

Title: Evening electronic device use and sleep patterns in athletes

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1 **Abstract:**

2 The present study aimed to investigate pre-sleep behaviours (including evening
3 electronic device use) and sleep quantity in well-trained athletes. Seventy well-trained
4 athletes (44 females, 26 males) aged 21 ± 4 y from a range of team and individual sports
5 were asked to complete an online sleep diary for 7 days. The sleep diary included
6 questions about pre-sleep behaviours (e.g. napping, caffeine intake), electronic device
7 use in the 2 h prior to bedtime (e.g. type of device and duration of use) and sleep (e.g.
8 time in bed, sleep onset latency). On average, athletes spent $8:20\pm 1:21$ h in bed each
9 night. Associations between age, time in bed and sleepiness suggested that younger
10 athletes spent more time in bed ($B=-0.05$, $p=0.001$) but felt sleepier ($r=-0.32$, $p<0.01$)
11 than older athletes. On average, athletes mostly used electronic devices for 0-30 min
12 prior to sleep. The use of multiple devices in the evening was associated with more
13 perceived difficulty in falling asleep ($B=0.22$, $p=0.03$), but no associations existed
14 with other sleep variables. In summary, younger athletes may require later start times
15 or improved sleep quality to resolve excessive sleepiness.

16

17 **Key words:**

18 Performance; physiology; recovery; sleep

19 **Introduction**

20 Sleep is recognised as an important form of recovery, and is especially pertinent to
21 athletes, as adequate recovery assists them to perform optimally, both physically and
22 psychologically (Halson, 2014). Previous research has demonstrated that providing
23 athletes with extended sleep opportunities enhances athletic outcomes such as sprint
24 times, reaction times, basketball free throw accuracy and mood (Mah, Mah, Kezirian,
25 & Dement, 2011). Furthermore, sleep loss has been related to performance decrements
26 (Jarraya, Jarraya, Chtourou, & Souissi, 2013), and alterations in numerous other
27 processes such as immunity, hunger and stress hormone levels (Halson, 2014).

28

29 To achieve adequate sleep, individuals are encouraged to maintain good sleep hygiene
30 practices. Some of these recommendations suggest that individuals maintain a
31 consistent sleep/wake routine each day, avoid caffeine in the 6 h prior to bedtime, and
32 ensure the bedroom is dark and at a comfortable temperature (Nédélec et al., 2015). It
33 is also recommended that electronic devices are avoided prior to bedtime and are kept
34 out of the bedroom overnight, as previous studies have reported impaired sleep
35 following device use (Hysing et al., 2015; King, Delfabbro, Zwaans, & Kaptsis, 2014).
36 Two hours of exposure to the blue, short-wavelength light emitted from electronic
37 device screens has been shown to suppress the nocturnal increase in melatonin (Wood,
38 Rea, Plitnick, & Figueiro, 2013), which may in turn prolong sleep onset latency (SOL)
39 and disrupt sleep continuity (Chang, Aeschbach, Duffy, & Czeisler, 2015; Green,
40 Cohen-Zion, Haim, & Dagan, 2017). Furthermore, SOL may also be prolonged by
41 increased arousal levels after engaging in stimulating activities on electronic devices
42 (e.g. completing school work, watching an exciting movie, engaging with others on
43 social media) (King et al., 2013). Alternatively, individuals may lose track of how long
44 they have been using an electronic device for, thereby having them stay awake for
45 longer than desired and reducing the opportunity for optimal sleep duration (King et
46 al., 2014).

47

48 Previous studies investigating sleep patterns in athletic populations indicate that
49 athletes may not obtain adequate sleep per evening (i.e. they obtain < 7 h per night)
50 (Hirshkowitz et al., 2015) and approximately 50% may experience poor sleep
51 (Knufinke, Nieuwenhuys, Geurts, Coenen, & Kompier, 2017; Lastella, Roach,
52 Halson, & Sargent, 2015; Swinbourne, Gill, Vaile, & Smart, 2016), both of which may

