

How does household water insecurity affect children's health and well-being?

June 21 2023



Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

The global burden of disease associated with water insecurity has traditionally focused on diarrheal disease as the most significant driver of infant and child mortality. However, a review in *WIREs Water* notes

that there are many other ways that water insecurity can have adverse health and social consequences for children.

Inadequate or unsafe household water can have a range of health effects in children from infancy to late adolescence. Household water insecurity can spread disease, cause interruptions to growth and development, lead to school absenteeism and interpersonal violence, and contribute to other aspects of children's mental and [physical health](#).

"Because children's voices are not always included in anti-poverty dialogs, we risk under-appreciating the wide-ranging effects of water poverty on children and missing opportunities to improve their health and well-being," said corresponding Justin Stoler, Ph.D., of the University of Miami.

More information: The Effects of Household Water Insecurity on Child Health and Well-being, *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews Water* (2023). [DOI: 10.1002/wat2.1666](https://doi.org/10.1002/wat2.1666)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: How does household water insecurity affect children's health and well-being? (2023, June 21) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2023-06-household-insecurity-affect-children-health.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.