

# Health impacts of air pollution - burden of disease and other aspects **[optimizing]** for emission controls

1st INTERNATIONAL REAL-LIFE EMISSIONS WORKSHOP ON SMALL-SCALE COMBUSTION :  
The measurement methods and emission components for the solid fuel combustion appliances  
2022-11-09

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Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)



# First Session: Evaluation of emission components to be measured

Central European times (CET)

08:40 – 09:00 Health impacts of air pollution - burden of disease and other aspects for [optimizing] emission controls.

*Otto Hänninen, The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)*

09:00 – 09:20 How does the composition of small-scale combustion emissions affect their climate effects? *Harri Kokkola, Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI)*

09:20 – 10:00 Important physical and chemical properties of particulate and gaseous emissions from small scale solid fuel combustion.

*Karna Dahal, University of Eastern Finland (UEF)*

# What is toxic in particles?



- a particle is not a particle: [chemical] composition
  - (heavy) metals; PAHs; (organic|inorganic)HCs; BC
  - combustion particles; particles from specific source(s)
- particle number (PNC,  $1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ )
- particle surface area (SAC,  $1 \mu\text{m}^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ )
- size fraction: [TSP,] PM10, PM2.5
- cf. [number|surface area|volume|mass] size distribution ( $dC \text{ dDp}^{-1}$ )
- mass ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )

How about gases:

CO  
NO<sub>2</sub>  
O<sub>3</sub>; OH- etc.  
SO<sub>2</sub>  
1C, 2~10C VOCs  
PP – BC, OC, PAH... SS  
SP – SIA, SOA

A green bracket on the right side groups CO, NO2, O3; OH- etc., SO2, and VOCs. A green arrow points from the bottom of this bracket to the text 'SP – SIA, SOA'.

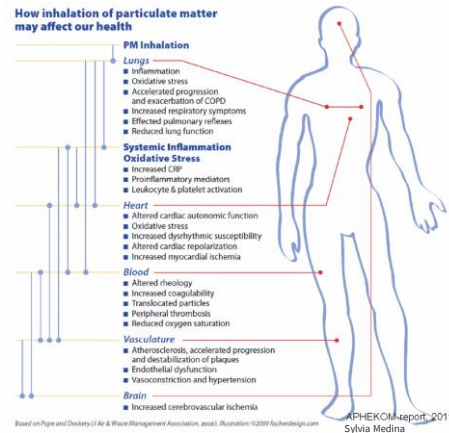
# Air pollution and health

## Traditional endpoints affecting adults and elderly:

- **Mortality**
- Respiratory diseases
- Cardiovascular diseases
- Lung cancer

## More recent additions

- Birth outcomes
- Reproductive health
- Neurological diseases



## How inhalation of particulate matter may affect our health?

### Particulate matter

#### Brain

- Increased cerebrovascular ischemia

#### Lungs

- Inflammation
- Oxidative stress
- Progression of COPD
- Respiratory symptoms
- Pulmonary reflexes (cough etc.)
- Reduced lung function

#### Systemic effects

- Inflammation
- Oxidative stress
- Increased CRP
- Proinflammatory mediators
- Leukocyte and platelet activation

#### Heart

- Altered cardiac autonomic function
- Oxidative stress
- Increased dysrhythmic susceptibility
- Altered cardiac repolarization
- Increased myocardial ischemia

#### Blood and vasculature

- Altered rheology
- Increased coagulability
- Translocated particles
- Peripheral thrombosis
- Reduced oxygen saturation
- Atherosclerosis
- Endothelial dysfunction
- Vasoconstriction and hypertension

#### Neurological responses

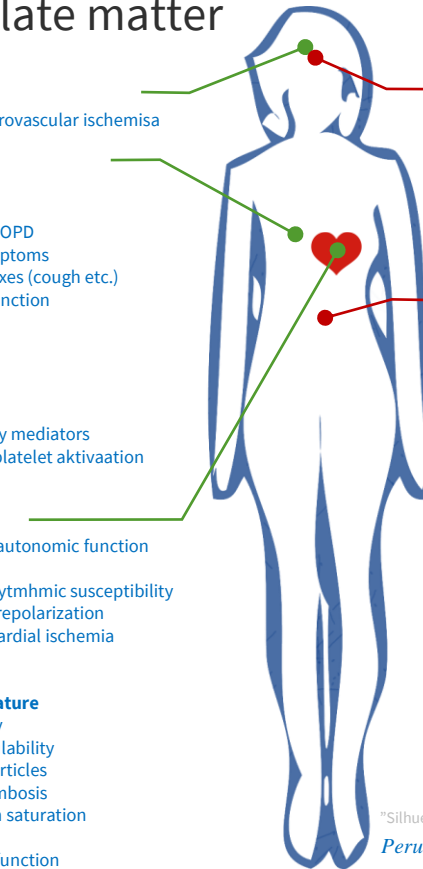
- Depression
- Parkinson's disease
- Alzheimer's disease
- Schizophrenia

#### Birth outcomes

- lowered birth weight (LBW, SGA)
- Fetal development (eg. HC, BL)
- Preterm birth