53 inhibit optimal recovery and, subsequently, influence athletic performance (Halson,
54 2014). Impaired sleep may eventuate from poor sleep hygiene practices, including
55 irregular sleep schedules and engaging in activating activities prior to bedtime (Arora,
56 Broglia, Thomas, & Taheri, 2014; Custers & Van den Bulck, 2012). These studies
57 were conducted with non-athletic individuals but as sleep quantity and quality are not
58 comparable between athletes and non-athletes (Leeder, Glaister, Pizzoferro, Dawson,
59 & Pedlar, 2012), it is unknown whether these results would translate to an athletic
60 population. Indeed, $70 \pm 29\%$ of athletes reportedly perform activities that involve
61 short-wavelength light (e.g. electronic device use) prior to bedtime (Knufinke et al.,
62 2017) but to date, there are limited studies investigating whether electronic device use
63 influences sleep quality and quantity in athletes (Dunican et al., 2017; Jones et al.,
64 2017). As such, the current study investigated the relationship between evening
65 electronic device use and sleep patterns of well-trained athletes from a variety of
66 sports, over a 7-day period.

67

68 **Methods**

69 *Participants*

70 The sample consisted of 70 Australian athletes (44 females, 26 males) aged 21 ± 4 y
71 (range: 16-33 y). Inclusion criteria required athletes to have represented their sport at
72 a state, national or international level. Athletes currently competing in a variety of
73 sports participated in this study (Table 1), with an even distribution of individual
74 (54%) and team sport athletes (46%) recruited. Athletes had been involved in their
75 sport for 10 ± 4 y, and the majority were in the competition phase of their training year
76 (pre-season 17%, competition 60%, off-season 23%). Ethical approval was obtained
77 from both the University of Western Australia (RA/4/1/7163) and Australian Institute
78 of Sport Human Ethics Committees (201502UWA) prior to data collection.

79

80 *Design*

81 Participants were required to complete an online questionnaire regarding their pre-
82 sleep habits, electronic device use and sleep quantity/quality (on a recall basis the
83 following day) from the previous evening for 7 consecutive nights. Participants were
84 sent a link to their online personal sleep diary, where informed consent was gained.
85 Upon initial login, athletes were asked to provide demographic data (age, gender,
86 sport, stage of the training year) and information regarding general health (e.g.

87 insomnia, anxiety, migraines). Participants completed the Epworth Sleepiness Scale
88 (ESS) as a measure of general sleepiness, where a score of >10 indicates excessive
89 sleepiness (Johns, 1991). Subsequently, participants answered questions each day
90 regarding daytime behaviours (i.e. caffeine consumption, physical activity, napping),
91 perceived sleep quality (e.g. how easily they fell asleep) and quantity (e.g. bedtime,
92 estimated SOL, wake time), and whether they used any electronic devices in the 2-h
93 before attempting to sleep were asked (Supplement 1). Additionally, time in bed (TIB)
94 was calculated as the duration from bedtime (i.e. the time the athlete went to bed) to
95 wake time. If any electronic devices were used, details regarding the type of device,
96 duration of use, how stimulating they found the task to be, and the time between using
97 the device and attempting to sleep were requested.

98

99 *Statistical analysis*

100 Variable-level descriptive statistics and the decomposition of variance over time (level
101 1) and between individuals (level 2) via intra-class correlation coefficient (ICC)
102 determination were first estimated. Multilevel modelling was used to examine the
103 associations between technology use and sleep-related variables over the 7-day period
104 to account for the non-independence in the data (i.e. time nested within individuals).
105 This primary analysis was performed in *Mplus* 8 (Muthén & Muthén, 1998-2015)
106 using a robust maximum likelihood estimator with full-information likelihood
107 estimation to handle missing data, which makes use of all raw data and therefore offers
108 more accurate and efficient estimates when compared with other approaches (e.g.
109 listwise deletion) (Enders & Bandalos, 2001). In *Mplus*, an ICC represents the degree
110 of between-person variation, such the proportions above .05 or 5% suggest that the
111 amount is greater than expected by chance and therefore the non-independence in the
112 data requires attention via multilevel analyses (Dyer, Hanges, & Hall, 2005). Two
113 categories of technology variables were created for the purposes of the primary
114 analyses: (i) *any device use* in the 2 h prior to going to bed (0 = no, 1 = 0-30 min, 2 =
115 30-60 min, 3 = 60-90 min, 4 = 90-120 min) and the *total number of devices used* in
116 the 2 h prior to bedtime (range of 0-3 devices). Given the repeated-measures of the
117 technology variables and sleep-related outcomes over the 7-day period, these variables
118 were separated into two components that captured the between-person (stable mean
119 for each participant) and within-person (average daily deviation from the stable person

