

# Environmental Lung Disease

## From Exposure to Health



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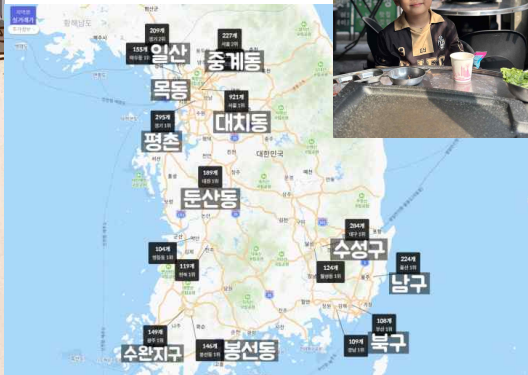


중앙대학교병원  
CHUNG-ANG UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL



**2026년도**  
**제41차 춘계학술대회**  
제55차 Workshop, 제21회 폐암 심포지엄  
제6차 Interactive Learning  
2026년 04월 17일(금) - 18일(토)  
DCC 대전컨벤션센터

孟子很小的时候父亲就去世了，  
母亲守节没有改嫁，  
独自承担起了教育孟子的责任。



# Rethinking Environment & Health



## Environment 環境

둥글게 둘러싼 **고리(環)**처럼  
우리를 에워싸고 있는 **지경(境)**

"환경이란 생물체를 둘러싸고 있으며  
생명에 영향을 주는 모든 외부 조건의 총화"

### ACADEMIC DEFINITION

## Environmental Health

*"...identifying, evaluating, and managing environmental exposures that influence human health..."*

인간의 건강에 영향을 미치는 **물리적·화학적·생물학적 노출**을 확인, 평가,  
관리함으로써 질병을 예방하고 삶의 질을 향상시키는 과학이자 실천

### CLINICAL FOCUS

## Environmental Lung Disease

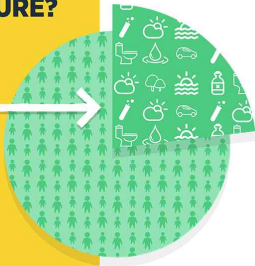
## WHAT IS THE BIG PICTURE?

FACT:

**24%** of all

global deaths are linked to the environment. (2016)

That's roughly **13.7 million deaths** a year.



Total environment

**24%**

of all estimated global deaths are linked to the environment

Ambient air pollution

**4.2 million**

deaths every year as a result of exposure to fine particulate matter

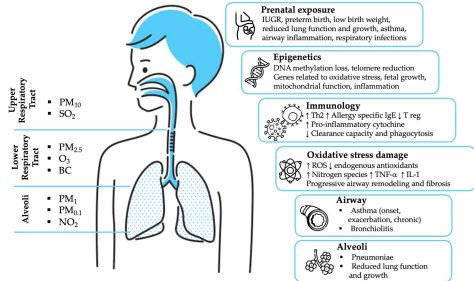
## WHERE IS IT HAPPENING?



Household air pollution

**3.2 million**

deaths every year as a result of exposure to indoor smoke from cooking fuels



Lung as the *first and continuous* interface with the environment

# Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA): A New Yardstick for Health Resilience

Reference: Lancet Planet Health 2026; 10:101419

ADAPTATION FINANCE GOAL

Tripling to **\$120B / Year** (by

2035)

GGA FRAMEWORK DECISION

**59 Metrics Formally  
Adopted**

HEALTH PRIORITY

**8 Specialized Health  
Indicators**

## 8 Global Health Adaptation Indicators

01

### Climate-associated Mortality

Tracking mortality rates compared with counterfactuals to assess adaptation coverage.

02

### Infectious Disease Incidence

Monitoring levels of climate-sensitive infectious diseases as an adaptation outcome.

03

### Climate-related Morbidity

Assessing respiratory and heat-related morbidity rates against historical baselines.

04

### Mental Health & Psychosocial

Proportion of vulnerable populations with access to psychosocial support systems.

05

### Service Capacity Retention

Maintaining full health service capacity during and following extreme climate events.

06

### Facility Climate-Resilience

Percentage of health facilities resilient to hazards under various warming scenarios.

07

### Essential Service Coverage

Ensuring continuity of essential health services through targeted adaptation measures.

08

### Practitioner Capacity

Proportion of health practitioners trained in climate adaptation and health response.

# Characteristics of Studies

Key Features of Environmental Health Research in This Lecture



## 01 Large-Scale Epidemiological Studies

Population-based cohort studies using national health registries and longitudinal datasets.

