# Study on the Current Situation of College Students' Sleep Quality in China 

Anqiong $\mathrm{Ji}^{1}$ and Rufang Wang ${ }^{1,2^{*}}$

${ }^{1}$ Department of Management, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chengdu, P.R. China
${ }^{2}$ Department of Psychiatry \& Health Behavior, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University, Augusta, GA, USA
*Corresponding author: Wang R, Department of Management, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chengdu, P. R. China, Tel: +86 2861800000 ; Email: RUFWANG@augusta.edu
Received Date: April 2, 2018; Accepted Date: April 17, 2018; Published Date: April 23, 2018
Copyright: © 2018 Ji A, et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.


#### Abstract

In order to understand the current status of sleep quality of students in Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and to propose countermeasures. A simple random sampling method was used to select 255 university students as the survey subjects, and Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI) scale was used as a tool to evaluate the quality of college students' sleep. The survey found that the average score of PSQI was about 7.6 points. There were 128 people above 7 points, which accounted for $50.2 \%$ of the total number of students. This indicated that the overall quality of sleep of the undergraduates was poorer; the quality of sleep for boys was better than that of girls, and the quality of sleep among rural college students was better than that of girls. Urban college students, seniors and undergraduates have worse sleep than sophomores and juniors. The sleep quality of students in Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine is generally poor, and it is necessary to implement measures that target different populations for different demographic differences to achieve proper treatment and improve sleep quality.


Keywords: College students; Sleep quality; Influencing factors

## Introduction

Sleep is necessary in people's life, work and study. Sleep quality affects health status [1]. At the same time, research from the World Health Organization (WHO) shows that about $27 \%$ of people worldwide suffer from sleep problems, and sleep problems need to be solved urgently. Sleep disorders are one of the most common health problems for late adolescents and young adults. Students report lack of sleep, difficulty sleeping or difficulty sleeping [2]. Studies have shown that sleep problems are common among college students [3-5] among them; about $20 \%$ of college students have sleep problems [6]. Despite this, many studies only examined total sleep rather than specific sleep components, highlighting the significance of further analysis of college students' sleep problems [7-11]. This article aims to investigate the current status of college students' sleep quality and their existing problems, so as to take appropriate measures to improve the quality of sleep for college students in order to promote their physical and mental health.

## Research Objects and Methods

## Research objects

A simple random sample was taken of students from Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. During the survey, 300 questionnaires were actually sent out. A total of 262 questionnaires were returned, and 255 valid questionnaires were sent. Freshman students accounted for $20.0 \%$ ( $51 / 255$ ), sophomores accounted for $44.7 \%$ (114/255), juniors accounted for $22.4 \%$ (57/255), and seniors accounted for $12.9 \%$ (33/255). Among them are 128 male students and 127 female students. Urban students accounted for $34.9 \%$ ( $89 / 255$ ), rural students accounted for $65.1 \%(166 / 255)$.

## Research methods

Questionnaire method, using the PSQI scale compiled by Liu et al. with the help of classmates from Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 255 university students were selected to conduct a questionnaire survey. The questionnaire used an anonymous method.

## Survey tool

Analysis using the PSQI Scale [12], the scale has a total of 7 dimensions, which are sleep quality, fall-sleep time, sleep time, sleep disorders, and sleep efficiency, the application of sleep medicine and impact on daytime function. Each dimension score is divided into four levels, which are 0-3 points, the scores of each component add up to the PSQI score, the total score is between $0-21$. The high or low PSQI score indicates the quality of sleep. The higher the total score, the worse the quality of sleep. In this study, PSQI score of 7 was used as the standard for the classification of sleep disorders so as to understand the quality of sleep in the subjects in the past 1 month. According to this method, the quality of sleep can be demonstrated objectively and scientifically [13].

## Confidence test

The reliability test of the questionnaire showed that the Cronbach alpha coefficient was 0.832 , which had a high level of credibility and could be used as a tool for investigating the quality of sleep quality of college students.

## Statistical Results

## Different sex and sleep quality

The average score of boys ( $7.50 \pm 1.97$ ) is less than the average score of women ( $7.61 \pm 2.37$ ), and the difference is statistically significant ( $\mathrm{P}=0.000<0.05$ ) (Table 1). Taking the score criterion PSQI $>7$ as the

Citation: Ji A, Wang R(2018) Study on the Current Situation of College Students' Sleep Quality in China. J Sleep Disord Ther 7: 287. doi: 10.4172/2167-0277.1000287

Page 2 of 3
critical value of sleep quality, there were 128 people with sleep disorders in college students, accounting for $50.2 \%$ of the total number of people. The average score of PSQI score was about 7.6 points.