120 mean) aspects of the data (Bolger & Laurenceau, 2013). Each of the predictor variables
121 at level 1 (within-person) were person-centred such that each individuals' data
122 deviated around his or her overall mean across the 7 days. At level 2 (between-person),
123 the predictor variables were grand mean centred, meaning that each individuals' mean
124 deviated around the mean of the total sample. The analysis encompassed random
125 intercepts and controlled for age and gender and the linear effects of day of the week.
126 Pearson correlation coefficients were calculated to investigate associations between
127 demographic data and sleep diary variables of interest using IBM SPSS Statistics
128 Package 22.0 (Armonk, NY, USA). Confidence intervals (CI) of 95% are reported for
129 all analyses. Overall, there was 88% compliance from a potential 490 responses.

130

131 **Results**

132 The ESS indicated that, on average, athletes experienced normal levels of sleepiness
133 (8 ± 4), although 29% ($n = 20$) athletes scored >10 and were categorised as
134 "excessively sleepy" (Figure 1). Sleepiness was negatively correlated with age, such
135 that younger athletes reported feeling sleepier than older athletes ($r = -0.32, p < 0.01,$
136 $-0.52, -0.09$).

137 Means and standard deviations of bedtime, wake time, time in bed, how many
138 electronic devices were used before bedtime, and how long each was used for
139 (phone/tablet, laptop, television, and combined) are detailed in Table 2. On average,
140 athletes used at least one device per night (usually a smartphone or tablet) in the 2 h
141 prior to bedtime for a total of 0-30 min. For all days, athletes fell asleep "fairly easily"
142 (2 ± 1) and woke up feeling "fairly refreshed" (2 ± 1). On average, $21 \pm 4\%$ of athletes
143 reported napping for 73 ± 48 min during the day. Regarding pre-sleep behaviours, 27
144 $\pm 6\%$ of athletes reported consuming caffeine in the 6 h prior to bedtime, and $40 \pm$
145 15% reported exercising in the 5 h prior to bedtime, with the exercise intensity being
146 4 ± 1 out of a maximal intensity of 5. Most athletes did not report any distractions
147 while trying to fall asleep or during the night ($53 \pm 5\%$). In those who did report
148 distractions, the three most common sources of disturbance were uncomfortable
149 temperature ($13 \pm 6\%$), discomfort ($13 \pm 3\%$) and outside noise ($11 \pm 3\%$). Electronic
150 devices were not frequently reported as distracting ($3 \pm 1\%$). On all nights, athletes
151 reported using 1 ± 1 (range 0-4) devices (smartphone, tablet, laptop and/or television).

152

153 The ICC was first examined to understand the degree of dependence of observations
154 by comparing within- and between-person variability in the study variables in a null
155 or intercept-only model. An inspection of the ICCs for individual devices
156 (phone/tablet use = 0.24, laptop use = 0.26, television use = 0.28), the composite
157 technology variables (device use = 0.21, number of devices used = 0.27), and sleep-
158 related outcomes (bedtime = 0.26, time in bed = 0.10, ease of sleep onset = 0.25)
159 indicated that a multilevel approach to data analysis was appropriate. The results of
160 the multilevel regression analysis are detailed in Table 3. In terms of the covariates,
161 there was a significant within-person effect of the night of measurement on the time
162 at which participants went to bed ($p = 0.01$), such that athletes went to bed later
163 towards the end of the week (which, in the context of this study, included the
164 weekend). There was a between-person inverse association between age and the
165 amount of time spent in bed ($p = 0.001$), such that older participants reported, on
166 average, fewer hours in bed. All other effects of the covariates were small and
167 statistically non-significant. There was a significant within-person inverse correlation
168 between bedtime and time in bed within-person residuals ($p < 0.001$); this association
169 indicates that on days when athletes' bedtime was later than their average, the time
170 they spent in bed was shorter than their weekly average. There was also a significant
171 within-person inverse correlation between bedtime and ease of sleep onset ($p = 0.04$),
172 meaning that when bedtime was later, athletes found it easier to fall asleep.

