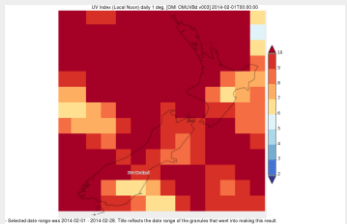


### IMPACT OF UVI KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING OF THE UVI ON STUDENTS' SUN PROTECTION BEHAVIORS

- The influence of UVI knowledge and understanding on sun protective behaviour is not well understood
- Aim: Explore the associations of students' knowledge and understanding of the UVI with self-reported sun protective behaviours



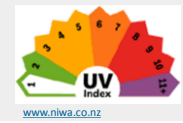
Visualisation produced with the Giovanni online data system, developed and maintained by the NASA GES DISC

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### METHODS

- Cross-sectional survey of students at 27 state or state-integrated New Zealand schools
- Year 8 students (age 13) who reported having seen or heard of the UVI had the "correctness" of their understanding assessed by three questions:
  - Agree: as the UVI increases, the sun's rays get stronger
  - Agree: as the UVI increases, you need to use more sun protection
  - Disagree: as the UVI increases, you can spend more time in the sun
- Sun protective behaviours of students able to demonstrate suitable understanding of the UVI, by correctly answering all three questions, were compared with students who had neither seen nor heard of the UVI and / or did not correctly answer all three questions



### RESULTS

	OR	P-Value	CI	OR	P-Value	CI
Stay inside to protect from getting sunburnt	1.55	0.499	0.57 – 4.21	1.64	0.33	0.6 – 4.48
Wear a broad brimmed hat, a bucket hat or a cap with flaps to protect face, neck and ears from getting sunburnt	1.75	0.094	0.9 – 3.41	1.75	0.103	0.89 – 3.41
Use sunscreen when you were out in the sun	1.8	0.352	0.6 – 5.38	2.02	0.215	0.66 – 6.14

Controlled for age and sex  
OR: Odd Ratio, CI: 95% Confidence Interval

- Of 266 students, 44 who had seen or heard of the UVI, correctly answered all three questions
- Some elevated odds ratios suggest some association between UVI understanding and positive protective behaviours
  - Insignificant P-values likely as a result of small sample size



### CONCLUSION

- Among those students who had seen or heard of the UVI, the association between its correct interpretation & sun protective behaviour was not statistically significant
- Questionnaire measures may require testing and revision, since they refer only to increase or decrease in the UVI numeric scale
- Visualisation of UVI metrics, with static or animated graphics, may be important when testing children's understanding of this public health tool