Slightly more than the study. About one-third of subjects had sleep problems (Table 1) [14].

| Factors | Male (n=128) | Female (n=127) | T value | P-value |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Total score | $7.50 \pm 1.97$ | $7.61 \pm 2.37$ | -1.514 | 0.004 |
| Sleep time | $1.94 \pm 0.54$ | $2.22 \pm 0.57$ | -6.757 | $<0.001$ |
| Sleep efficiency | $2.21 \pm 0.47$ | $2.97 \pm 0.39$ | 4.709 | $<0.001$ |
| Sleep quality | $0.94 \pm 0.68$ | $0.88 \pm 0.70$ | -3.241 | -1.25 |
| Hypnotic | $0.09 \pm 0.39$ | $0.09 \pm 0.31$ | $1.00 \pm 0.79$ | 0.751 |
| Fall-sleep time | $1.13 \pm 0.85$ | $0.79 \pm 0.43$ | 5.143 | 0.08 |
| Sleep disorder | $0.85 \pm 0.42$ | $1.16 \pm 0.85$ | -2.727 | $<0.001$ |
| Day function | $1.13 \pm 0.79$ |  | 0.786 |  |

Table 1: The influence of gender on sleep quality $(\bar{x} \pm s)$.

## Different grades and sleep quality

The differences in PSQI scores of different grades were statistically significant $(\mathrm{P}=0.000<0.05)$, the mean from the largest to the youngest is senior, freshman, sophomore and junior (Table 2).

| Factors | Freshman ( $\mathrm{n}=51$ ) | Sophomore ( $\mathrm{n}=114$ ) | Junior ( $\mathrm{n}=57$ ) | Senior ( $\mathrm{n}=33$ ) | P-value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total score | $7.98 \pm 2.19$ | $7.37 \pm 1.91$ | $6.82 \pm 2.06$ | $8.78 \pm 2.63$ | <0.001 |
| Sleep time | $0.63 \pm 0.77$ | $0.57 \pm 0.76$ | $0.37 \pm 0.72$ | $0.52 \pm 0.91$ | 0.109 |
| Sleep efficiency | $1.23 \pm 0.25$ | $2.34 \pm 0.95$ | $2.93 \pm 0.53$ | $1.38 \pm 0.84$ | <0.001 |
| Sleep quality | $1.10 \pm 0.88$ | $0.84 \pm 0.54$ | $0.81 \pm 0.70$ | $1.06 \pm 0.75$ | 0.049 |
| Hypnotic | $0.04 \pm 0.20$ | $0.11 \pm 0.35$ | $0.05 \pm 0.30$ | $0.15 \pm 0.57$ | <0.001 |
| Fall-sleep time | $1.22 \pm 0.90$ | $1.02 \pm 0.75$ | $0.81 \pm 0.77$ | $1.42 \pm 0.90$ | <0.001 |
| Sleep disorder | $0.92 \pm 0.39$ | $0.73 \pm 0.44$ | $0.81 \pm 0.44$ | $0.97 \pm 0.30$ | <0.001 |
| Day function | $1.08 \pm 0.77$ | $1.08 \pm 0.75$ | $1.05 \pm 0.91$ | $1.67 \pm 0.78$ | <0.001 |

Table 2: Comparison of different grades of sleep quality ( $\overline{\mathrm{x}} \pm \mathrm{s}$ ).

## Different places of origin and quality of sleep

The detection rates of poor and relatively poor sleep quality in urban and rural areas were $55.06 \%$ and $47.59 \%$, respectively, the difference was statistically significant ( $\mathrm{P}<0.05$ ) as shown in Table 3.

| Source of origin | Number of people examined | Poor or relatively poor (\%) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Urban | 89 | 4955.06 |
| Rural | 166 | 7947.59 |
| Total | 255 | 12850.20 |

Table 3: Comparison of sleep quality in different habitats.

## Discussion

The study found that the reporting rate of sleep quality problems among college students reached $50.2 \%$, which was higher than that of and higher than that of poor quality of sleep, it is still not clear whether it is a downward trend. The reported rate of sleep quality problems among girls is higher than that of boys, and coincides. However, with some domestic surveys, the prevalence of sleep quality among boys is inconsistent with that of girls. Male and female students receive the same education at school and live in the same general environment. However, girls are more meticulous and sensitive, and their emotions fluctuate. As a result, anxiety and tension occur, which affects sleep quality. The unique physiological characteristics of women (menstrual period) can also affect Sleep quality. The difference in sleep quality at different grades was statistically significant, which is consistent with some domestic reports. The quality of the freshman's sleep is poor. Freshmen have just entered school and need to adapt to the new environment. The process of adapting to the new environment is accompanied by insomnia. This transition period is usually associated with an increase in stress levels, which in turn has a profound and lasting effect on sleep. The sleep quality of sophomores was gradually reduced from the second year to the fourth year, which is consistent with the related research. Seniors are facing the pressure of examinations or employment and are prone to sleep disorders. Studies show that there is a negative relationship between stress and emotion Schools, family, friends, etc. should pay attention to these problems and find practical solutions. This survey of college students in rural and urban areas found that the quality of sleep among urban students was worse than that in rural areas. This is contrary to the conclusion. Some domestic reports indicate that the difference between rural and urban areas is not statistically significant. However, this study did not find it. Urban students lived in a colorful world from childhood. They were tempted by the outside world, and their nightlife was abundant. This affected the quality of sleep. This is a manifestation of the simple quality of rural students. Early in the morning and early evening, there is less nightlife.