## 02 Complex Statistical Methodology

Multi-level models, mediation analysis, and survival analysis for exposure-outcome research.

## 03 Multidisciplinary Collaboration

Partnerships with environmental scientists integrating exposure monitoring and health data.

## 04 AI & Machine Learning Approaches

ML algorithms for exposure prediction, pattern recognition, and data modeling.

FEATURE

“Our challenge now is to shift attention away from tinkering within current systems to leveraging powerful systemic change for a healthy people and planet.”

[Read more >](#)

## Aims and Scope

- *The Lancet Planetary Health* is the pre-eminent journal for enquiry into sustainable human civilisations in the Anthropocene.
- Particularly favour work contributing to **a safe and just space for humanity**, respecting planetary boundaries and the social and economic foundations of a healthy life.
- Interested in all aspects of **societal development and its interaction with the environment** — including drivers of change, implications for people, and policies for a healthier planetary future.



## Environmental Research

Supports open access • Open archive

14.7

CiteScore

7.7

Impact Factor

### Aim and Scope

- Covers **human health and wellbeing effects of environmental factors**, mainly **based on observational or experimental epidemiological studies** on human participants.
- Ambient and indoor air, water, soil, noise, light at night, and radiation pollution
- Organic and inorganic chemicals (e.g. endocrine disruptors, pesticides, metals etc.)
- Natural environments (e.g. green, blue, and brown spaces), biodiversity, and urban design/planning
- Climate change and associated conditions (e.g. extreme weather), occupational exposures
- Also of interest: novel methods for the assessment of human exposure to environmental factors**

# Key Domains of Exposure

Categories, Concepts, and Specific Examples

## 01 Climate Change & Extreme Events (Climate related Hazards)

Amplifiers of exposure intensity, frequency, and biological risks

Wildfire Smoke • Heatwaves • Asian Dust • Flood-related Microbials

## 02 Physical & Chemical Pollutants (Air Pollution)

Traditional indicators of anthropogenic environmental pollution

PM2.5 / PM10 • SO<sub>2</sub> / NO<sub>x</sub> • Heavy Metals • Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)

## 03 Occupational & Build Environment

Micro-environments and specific workplace settings

Silica / Asbestos • Indoor Air Quality • Radon / VOCs

## 04 Natural Environment & Ecosystems

Protective factors and biogenic respiratory stressors

Green Spaces • Pollen • Mold / Fungi

# Climate Change

and Environmental Lung Disease

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# Climate change

## Health risk

### Vulnerability factors

- Demographic
- Geographical
- Biological factors & health status
- Sociopolitical
- Socioeconomic
- Health system capacity
- Gender & equity

### Climate-related hazards

- Extreme weather events
- Heat
- Sea level rise
- Air pollution
- Vector distribution & ecology
- Water scarcity
- Reduced food production

### Exposure

- People & communities
- Health workforce
- Infrastructure
- Energy systems
- Water systems
- Food systems
- Health systems

## Health outcomes



Injury and mortality from extreme weather events



Heat-related illness



Respiratory illness



Water-borne diseases and other water-related health impacts



Zoonoses



Vector-borne diseases



Malnutrition and food-borne diseases



Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)



Mental and psychosocial health

## Environmental threats and GHG emissions

### Health systems & facilities



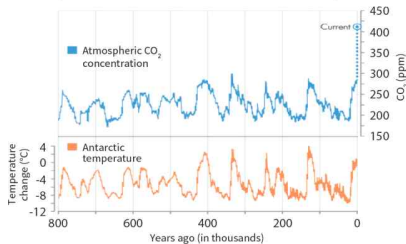
Impacts on health care facilities



Effects on health systems

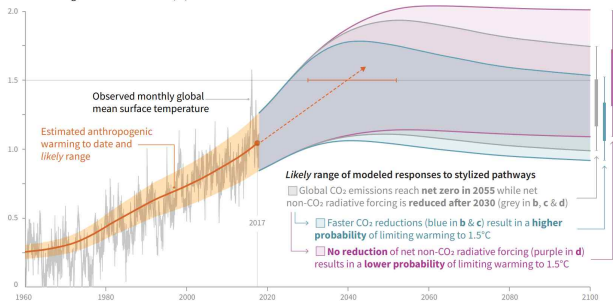
# Cause of Climate Change

Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide Concentrations and Antarctic Temperatures



