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BMI Associations Between Mother and Offspring From Birth to Age 18: The Fels Longitudinal Study

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**Significant BMI Correlations Between Mothers and Offspring: The Fels Longitudinal Study**

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**Research Objective**
- Investigate the BMI associations between mothers and offspring from birth to age 18

**Introduction**
- Parental influence on offspring BMI has been shown to be present at various ages
- There is a stronger maternal than paternal BMI correlation during infancy and early childhood
- Parental obesity is a risk factor for offspring obesity

**Methodology**
- The Fels Study began in 1929, observing the growth, maturation, and body composition of its participants
- The current study sample included 6,263 mother/child pairings

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**Results**
- Mother/son BMI correlations became significant at boys age 5-6 years through age 18
- Mother/daughter correlations became significant at age 1.5 years through age 18

**Conclusion**
- Mother/daughter relationship was more strongly correlated than the mother/son, and became significant at an earlier age than boys