## Conclusion

To resolve the existing problems, schools should pay attention to strengthening dormitory management, creating a good sleeping atmosphere, and paying attention to noise management to alleviate anxiety and depression caused by various reasons. Girls are more sensitive and must pay more attention to the psychological activities of girls. Visits to students from rural areas allow students to adapt to college new life as soon as possible, and reduce the negative emotions brought about by various pressures [15-22].

## References

1. Zhu ZH, Zhang YL, Wang J (2016) An analysis of the status quo of sleep quality of military academy students. Chinese J Health Psychol 24: 1568-1570.
2. Yang CM, Wu CH, Hsieh MH, Liu MH, Lu FH (2003) Coping with sleep disturbances among young adults: A survey of first-year college students in Taiwan. Behav Med 29: 133-138.
3. Becker SP, Jarrett MA, Luebbe AM, Garner AA, Burns GL, et al. (2018) Sleep in a large, multi-university sample of college students: Sleep problem prevalence, sex differences, and mental health correlates. Sleep Health 4: 174-181.
4. Lund HG, Reider BD, Whiting AB, Prichard JR (2010) Sleep patterns and predictors of disturbed sleep in a large population of college students. J Adolesc Health 46: 124-132.
5. Orzech KM, Salafsky DB, Hamilton LA (2011) The state of sleep among college students at a large public university. J Am Coll Health 59: 612-619.
6. Xia CC, Geng LG, Sun GR (2015) Investigation on the correlation between Sleep Quality and Personality Traits of college students. Chinese Health Education 31: 20-23.
7. Brown FC, Buboltz WC Jr, Soper B (2002) Relationship of sleep hygiene awareness, sleep hygiene practices and sleep quality in university students. Behav Med 28: 33-38.
8. Gilbert SP, Weaver CC (2010) Sleep quality and academic performance in university students: A wake-up call for college psychologists. J Coll Stud Psychother 24: 295-306.
9. Lemma S, Gelaye B, Berhane Y, Worku A, Williams MA (2012) Sleep quality and its psychological correlates among university students in Ethiopia: A cross-sectional study. BMC Psychiatry 12: 237.
10. Adams SK, Kisler TS (2013) Sleep quality as a mediator between technology-related sleep quality, depression and anxiety. Cyberpsychol Behav Soc Netw 16: 25-30.
11. Cheng SH, Shih CC, Lee IH, Hou YW, Chen KC, et al. (2012) A study on the sleep quality of incoming university students. Psychiatry Res 197: 270-274.
12. Wang XD, Wang XL, Ma H (1999) Mental health assessment scale manual (updated version). Chinese Mental Health Magazine 375-378.
13. Xiao DM, Cai LB, Huang Y (2016) The relationship between college students' sleep quality and eating habits. Chinese School Health 37: 1424-1426.
14. Liu MW, Liu H, Rui B (2016) An Investigation on the Sleep Quality of University Students in Anhui Medical College. J Qiqihar Med College 37: 4566-4568.
15. Xu CY, Liu C, Hao LJ (2017) Study on Sleep Quality and Relationship among College Students. Prevent Med 29: 142-145.
16. Wu X, Liu C, Hao LJ (2008) Sleep quality and its influencing factors in medical students. Modern Prevent Med 35: 98-100.
17. Becker SP, Jarrett MA, Luebbe AM, Garner AA, Burns GL, et al. (2018) Sleep in a large, multi-university sample of college students: sleep problem prevalence, sex differences, and mental health correlates. Sleep Health 2: 174-181.
18. Âkerstedt T (2006) Psychosocial stress and impaired sleep. Scand J Work Environ Health 32: 493-501.
19. Nyer M, Farabaugh A, Fehling K, Soskin D, Holt G, et al. (2013) Relationship between sleep disturbance and depression, anxiety, and functioning in college students. Depress. Anxiety 30: 873-880.
20. Folkman S (2013) Stress: Appraisal and coping. Gellman, J.R. Turner (Eds.), Encyclopedia of Behavioral Medicine, Springer, New York.
21. Wei CQ, Lan QL, Liang HQ (2009) Sleep status and influencing factors of college students at a medical college. Chinese School Health 30: 941-942.
22. Qiao Y (2017) Sleep quality and its influencing factors among students in a medical school in Hebei. Mental Health 42: 106-110.