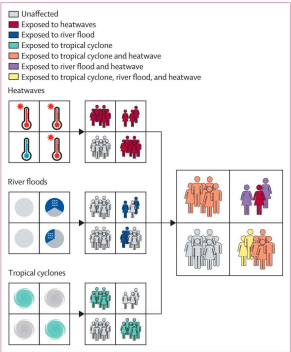
- Changes in the Earth's Orbit and Rotation
- Variations in Solar Activity
- Changes in the Earth's Reflectivity
- Volcanic Activity
- **Changes in Carbon Dioxide Concentrations**

Global warming relative to 1850-1900 (°C)

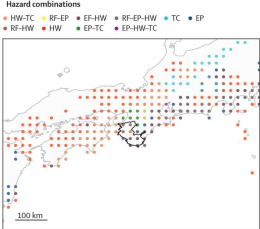


# Global assessment of population exposure to multiple climate-related hazards from 2003 to 2021: a retrospective analysis

Zélie Stalhandske, Marleen C de Ruiter, Jonathan Chambers, Sandra Zimmermann, Felipe J Colón-González, Nivedita Sairam, David N Bresch, Chahan M Kraef

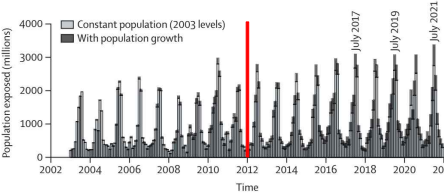
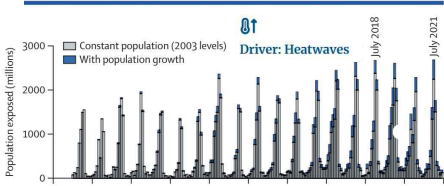


• **Study Population**  
 Global gridded population data (WorldPop, 2003–2021)  
**Vulnerable age groups (<5 and >65 years).**  
 • **Exposure**  
**Monthly co-occurrence of 6 climate hazards**



**Hazards**

- Wildfire PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure
- Drought exposure
- Extreme precipitation exposure
- Heatwave exposure
- Tropical cyclone exposure
- River flood exposure



**+69%** Increase in per-person exposure to 3+ simultaneous hazards between 2003–12 and 2012–21.

The background of the slide is a dark, grainy image of a wildfire. The fire is concentrated in the lower center, with bright orange and yellow flames rising from a dark, smoky base. The rest of the image is mostly black and dark blue, with a fine, grid-like texture. The text "Climate Change and Wildfire" is overlaid in the center in a white, sans-serif font.

# Climate Change and Wildfire

## Climate Change (Global Warming)



- Strong winds ↑
- Relative humidity ↓
- Ambient temperature ↑
- Fuel Aridity ↑
- Fuel Load (Biomass) ↑



**Large-scale wildfire ↑**  
(e.g. 2025 Los Angeles)

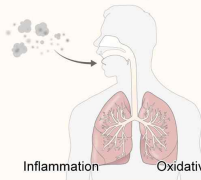


**Wildfire Smoke ↑**

### Air Pollutants Released During Wildfires

- Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>)
- Carbon Monoxide (CO)
- Nitric Oxides (NOx)
- Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Carcinogenic Substances (Benzene, Formaldehyde)
- Trace metals (Lead, Mercury)

## Ambient air pollution ↑



Inflammation      Oxidative Stress



## Respiratory health impacts



### Short term

- Acute Exacerbations of ...  
  COPD, Asthma, Pneumonia
- Mortality ↑
- Healthcare Utilization ↑



### Long term

- Development & progression of COPD
- Lung cancer risk & mortality ↑



**Morbidity, Mortality, ↑**  
**Socio-economic costs ↑**

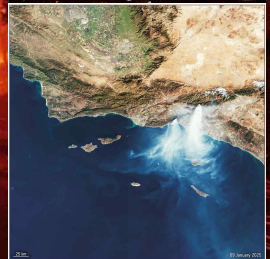
 AP

**LIVE:**  
PACIFIC PALISADES WILDFIRE  
IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

# 2025, Southern California Wildfires

Ignited on January 7, 2025, and were fully contained after 24 days, on January 31, 2025

Category	Palisades Fire	Eaton Fire	Total Impact
Total Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	94.89	56.74	151.63 = 52.3Yeouido
Structures Destroyed	6,837	9,418	16,255
Fatalities	12	17	29
Estimated Cost	\$28 - \$275 billion	Included in total	\$28 - \$275 billion