173

174 Of the direct effects of technology engagement on sleep-related variables, the only
175 salient effect was that of the number of devices on sleep onset scores at the between-
176 person level ($p = 0.03$). This finding indicates that athletes who, on average, reported
177 using more devices in the 2 h preceding bedtime experienced greater difficulty falling
178 asleep. All other direct effects of the technology engagement variables on sleep-related
179 outcomes were small and non-significant at both the within- and between-person
180 levels of analysis.

181

182 **Discussion**

183 The aim of this study was to investigate the pre-sleep behaviours (including electronic
184 device use) and sleep outcomes in well-trained Australian athletes. These data indicate
185 that, on average, athletes generally obtain adequate time in bed each night ($8:20 \pm 1:21$
186 h), but younger athletes still feel 'quite sleepy' and may not spend as much time in bed

187 as older athletes. Furthermore, despite there being no relationship between electronic
188 device use and bedtime or time in bed, there was a relationship between the number
189 of devices used prior to bedtime and how easily athletes perceived they fell asleep.

190

191 Overall, the athletes studied here appeared to spend an adequate amount of time in bed
192 each night, considering the recommended amount of sleep per night is 7-9 h
193 (Hirshkowitz et al., 2015). Previously, team sport athletes have considered sleep to be
194 a more important recovery strategy than other methods such as fluid replacement and
195 cold water immersion (Venter, 2014); therefore, sleep seems to be prioritised by
196 athletes. The results indicated that younger athletes (where the range was 16-33 y)
197 spent longer in bed but generally felt sleepier than their older athlete counterparts. It
198 is possible that the younger athletes felt sleepier despite the longer time in bed due to
199 increased SOL and, subsequently, reduced sleep duration. Evidence suggests that
200 adolescents exhibit a delayed sleep phase, such that the evening peak in melatonin
201 (and, subsequently, bedtime) is delayed (Eckerberg, Lowden, Nagai, & Akerstedt,
202 2012). As such, the younger athletes may have been going to bed before their evening
203 peak in melatonin, which may have delayed sleep onset, reduced sleep duration and
204 increased perceived sleepiness (Eckerberg et al., 2012). Younger athletes may require
205 longer sleep durations than older adults, as is the case in general populations, with
206 teenagers generally requiring more sleep time than adults (8-10 h vs. 7-9 h)
207 (Hirshkowitz et al., 2015). Furthermore, athletes (regardless of age) went to bed later
208 on the weekend than during the week and they spent less time in bed when bedtime
209 was delayed (i.e. on the weekend), which suggests that wake time remained similar
210 throughout the week. Non-athletic adolescents similarly report delayed bedtimes on
211 the weekend, but sleep for longer by delaying wake time (Gamble et al., 2014). If sleep
212 loss continues, a 'sleep debt' accumulates over time and ultimately impairs cognitive
213 and physical performance (Van Dongen, Maislin, Mullington, & Dinges, 2003).
214 Training early in the morning may truncate the opportunity for sleep, thereby reducing
215 sleep duration in athletes (Sargent, Lastella, Halson, & Roach, 2014). In contrast, a
216 study on elite swimmers showed that the athletes went to bed later and woke up later
217 on rest days than training days (Sargent, Halson, & Roach, 2014), where the extended
218 sleep opportunities on the rest days provided the athletes with the ability to recover (at
219 least partially) from the weeks' accumulated sleep debt (Merdad, Merdad, Nassif, El-
220 Derwi, & Wali, 2014). Furthermore, only one in five athletes in the current study

221 napped to extend their sleep opportunity and recover from accumulated sleep debt.
222 Altering sleep/wake times on non-training days is considered a poor sleep hygiene
223 behaviour as it may prevent a regular sleep/wake routine from being established
224 (Thorpy, 2012), but napping for up to 30 min after lunch should be encouraged to
225 improve alertness and mood (Waterhouse, Atkinson, Edwards, & Reilly, 2007).
226 Where sleep extension is not possible (e.g. due to school/work commitments),
227 educating excessively sleepy athletes on appropriate sleep hygiene strategies (e.g.
228 maintaining a regular sleep/wake cycle and avoiding stimulating activities before
229 bedtime) may be beneficial in reducing SOL, improving sleep quality and increasing
230 sleep duration (Fullagar, Skorski, Duffield, & Meyer, 2016).

