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(90 and 94 respectively) were also included. Pregnancy was an exclusion criterion.

T e

Results

Participant characteristics at baseline

Baseline characteristics of the inpatient population are shown in Table 1. Eighty-seven participants (88%) were morbidly obese, 3 (3%) were overweight and the remaining group (10%) was obese. Among them were 12 children (6 girls, 6 boys) with Prader-Willi syndrome, 1 girl with Bardet-Biedl syndrome, 2 boys with a (1 homozygous, 1 heterozygous) *MC4R* gene defect, 1 boy with an XYY chromosome pattern and 1 girl with a small duplication of chromosome 2q31.3 with

unknown clinical relevance. Besides genetic causes, there were illnesses causing obesity: 1 boy was known with hypothalamic dysfunction after removal of a brain tumor, 1 boy was being treated for hypothyroidism. The remaining group had no specific obesity-related genetic or endocrine disorders. Seventy-two of the participants had a concomitant behavioural and/or psychiatric diagnosis (9 ADHD, 15 ASS, 23 other (such as PTSS, NLD, dysthymic disorder, anxiety disorder, depression and others). Behavioural problems were present in 50 children. 71 children were of Dutch descent, 13 were Turkish, 6 Moroccan and 11 were of Antillean or other descent. There was no correlation between IQ and level of obesity.

Characteristics	Total group (N=101)	Boys (N=44)	Girls (N=57)	Prader-Willi syndrome (N=12)	Bardet Biedl syndrome (N=1)	<i>MC4R</i> gene defect (N=2)
Age (years)	13.7 ± 3.2	13.8 ± 3.1	13.7 ± 3.4	10.8 ± 3.4	14	10.1; 14.9
BMI-SDS	3.9 ± 0.9	4.0 ± 1.0	3.8 ± 0.8	3.9 ± 1.1	2.9	8.4; 2.6
BMI (kg/m ²)	36.5 ± 8.5	35.5 ± 8.1	37.2 ± 8.8	34.2 ± 11.2	29.3	36.6; 23.7
Weight (kg)	97.3 ± 31.4	94.9 ± 34.4	99.2 ± 29.1	68.9 ± 27.3	66.2	48.8; 51.2
IQ	69.6 ± 13.4	68.9 ± 14.4	70.1 ± 12.7	50.6 ± 3.6	52	90; 94
Behavioural and/or psychiatric problem(s)	73	32	41	7	1	1

-231 to -183 P<0001) (range +0.3 to -55.7 kg) (Table 2). Initial BMI was 36.5 ± 8.5 kg/m² (range 19.7 kg/m² to 68.7 kg/m²)

2 Maiano C (2010) Prevalence and risk factors of overweight and obesity