

# Mindfulness-based therapy may reduce stress in overweight and obese individuals

July 7 2017

---

In a randomized clinical trial of women who were overweight or obese, mindfulness-based stress reduction (MBSR) increased mindfulness and decreased stress compared with health education. In addition, fasting blood sugar levels decreased within the MBSR group, but not within the health education group.

In the study, 86 women were randomized to 8 weeks of MBSR or [health education](#), and they were followed for 16 weeks. While MBSR significantly reduced stress and had beneficial effects on [blood sugar levels](#), there were no significant changes in blood pressure, weight, or insulin resistance.

"Our study suggests that MBSR lowers perceived stress and blood sugar in women with overweight or obesity. This research has wider implications regarding the potential role of MBSR in the prevention and treatment of diabetes in patients with obesity," said Dr. Nazia Raja-Khan, lead author of the *Obesity* study.

**More information:** *Obesity*, [DOI: 10.1002/oby.21910](https://doi.org/10.1002/oby.21910)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Mindfulness-based therapy may reduce stress in overweight and obese individuals (2017, July 7) retrieved 1 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-07-mindfulness->

[based-therapy-stress-overweight-obese.html](#)

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.