Results

Conclusions

Assessment tools





## Results



**1** Grandparent-Grandchild Relations

 $\checkmark\,$  Direct relation or phone call on a regular basis





✓ Mostly play or take a walk when they meet, but rarely play sport



**1** Grandparent-Grandchild Relations

 $\checkmark\,$  Used to eat and speak together regularly, but also watching TV



**1** Grandparent-Grandchild Relations

 $\checkmark\,$  High levels of feelings, closeness and satisfaction with the relation



## **Pre-Post intervention analysis**



Sociodemographics

2

<u>Representations</u> about old/young people (5 words each)

Network of Relations Inventory – NRI (21 likert scale items)

Grandchild-granparent relationship quality (37 diverse items)

Fraboni ageism scale (23 likert scale items)

Older adults Physical Activity Questionnaire (QAPPA)

Short-form Health Survey (SF-36)

UCLA Loneliness scale (17 likert scale items)

Senior Fitness Test (7 physical tests for balance, strength, flexibility and endurance)

Child well-being (7 likert scale items with smiley icons)

No significant differences !



\*-5 to +5 scale



✓ High levels of satisfaction, low perceived difficulty level



# Conclusions



 Quality of the Grandparent-Grandchild relationship was already high at baseline

> The intervention supported those good relations, but didn't improve it significantly

Senior physical activity level high at baseline (mean = 2812 MET-min/semaine)

Volunteer bias : people already concerned about PA

 ✓ Participants were highly satisfied about the intervention, but perceived difficulty level was low



Increase difficulty level in order to observe significant physical improvements











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## Diplôme du senior actif

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onne continuation !

**Tilff, le 17/12/20** 

M. Cloes

Tests	Pré Bouger +	Post Bouger +	Gain de vie
Force des jambes	14 Répétitions	<b>14</b> Répétitions	
Force des bras	17 Répétitions	20 Répétitions	2 ans
Souplesse des jambes	+16 Cm	-4 Cm	5 ans
Souplesse des bras	-2 cm	-3 Cm	2 ans
Agilité	6"00	5"26	2 ans
Equilibre	5-15 secondes	>15 secondes	2 ans





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