231

232 The data captured here suggested that the use of multiple devices, as opposed to the
233 use of one particular device, influenced the athlete's perception of the ease with which
234 they fell asleep (no other measured sleep variables were related to device use).
235 Previous studies that have shown delayed bedtimes, prolonged SOL and reduced sleep
236 duration following evening electronic device use (Chang et al., 2015; Chinoy, Duffy,
237 & Czeisler, 2018; Green et al., 2017; King et al., 2014; Orzech, Grandner, Roane, &
238 Carskadon, 2016), while others have not observed altered sleep in the general
239 population (Heath et al., 2014; Rångtell et al., 2016) or athletes (Dunican et al., 2017;
240 Jones et al., 2017; Romyn, Robey, Dimmock, Halson, & Peeling, 2016). In fact,
241 Knufinke et al. (2017) found that athletes engaging in behaviours involving blue-light
242 exposure prior to bedtime had shorter SOL. These authors speculated that if athletes
243 had been performing unstimulating tasks on the devices, this may have outweighed
244 any arousing effects from the light emitted by the device. Indeed, Jones et al. (2017)
245 did not observe any differences in sleep variables when stimulating and unstimulating
246 activities were performed on a tablet, supporting the notion that task stimulation might
247 override any stimulating light-based effects of electronic devices. Furthermore, their
248 results indicated that different types of tablet-based activities performed prior to
249 bedtime had no differing effects on sleep. Pre-sleep electronic device use has been
250 shown to be beneficial for sleep, with earlier bedtimes and longer sleep durations noted
251 when participants performed more diverse activities on electronic devices in the 2 h
252 prior to bedtime (Orzech et al., 2016). This effect was attributed to the high cognitive
253 load experienced during the tasks leading to a subsequent increase in mental fatigue
254 and sleepiness (Goel, Abe, Braun, & Dinges, 2014). As such, it is unclear whether

255 electronic devices, and the types of tasks performed on them, have a negative effect
256 on sleep and, if so, what the mechanisms are. Future research investigating the
257 relationship between insomnia symptoms and evening electronic device use may also
258 assist with this.

259

260 It is uncertain from the data in the current study whether athletes who reported using
261 multiple devices in the evening did so simultaneously (i.e. multi-tasking) or
262 consecutively (i.e. one at a time). It has been shown previously that individuals who
263 frequently used multiple electronic devices were slower at responding to a primary
264 stimulus when distracting stimuli were also present (i.e. they were more distracted by
265 external stimuli) than individuals who didn't frequently multi-task (Ophir, Nass, &
266 Wagner, 2009). As such, athletes here who used more devices in the evening may have
267 felt more distracted by external stimuli when attempting to sleep, which could explain
268 why they felt that it was harder to fall asleep afterwards. Alternatively, athletes who
269 used multiple devices, one after another, may have subsequently spent longer using
270 the devices. Previously, it has been shown that 2 h of exposure to an electronic tablet
271 suppressed melatonin levels by 23% (which would be expected to subsequently delay
272 sleep onset) (Wyatt, Ritz-de Cecco, Czeisler, & Dijk, 1999), but melatonin levels were
273 not significantly suppressed after only 1 h (Wood et al., 2013). In the present study,
274 the average use of any device fell within the 0-30 min category, which may not have
275 been a long enough exposure to device screen light for melatonin to be suppressed.
276 Furthermore, some athletes in the present study may have had access to light-filtering
277 programs (e.g. Apple's Nightshift), which may not have had a significant effect due
278 to the shorter duration of device use (Wood et al., 2013).

279

280 It should be considered that self-reported data are not as accurate as more objective
281 measures of sleep, such as laboratory-based polysomnography, or actigraphy,
282 particularly with regards to measures of SOL and wake after sleep onset (Baker,
283 Maloney, & Driver, 1999; Caia et al., 2018; Dunican et al., 2017). Caia et al. (2018)
284 compared sleep duration measured with actigraphy and sleep diaries in rugby players
285 and, although highly correlated ($r = 0.85$), self-reported sleep duration was
286 overestimated by approximately 20 min. Further work has also shown that athletes
287 overestimated sleep duration by 58 ± 85 min and underestimated time of sleep onset
288 by 37 ± 72 min (Dunican et al., 2017). Since calculating sleep duration from sleep