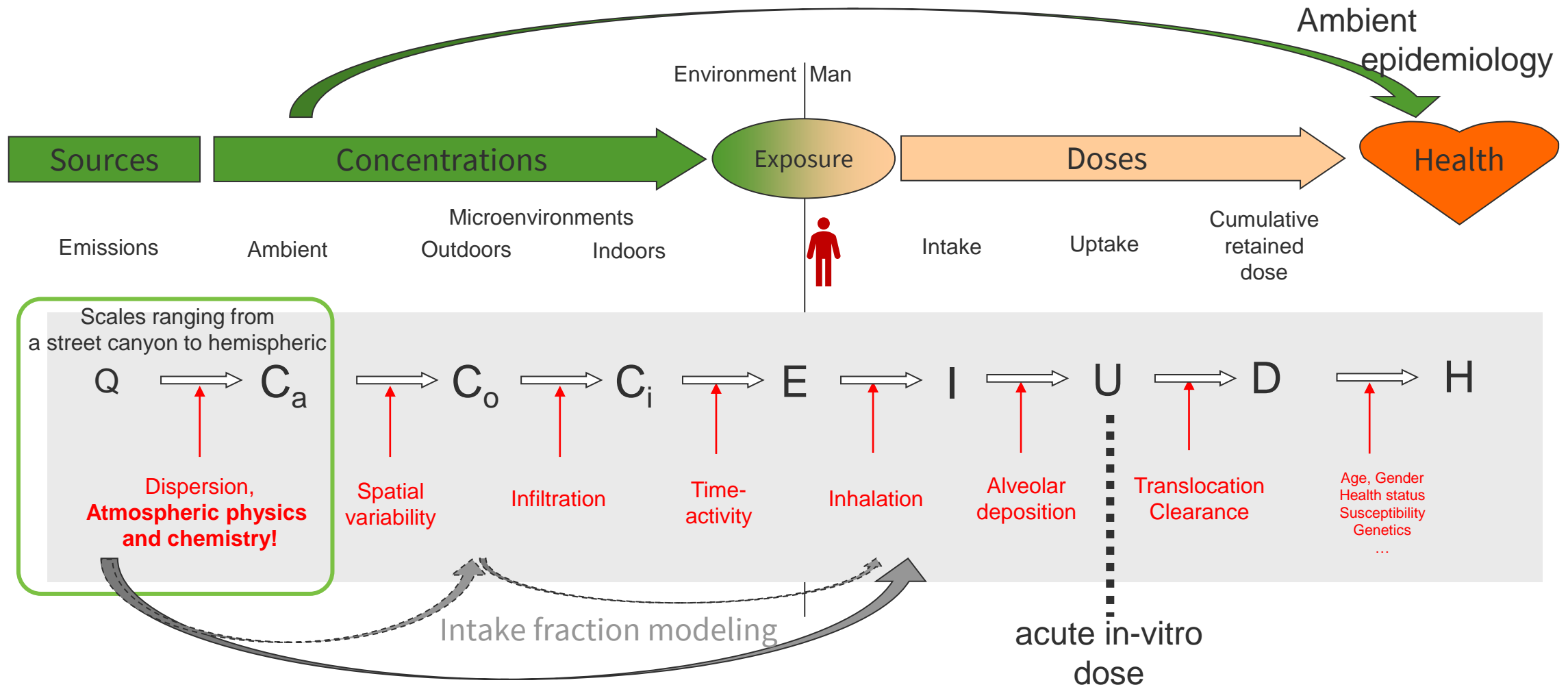
#### Reproductive health

- genotoxic effects on germ cells



"Silhouette" by abra123, FAVPNG, CC BY-SA  
Perustuen Pope & Dockery, 2006

# Exposure metrics and processes



# Global Burden of Disease (GBD) -studies



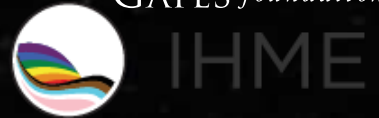
- GBD 1990: by World Bank, with World Health Organization (WHO)



Discounting and age-weighting

- WHO Disease Burden Unit in 1990: GBD estimates 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004

BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation



- GBD 2010: 1990-2010 (IHME)  
GBD 2013-2015-2016-2017-**2019**

# GBD 2019 Risk factors

GBD 2019 Risk Factors Collaborators\*

- 204 countries
- 369 diseases and injuries
- 87 risk factors
- subnational level (12 countries)
- 1990-2010-2019
- Deaths, YLL, YLD, DALY
- Summary exposure values (SEV)
- Annualized rate of change (ARC)



Global Health Metrics

## Global burden of 87 risk factors in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019



GBD 2019 Risk Factors Collaborators\*



### Summary

**Background** Rigorous analysis of levels and trends in exposure to leading risk factors and quantification of their effect on human health are important to identify where public health is making progress and in which cases current efforts are inadequate. The Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) 2019 provides a standardised and comprehensive assessment of the magnitude of risk factor exposure, relative risk, and attributable burden of disease.

Lancet 2020; 396: 1223–49  
\*For the list of Collaborators see Viewpoint Lancet 2020; 396: 1135–59

**Methods** GBD 2019 estimated attributable mortality, years of life lost (YLLs), years of life lived with disability (YLDs), and disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) for 87 risk factors and combinations of risk factors, at the global level, regionally, and for 204 countries and territories. GBD uses a hierarchical list of risk factors so that specific risk factors (eg, sodium intake), and related aggregates (eg, diet quality), are both evaluated. This method has six analytical steps. (1) We included 560 risk–outcome pairs that met criteria for convincing or probable evidence on the basis of research

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### Dominant role of household air pollution (indoor air):

