Main Conclusions:
• Sole reduction of availability of sugar sweetened beverage in primary and secondary schools does not have any impact on the daily overall consumption of sugar sweetened beverages of concerned children and adolescents
• Realistic chance to change drinking behaviour of children and adolescents (also outside school) exists if you combine the reduction of availability of sugar sweetened beverages with supportive measures like appropriate pedagogical programs

Background
Studies and reviews show that the (over)consumption of sugar sweetened beverages leads to obesity and other diseases like type 2 diabetes among children and adolescents but also among adults. A common strategy to reduce the consumption of sugar sweetened beverages is reducing the availability of these beverages in schools. The research question of the desktop HIA asked whether this strategy would have an impact on the overall consumption of sugar sweetened beverages among pupils in primary and secondary schools in Upper Austria.

Impact analysis
All parts of the collected evidence (data and literature) were taken into consideration for assessing the potential health impacts of the strategy (reducing the availability of sugar sweetened beverages in primary and secondary schools in Upper Austria). The identified impacts were grouped into three categories:
• individual / lifestyle / behaviour
• socio-economic environment
• school setting

Recommendations
• Combine reduction of availability of sugar sweetened beverages with supportive measures like appropriate pedagogical programs
→ these programs should be appropriate to the various age groups and should have an interactive design
• Consultation and supervision of the school buffet operators to create a health promoting offer of beverages and food
• Cooperation with super markets and grocers in the school surrounding
• Include private surrounding (families, leisure clubs, ...) of children and adolescents

Method
Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a systematic process with defined steps.

In the course of this desktop HIA:
• data was analysed
• national and international literature was researched
• Evidence was discussed in workshops with experts and players of relevant fields like Upper Austrian school administration, nutritional science, grocery trade, public health, etc.
• This group assessed the potential positive and negative impacts of an availability reduction of sugar sweetened beverages in primary and secondary schools in Upper Austria and deduced recommendations for improving the strategy

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