289 diaries would not necessarily be accurate, the data presented in the current study reflect
290 time in bed. Accuracy in reporting bedtime in this study could have been improved
291 with more clarity in the questionnaire; for example, athletes may have gone to bed at
292 a certain time (as per the questionnaire) but may not have attempted to fall asleep
293 immediately. Additionally, individuals are not always accurate at reporting their use
294 of electronic devices (Lee, Ahn, Nguyen, Choi, & Kim, 2017) and the time of day that
295 they complete the questionnaire may reduce the reliability of the recalled data or be
296 affected by the duration since waking. Future research should further investigate the
297 relationship between sleep onset and the use of multiple electronic devices using
298 objective measures of sleep and device usage.

299

300 **Conclusion**

301 Overall, well-trained athletes spent adequate time in bed each night to meet the
302 recommended sleep requirements for adolescents and healthy adults. However,
303 younger athletes tended to spend more time in bed than older athletes but still felt
304 sleepier. This may indicate sub-optimal sleep quality or inadequate sleep durations in
305 younger athletes, highlighting the need for sleep hygiene education and identifying
306 sleep issues in athletes. On average, athletes used electronic devices for up to 30 min
307 prior to sleep; specifically, it was the use of multiple devices in the evening that was
308 associated with increased perceived difficulty in falling asleep, but not with any other
309 sleep variables. Future research should continue investigating the importance of sleep
310 in athlete populations and how evening electronic device use may influence sleep
311 variables.

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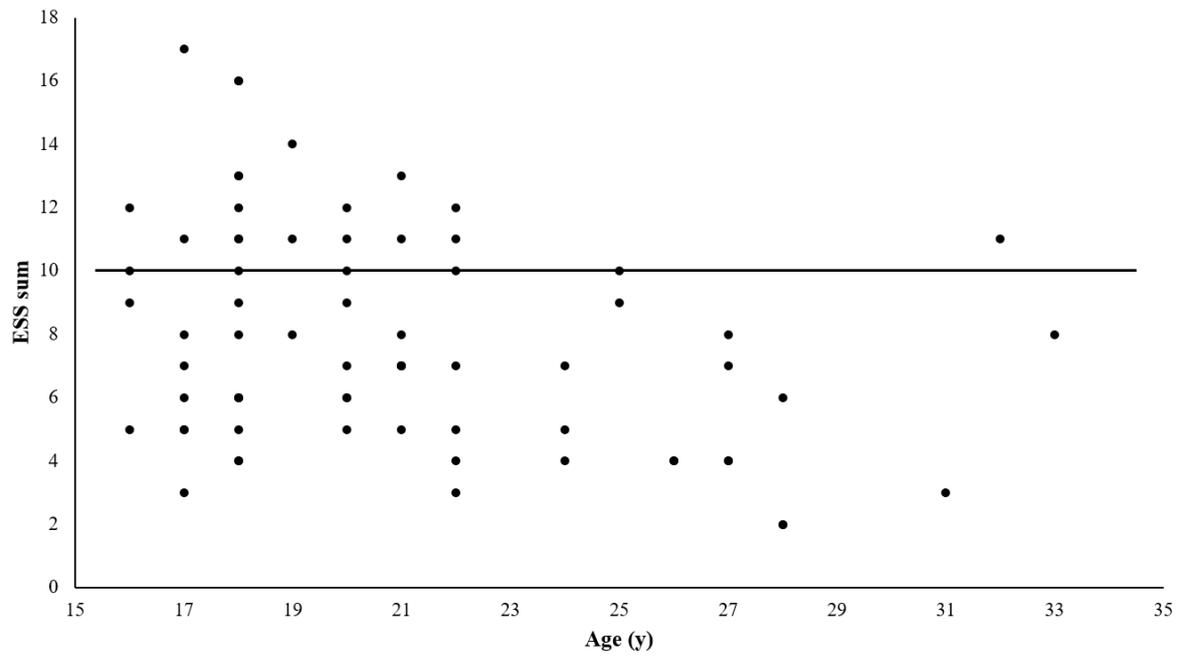
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Supplement 1: Sleep diary questionnaire

Q1 Did you have any naps **at any time during the day?** [Yes / No]

Q2 What time did you nap at? *Please answer in 24-hour time. If you had multiple naps, please answer with regards to the last nap you had for the day.* [Start time / Finish time]

Q3 Did you smoke any cigarettes **at any time during the day?** [Yes / No]

Q4 Did you consume any caffeine (coffee, tea, energy drinks, soft drinks, chocolate, other) in the **6-hours prior to going to bed?** [Yes & amount consumed / No]

Q5 Did you do any physical activity in the **5-hours prior to going to bed?** [Yes / No]

Q6 What would you rate the intensity of the physical activity performed?