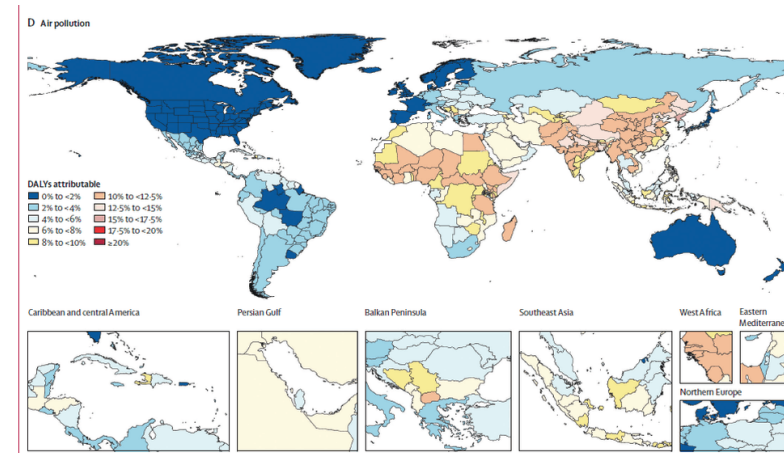


Figure 6: Percentage of all DALYs attributable to the five leading Level 2 risk factors, 2019  
DALYs attributable to child and maternal malnutrition (A), high systolic blood pressure (B), tobacco (C), air pollution (D), and dietary risks (E). DALYs—disability-adjusted life-years.

(Figure 6 continues on next page)



Murray et al., 2022

# Pollution and health

Landrigan et al., 2017

Published online October 19, 2017

The Lancet Commissions

## The Lancet Commission on pollution and health



Philip J Landrigan, Richard Fuller, Nereus J R Acosta, Olusoji Adeyi, Robert Arnold, Niladri (Nil) Basu, Abdoulaye Bibi Baldé, Roberto Bertollini, Stephan Bose-O'Reilly, Jo Ivey Boufford, Patrick N Breyse, Thomas Chiles, Chulabhorn Mahidol, Awa M Coll-Seck, Maureen L Cropper, Julius Fobil, Valentin Fuster, Michael Greenstone, Andy Haines, David Hanrahan, David Hunter, Mukesh Khare, Alan Krupnick, Bruce Lanphear, Bindu Lohani, Keith Martin, Karen V Mathiasen, Maureen A McTeer, Christopher J L Murray, Johanita D Ndahimananjara, Frederica Perera, Janez Potočnik, Alexander S Preker, Jairam Ramesh, Johan Rockström, Carlos Salinas, Leona D Samson, Karti Sandilya, Peter D Sly, Kirk R Smith, Achim Steiner, Richard B Stewart, William A Suk, Onno C P van Schayck, Gautam N Yadama, Kandeh Yumkella, Ma Zhong

### Executive summary

Pollution is the largest environmental cause of disease and premature death in the world today. Diseases caused by pollution were responsible for an estimated 9 million premature deaths in 2015—16% of all deaths worldwide—three times more deaths than from AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria combined and 15 times more than from all wars and other forms of violence. In the most severely affected countries, pollution-related disease is responsible for more than one death in four.

Pollution disproportionately kills the poor and the vulnerable. Nearly 92% of pollution-related deaths occur

Pollution endangers planetary health, destroys ecosystems, and is intimately linked to global climate change. Fuel combustion—fossil fuel combustion in high-income and middle-income countries and burning of biomass in low-income countries—accounts for 85% of airborne particulate pollution and for almost all pollution by oxides of sulphur and nitrogen. Fuel combustion is also a major source of the greenhouse gases and short-lived climate pollutants that drive climate change. Key emitters of carbon dioxide, such as electricity-generating plants, chemical manufacturing facilities, mining operations, deforestation, and petroleum-powered vehicles, are also

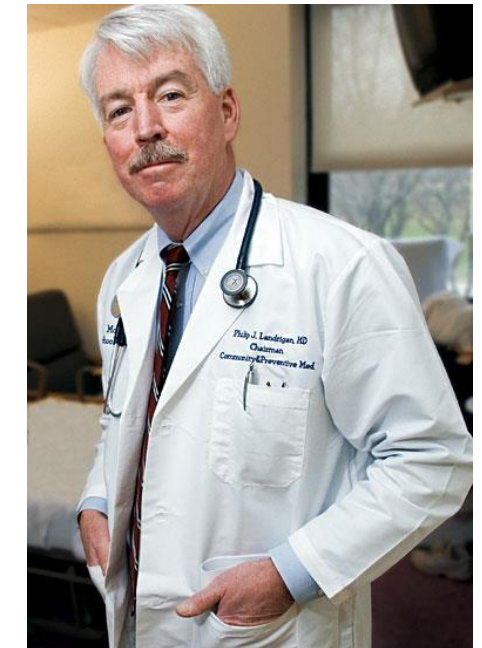
Published Online  
October 19, 2017  
[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)32345-0](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32345-0)

See Online/Comment  
[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)32588-6](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32588-6)  
[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)32545-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32545-X)

Arnhold Institute for Global Health (Prof P J Landrigan MD), Mount Sinai Heart (V Fuster MD), and Department of Environmental Medicine



