

pediatric nursing, pursuing her research, and seeing overweight children in the pediatric outpatient clinic. She encountered several colleagues who were interested in her research. Together, they collected more data in the pediatric outpatient clinic (as usual, under institutional review board [IRB] supervision) on morbidly obese children from several different ethnic groups. They found some culture-based differences in beliefs about diet and weight in children.

Dr. Hayes was fortunate to be employed in a dynamic academic health center that encouraged interdisciplinary research. In addition to working on her own research, she had several opportunities to work on large collaborative pediatric studies. This experience exposed her to more advanced research methodologies and many nationally known experts in the field. With her colleagues, she submitted a successful proposal for an investigator-initiated study to NINR for a large, multiethnic study of their Kid Fit program for morbidly obese schoolchildren.

She continued to focus on morbid obesity (still hating the term, by the way) in various age and ethnic groups and developed a program that attracted national attention. This led to a multimillion-dollar grant from a large foundation to establish the program in schools across the country.

Dr. Jolene Hayes became a nationally known expert on morbid obesity in the pediatric population. She established a national center to study and treat overweight in children of all ages. She had achieved her lifelong dream to help others avoid some of the psychic pain she had experienced.

Looking back, Dr. Hayes thought about the 50 to 70 hours a week she worked on her research. She gave up a well-paying nurse practitioner position to engage in postdoctoral work. Along the way, she received 20 article rejections and 5 proposal rejections. Most of the articles and proposals were revised and resubmitted successfully; others were abandoned due to discouragement or to wisely deciding they were not of the quality expected by the reviewers. Jolene traveled extensively to present her work, meet with colleagues, and seek funding for her programs. She attended many evening meetings with parent groups and others interested in childhood overweight to share her expertise, raise funds for the center, and recruit study participants.

For Jolene, now Dr. Hayes, what was once a painful experience had become a rewarding career in nursing research.

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- ✦ See especially Box 1, in which Beck outlines 10 years of research on postpartum depression, and her description of this research on pp. 267–268 of the article.
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