1. Very light
2. Light
3. Moderate
4. Hard
5. Very hard
6. Maximal

Q7 Did you consume any alcohol in the **4-hours prior to going to bed?** [Yes & how many/ No]

Q8 Did you take any medication to get to or stay asleep? [Yes & details about medication / No]

Q9 Did you change time zones yesterday? [Yes & magnitude of time zone change / No]

The following questions relate to your sleep last night.

Q10 What time did you go to bed?

Q11 How easily did you fall asleep?

1. Very easily
2. Fairly easily
3. With some difficulty
4. With great difficulty

Q12 Did you notice any mental or physical factors that disturbed your sleep (i.e. trouble falling asleep or staying asleep during the night)? *You may select more than one option.*

- Distracting lights
- Bad dreams
- Noise from outside the room
- Uncomfortable temperature
- Discomfort
- Stress
- Notifications from an electronic device (e.g. phone)
- Noise from inside the room
- Partner in bed
- Other
- Nothing disturbed my sleep

Q13 Did you wake up during the night? [Yes & how many times/ No, or not that I recall]

Q14 Did you snore during the night? [Yes / No / Not sure]

Q15 What time did you wake up this morning?

Q16 How did you feel when you woke up this morning?

1. Very refreshed
2. Fairly refreshed
3. Fairly fatigued
4. Very fatigued

Electronic Device Use

Q17 Did you use any of these electronic devices in the 2-hours before going to bed last night?

- Television (TV programs/movies/video games)
- Computer/laptop
- Tablet
- Mobile smartphone
- MP3 player (e.g. iPod)
- Other
- I did not use any electronic devices

Television Use

Q19 In total, approximately how long did you watch television for?

- Less than 15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q20 Approximately how long after you finished watching television did you attempt to sleep?

- 0-15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-45 min
- 45-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q21 How stimulating would you say that watching television was?

- Extremely unstimulating
- Fairly unstimulating
- Fairly stimulating
- Extremely stimulating

Tablet Use

Q22 In total, approximately how long did you use the tablet for?

- Less than 15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q23 Approximately how long after you finished using the tablet did you attempt to sleep?

- 0-15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-45 min
- 45-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q24 What activities did you perform on the tablet, and how stimulating did you find them (1= extremely unstimulating, 2= fairly unstimulating, 3= fairly stimulating, 4= extremely stimulating)?

- Playing games
- Surfing the internet
- Typing up work/homework
- Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Watching movies/TV shows
- Watching videos (e.g. YouTube)
- Listening to music
- Reading
- Other

Computer/laptop use

Q25 In total, approximately how long did you use the computer/laptop for?

- Less than 15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q26 Approximately how long after you finished using the computer/laptop did you attempt to sleep?

- 0-15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-45 min
- 45-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q27 What activities did you perform on the computer/laptop, and how stimulating did you find them (1= extremely unstimulating, 2= fairly unstimulating, 3= fairly stimulating, 4= extremely stimulating)?

- Playing games
- Surfing the internet
- Typing up work/homework
- Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Watching movies/TV shows
- Watching videos (e.g. YouTube)
- Listening to music
- Reading
- Other

Mobile smartphone use

Q28 In total, approximately how long did you use the smartphone for?

- Less than 15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q29 Approximately how long after you finished using the smartphone did you attempt to sleep?

- 0-15 min
- 15-30 min
- 30-45 min
- 45-60 min
- 1-1.5 h
- 1.5-2 h

Q30 What activities did you perform on the smartphone, and how stimulating did you find them (1= extremely unstimulating, 2= fairly unstimulating, 3= fairly stimulating, 4= extremely stimulating)?

- Playing games
- Surfing the internet
- Typing up work/homework
- Social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Watching movies/TV shows
- Watching videos (e.g. YouTube)
- Listening to music
- Reading
- Texting