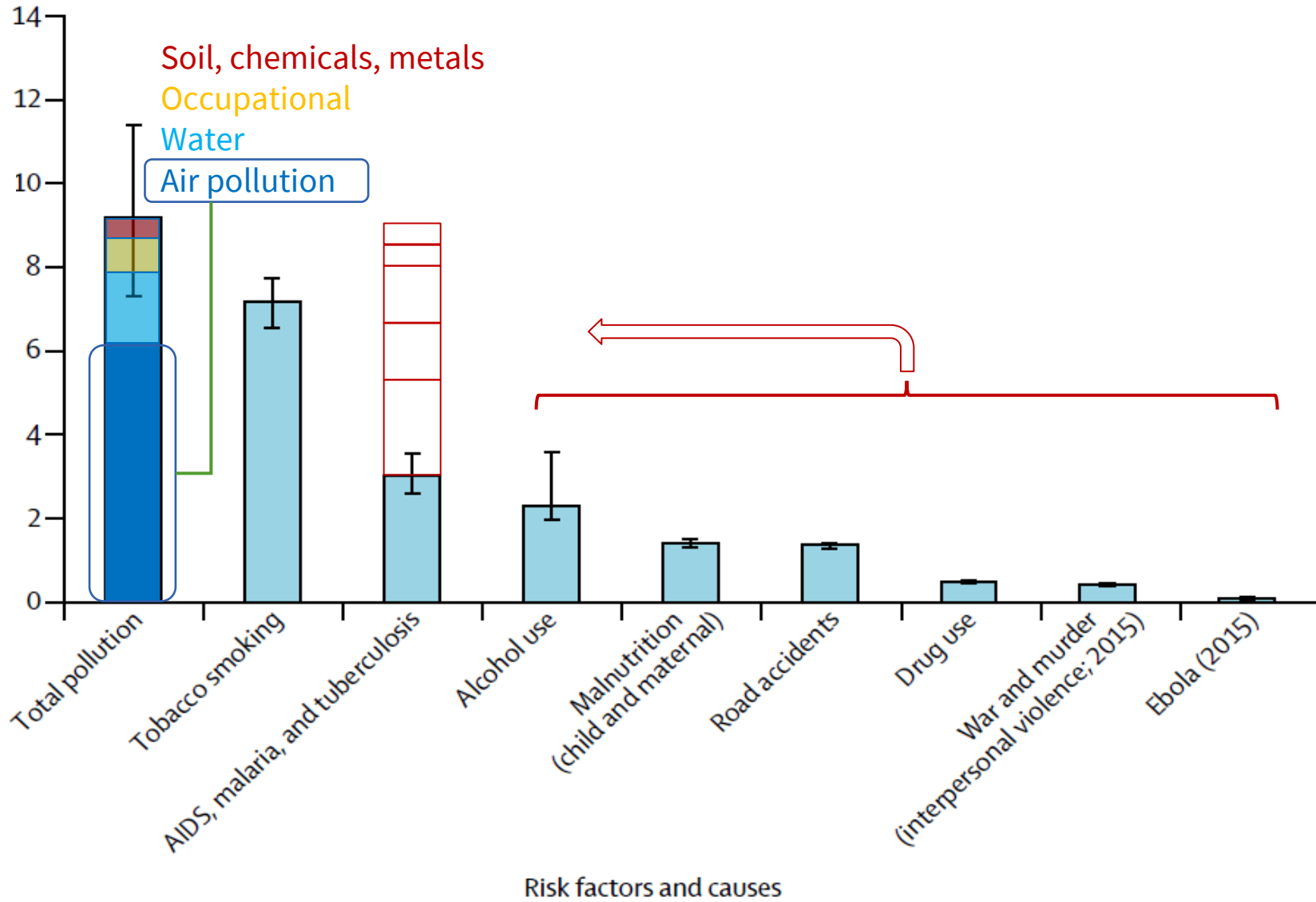
R. Fuller



P. Landrigan



## Global deaths (millions)



	GBD study best estimate (95% CI)	WHO best estimate (95% CI)
Air (total)	6.5 (5.7-7.3)	6.5 (5.4-7.4)
Household air	2.9 (2.2-3.6)	4.3 (3.7-4.8)
Ambient particulate	4.2 (3.7-4.8)	3.0 (3.7-4.8)
Ambient ozone	0.3 (0.1-0.4)	..
Water (total)	1.8 (1.4-2.2)	0.8 (0.7-1.0)
Unsafe sanitation	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.3 (0.1-0.4)
Unsafe source	1.3 (1.0-1.4)	0.5 (0.2-0.7)
Occupational	0.8 (0.8-0.9)	0.4 (0.3-0.4)
Carcinogens	0.5 (0.5-0.5)	0.1 (0.1-0.1)
Particulates	0.4 (0.3-0.4)	0.2 (0.2-0.3)
Soil, heavy metals, and chemicals	0.5 (0.2-0.8)	0.7 (0.2-0.8)
Lead	0.5 (0.2-0.8)	0.7 (0.2-0.8)
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.4</b>

Note that the totals for air pollution, water pollution, and all pollution are less than the arithmetic sum of the individual risk factors within each of these categories because these have overlapping contributions—eg, household air pollution also contributes to ambient air pollution and vice versa.

*Table 1: Global estimated deaths (millions) due to pollution risk factors from the Global Burden of Disease study (GBD; 2015)<sup>42</sup> versus WHO data (2012)<sup>99,101</sup>*

Landrigan et al., 2017

(extract): Millions of deaths, by

	Household AP <sup>1</sup>	Ambient PM
<b>GBD</b>	2.9	4.2
<b>WHO</b>	4.3	3.0

<sup>1</sup> unvented solid fuel use indoors

Figure 5: Global estimated deaths by major risk factor and cause, 2015

Using data from the GBD Study, 2016.<sup>41</sup>



# Finland:

## Air pollution in TOP12 env. health risks

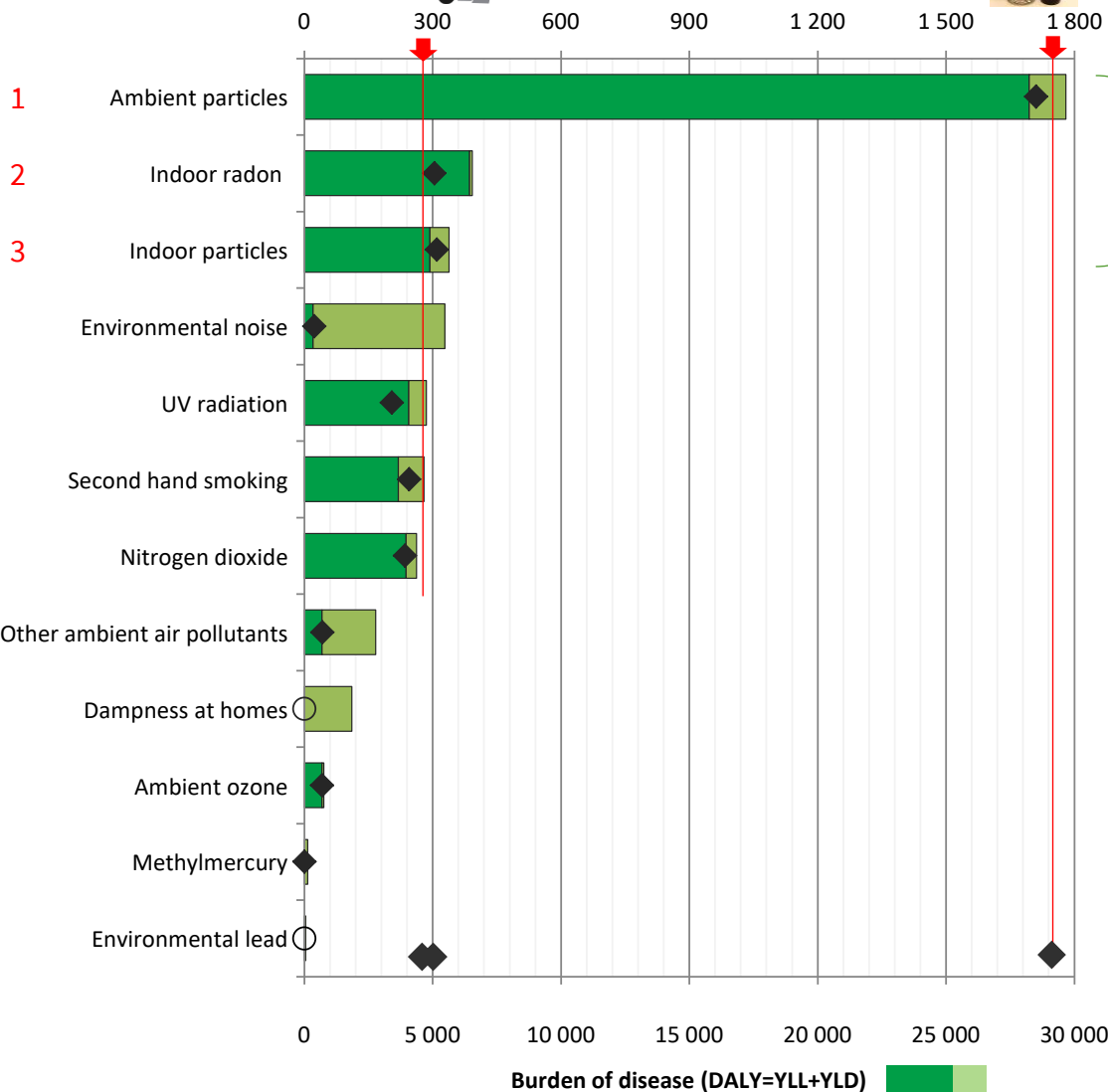
In 2015 car accident mortality was 270



Mortality (deaths per year) ◆



GBD estimate for alcohol mortality in 2015 was 1700



- Air pollutants dominate: TOP3 is
    - ambient particles
    - indoor radon and particles
  - Total burden of these 12 factors is 3100 deaths,
    - 53 000 years of life lost and
    - 13 000 equivalent years lived with disability
  - vs 270 in car accidents  
vs 1700 due to alcohol  
vs 5000 due to smoking
- ca. 5k due to COVID19 (2020-2022/6)



Y&T 2020 nr 1

Hänninen O, Lehtomäki H, Korhonen A, 2020. Ilmansaasteet ja kuolleisuus kärjessä, tautitaakka yli kaksinkertainen: Ympäristöaltisteiden kansanterveysvaikutukset. Ympäristö ja Terveys-lehti, 1/2020 ss. 6-13. <http://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi-fe202002246282> (2020-02-24)

# 1 How about estimates for known toxic components?

- ?

# WHO 2021-09-22

## Global Update of Air Quality Guidelines



Table 0.1. Recommended AQG levels and interim targets

Pollutant	Averaging time	Interim target				AQG level
		1	2	3	4	
PM <sub>2.5</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	35	25	15	10	5
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	75	50	37.5	25	15
PM <sub>10</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	70	50	30	20	15
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	150	100	75	50	45
O <sub>3</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Peak season <sup>b</sup>	100	70	–	–	60
	8-hour <sup>a</sup>	160	120	–	–	100
NO <sub>2</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	Annual	40	30	20	–	10
	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	120	50	–	–	25
SO <sub>2</sub> , µg/m <sup>3</sup>	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	125	50	–	–	40
CO, mg/m <sup>3</sup>	24-hour <sup>a</sup>	7	–	–	–	4

<sup>a</sup> 99th percentile (i.e. 3–4 exceedance days per year).

<sup>b</sup> Average of daily maximum 8-hour mean O<sub>3</sub> concentration in the six consecutive months with the highest six-month running-average O<sub>3</sub> concentration.

World Health Organization. (2021). WHO global air quality guidelines: particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide. World Health Organization. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/345329>. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO

# Epidemiological PM mass responses vs. Known more specific toxic PM components (1/2)

- Cancer risk and hazard quotient for As, Cd, Co, Cr, Mn, Ni, Pb
  - respiratory tract deposition (uptake) accounting for building infiltration: dose-based estimates
- Epi based excess risk and attributable fraction mortality for PM2.5 and PM10
  - outdoor concentration based estimates



Article

## Characterization of Human Health Risks from Particulate Air Pollution in Selected European Cities

Eleftheria Chalvatzaki <sup>1</sup>, Sofia Eirini Chatoutsidou <sup>1</sup>, Heli Lehtomäki <sup>2,3</sup> , Susana Marta Almeida <sup>4</sup> , Konstantinos Eleftheriadis <sup>5</sup> , Otto Hänninen <sup>2</sup> and Mihalis Lazaridis <sup>1,\*</sup>

Table 7. Cancer risk based estimates of cases per lifetime in the three cities.

	Cancer Cases per Lifetime (70 Years)					
	Methodology 1 (US EPA)			Methodology 2 (Lyu et al. [15])		
	Athens	Kuopio	Lisbon	Athens	Kuopio	Lisbon
As	12.2	0.020	1.5	7.7	0.008	0.7
Cd	-	0.003	-	-	0.001	-
Co	31.3	0.018	4.4	18.4	0.015	3.4
Cr	28.3	0.090	210.8	15.3	0.069	118.3
Ni	1.9	0.041	-	1.1	0.014	-
Cumulative	73.7	0.172	216.7	42.5	0.107	122.4

Chalvatzaki E, Chatoutsidou S, Lehtomäki H, Almeida SM, Eleftheriadis K, Hänninen O, Lazaridis M, 2019. Characterization of human health risks from particulate air pollution in selected European cities. *Atmosphere* 10:96; doi:10.3390/atmos10020096. <https://www.mdpi.com/2073-4433/10/2/96>

# Epidemiological PM mass responses vs. Known more specific toxic PM components (2/2)

- Cancer cases (two methods)
  - Athens 1/2-1 cases /year
  - Lisbon 1.5-3 cases/year
- PM2.5 mass based mortality
  - Athens 3930 deaths/year
  - Lisbon 2820 deaths/year
- Insignificant fraction can be attributed to known toxic components!

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Table 8. Percentages (%) of the excess risks (ER) and attributable fractions (AF) along with the number of attributable deaths for (a) all-cause mortality associated with short-term exposure to PM<sub>10</sub>, (b) cardiopulmonary mortality and (c) lung cancer mortality associated with long term exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> in each city. The corresponding confidence intervals (CI) are given in brackets.

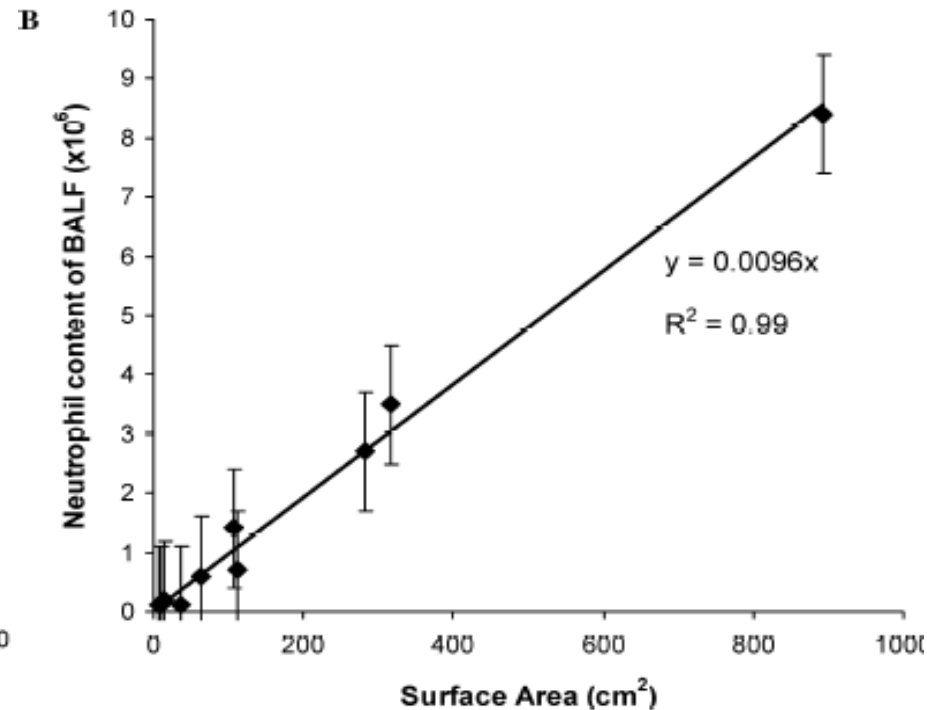
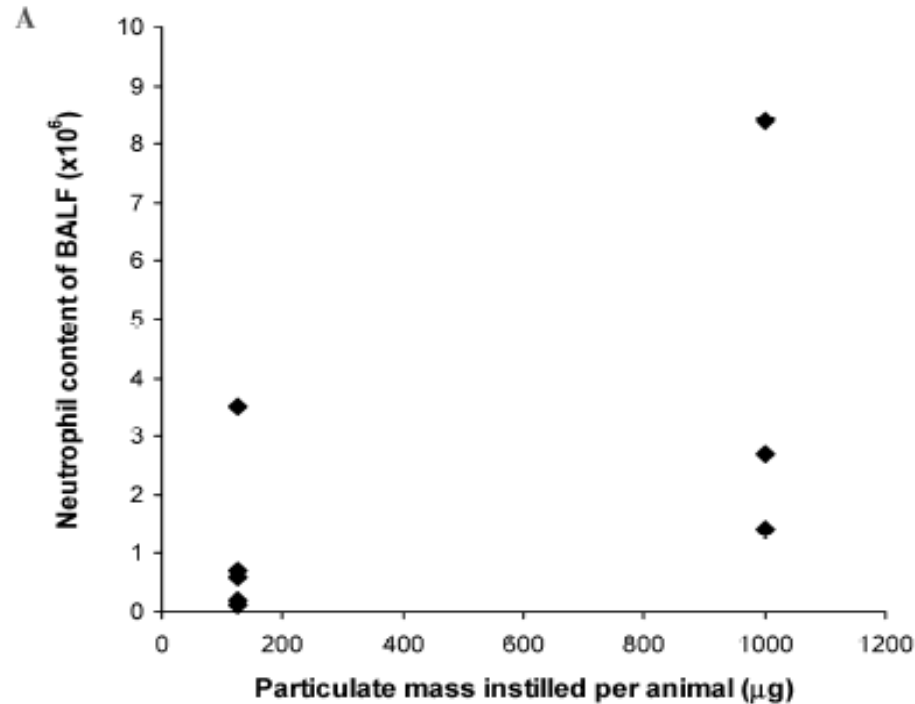
	Athens		Kuopio		Lisbon	
<i>(a) All-cause mortality (PM<sub>10</sub>)</i>						
ER (95% CI)	0.77	(0.58–0.96)	0.02	(0.02–0.03)	2.2	(1.6–2.7)
AF (95% CI)	0.77	(0.57–0.96)	0.02	(0.02–0.03)	2.1	(1.58–2.62)
Deaths (95% CI)	320	(236–398)	0.2	(0.2–0.3)	730	(546–905)
<i>(b) Cardiopulmonary mortality (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)</i>						
ER (95% CI)	19	(6.4–33)	9.5	(3.4–16)	31	(10–55)
AF (95% CI)	15.8	(6.0–24.5)	8.7	(3.2–13.9)	23.4	(9.2–35.4)
Deaths (95% CI)	3450	(1311–5353)	38	(14–61)	2450	(962–3702)
<i>(c) Lung cancer mortality (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)</i>						
ER (95% CI)	29	(9.9–52)	15	(5.2–25)	49	(16–92)
AF (95% CI)	22.7	(9.0–34.2)	12.8	(4.9–20.0)	32.9	(13.7–47.8)
Deaths (95% CI)	480	(190–721)	6.1	(2.3–9.5)	370	(155–540)
Sum of deaths (b+c)	3930		44.1		2820	

# Surface area as dose metric

Toxicological study on rat instillation

Polystyrene particles (Dp 64, 202 and 535 nm) (inert, non-soluble material)

**Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET)** surface area represents chemically available reactive surface  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BET\\_theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BET_theory))  
see e.g. Schmid & Stöger, 2016 (JAS), on nanoparticles



Duffin et al., 2007  
Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF)

Duffin R, Tran L, Brown D, Stone V, Donaldson K. Proinflammatory effects of low-toxicity and metal nanoparticles in vivo and in vitro: highlighting the role of particle surface area and surface reactivity. Inhalation toxicology. 2007 Jan 1;19(10):849-56.

# BET particle surface area

- Excellent candidate for inert non-soluble particle components
- Real atmospheric particles contain substantial soluble (and volatile) fraction, which is rapidly removed from the deposited particle. These solvated ions (and evaporized gases) behave independently and differently from the non-soluble core
- Thus characterization of the non/soluble fractions would make sense!

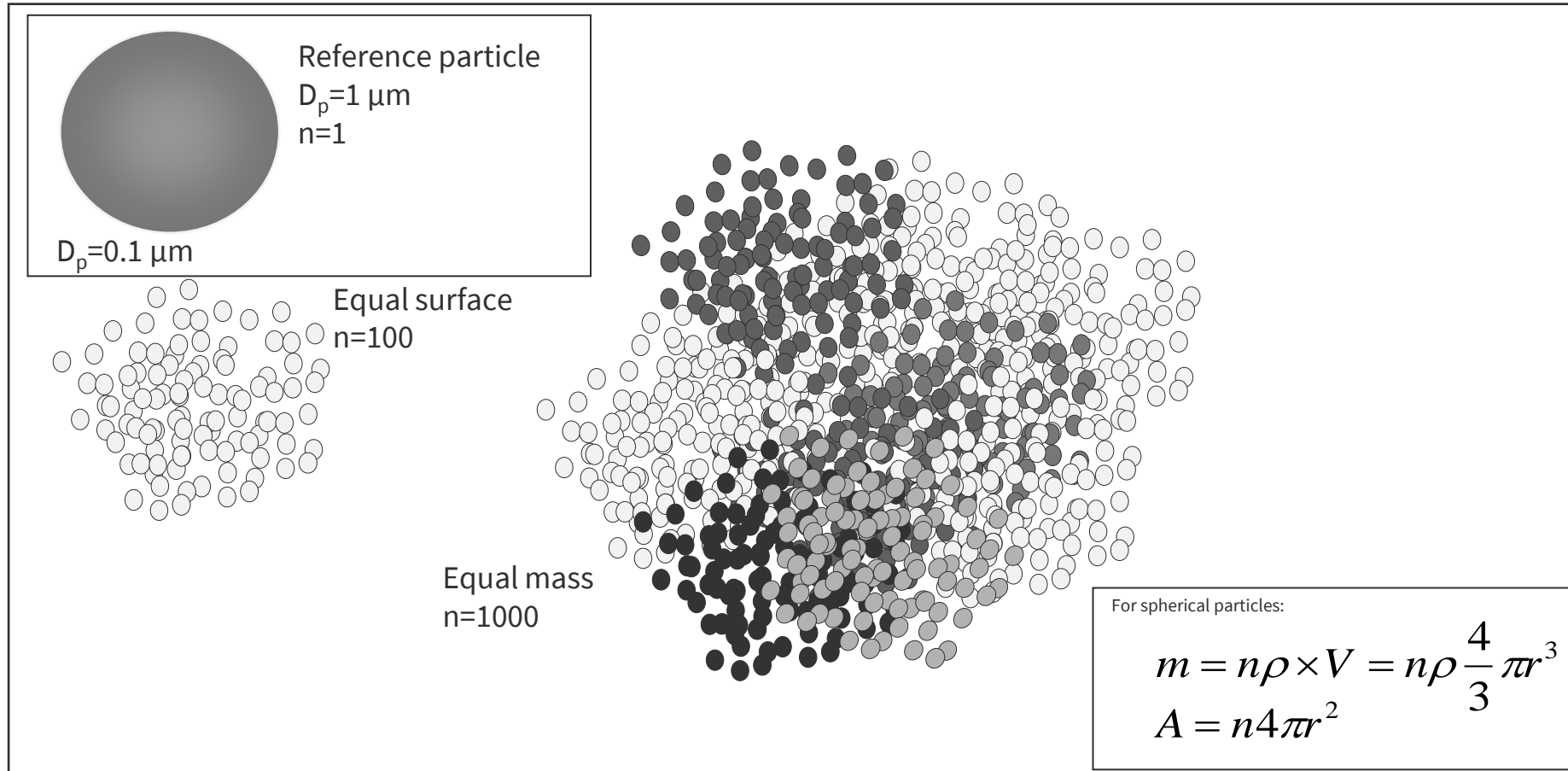


# 3

## Particle Number Concentration (PNC)( $\approx$ UFP)

- Epidemiological study in Erfurt, Germany
- Stöltzel et al., 2007. **Daily mortality and particulate matter in different size classes in Erfurt, Germany.**  
*J Expos Sci Env Epid* 17:458-467.
  - daily RR for total mortality 1.029
  - (5-day polynomial lag model 1.042)

# Mass – number – surface area



# WHO 2021-09-22

# Global Update of Air Quality Guidelines



## 4.3 Ultrafine particles

UFP are generally considered as particulates with a diameter less than or equal to 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$ , that is, 100 nm (typically based on physical size, thermal diffusivity or electrical mobility). There was already considerable evidence on the toxicological effects of UFP at the time that *Global update 2005* was being prepared, which was acknowledged in the document (WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2006). However, it was stated that the evidence from epidemiology was insufficient to recommend guidelines for UFP. Since then, the body of epidemiological evidence has grown, and two systematic reviews have assessed scientific research papers published from 1997 to 2017 (HEI, 2013; Ohlwein et al., 2019), documenting the rising number of studies being conducted. The studies demonstrated short-term effects of exposure to UFP, including mortality, emergency department visits, hospital admissions, respiratory symptoms, and effects on pulmonary/systemic inflammation, heart rate variability and blood pressure; and long-term effects on mortality (all-cause, cardiovascular, IHD and pulmonary) and several types of morbidity. However, various UFP size ranges and exposure metrics were used, preventing a thorough comparison of results across studies (US EPA, 2019a). Therefore, there was a consensus in the GDG that the body of epidemiological evidence was not yet sufficient to formulate an AQG level.

World Health Organization. (2021). WHO global air quality guidelines: particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide. World Health Organization. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/345329>. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO

# Some suggestions for conclusions & discussion

- Quantitative risk assessment (QRA)-> impact as burden
  - Particles [at receptor] seem the dominant risk factor
  - [PM2.5] Mass remains the best established risk indicator
- Composition: well-known physical factors, health impact not well known
  - volatility; solubility -> biological fate; aerosol size -> infiltration, lung doses
- Several complementary hypotheses remain relevant for research (e.g PN, PSA)
- Prioritization (research and action)
  - Risk benefit analysis (e.g. Baltic salmon, Tuomisto et al. 2004)
  - Comparative risk assessment (CRA) (e.g. Tainio et al. 2021)
  - Health impact assessment (HIA) [of a third sector policy]
  - Cost-benefit analysis (CBA)
  - SES, age group, geographic and gender analyses

# Work conducted by

- Antti Korhonen: Exposure analysis, GIS data
- Isabell Rumrich: Epidemiology
  - Maternal smoking and birth outcomes (PhD 2020)
  - Air pollution and birth outcomes; Parkinson's Disease
- Heli Lehtomäki Zrim:
  - Health impact assessment, burden of disease
  - Concentration-response functions



**Thank you for your interest!**



Welcome to Kuopio

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2022-11-09

Hänninen O

22

Photo: Courtesy of City of Kuopio