최종 피해면적

104,788 ha

서울의 1.7배 · 역대 최대 규모

발생 배경 및 경과

- 2025년 3월 영남권(산청, 하동) 동시다발 발생
- 강풍·건조 기상 조건으로 급속 확산
- 기후변화로 산불 위험 증가 실증

# Research Assessing the Impact of Wildfire Smoke Exposure on Asthma-Related Healthcare Utilization

Author	Year	Wildfire Location	Study Participants	Main Result (OR/RR, 95%CI) for each outcome
<b>Asthma related Emergency Department Visit (EDV)</b>				
Rappold et al.	2011	North Carolina, USA	Records of 111 of 114 North Carolina EDs	1.65 (1.25–2.10) (RR)
Resnick et al.	2015	New Mexico, USA	0.55 million population	1.08 (0.91–1.29) (RR)
Haikerwal et al.	2015	Victoria, Australia	5.1 million population	1.02 (1.00–1.04) (RR)
Alman et al.	2016	Colorado, USA	10,699 ED records	1.04 (1.02–1.06) (OR)
Reid et al.	2016	California, USA	12.7 million population	1.06 (1.05–1.07) (RR)
Parthum et al.	2017	Virginia, USA	2 million population	1.65 (1.25–2.17) (RR)
Hutchinson et al.	2018	California, USA	176,851 healthcare utilized population	2.12 (1.57–2.86) (RR)
Borchers Arriagada et al.	2019	Meta-analysis	20 Studies (Meta-analysis)	1.07 (1.04–1.09) (RR)
Malig et al.	2021	California, USA	Bay Area population	1.56 (1.49–1.64) (RR)
Tornevi et al.	2021	Jämtland Härjedalen Region, Sweden	130,000 population	1.68 (1.09–2.57) (RR)
Heaney et al.	2022	California, USA	Total population of California	1.10 (1.02–1.19) (RR)
Duncan et al.	2023	North Carolina, USA	12,483 ED records	1.10 (1.06–1.14) (OR)
Chen et al.	2023	California, USA	17,847,917 population	1.57 (1.45–1.71) (RR)
Schweizer et al.	2023	California, USA	Total population of California	1.38 (1.21–1.57) (OR)
Doubleday et al.	2023	Washington, USA	1,864,470 non-traumatic ED visits	1.13 (1.10–1.17) (OR)
<b>Asthma related Hospital admission</b>				
Morgan et al.	2010	Sydney, Australia	3.5 million population of Sydney	1.05 (1.02–1.08) (RR)
Kollanus et al.	2016	Helsinki, Finland	1 million population of Helsinki	1.16 (0.98–1.37) (RR)
Reid et al.	2016	California, USA	12.7 million population of California	1.07 (1.05–1.10) (RR)
Gan et al.	2017	Washington, USA	26,835 admissions	1.07 (1.02–1.14) (OR)
Borchers Arriagada et al.	2019	Meta-analysis	20 Studies (Meta-analysis)	1.06 (1.02–1.09) (RR)
Malig et al.	2021	California, USA	Bay Area population of San Francisco	1.22 (1.06–1.40) (RR)
Magzamen et al.	2021	Colorado, USA	46,585 admissions of Colorado	1.46 (1.09–1.94) (OR)

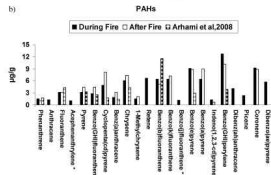
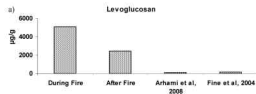
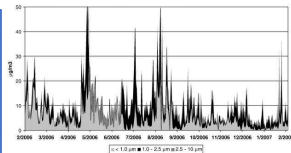
## Research Assessing the Impact of Wildfire Smoke Exposure on COPD-Related Healthcare Utilization

Author	Year	Wildfire Location	Study Participants	Main Result (OR/RR, 95%CI) for each outcome
<b>COPD related Emergency Department Visit (EDV)</b>				
Rappold et al.	2011	North Carolina, USA	Records of 111 of 114 civilian North Carolina EDs	1.73 (1.06–2.83) (RR)
Alman et al.	2016	Colorado, USA	10,699 ED records	1.05 (1.02–1.08) (OR)
Reid et al.	2016	California, USA	12.7 million population	1.02 (1.01–1.04) (RR)
Parthum et al.	2017	Virginia, USA	2 million population	1.73 (1.06–2.83) (RR)
Duncan et al.	2023	North Carolina, USA	12,483 ED records	2.93 (1.59–5.41) (OR)
<b>COPD related Hospital admission</b>				
Morgan et al.	2010	Sydney, Australia	3.5 million population	1.04 (1.01–1.06) (RR)
Gan et al.	2017	Washington, USA	26,835 cardiopulmonary hospital admissions	1.08 (1.03–1.15) (OR)
Magzamen et al.	2021	Colorado, USA	46,585 hospital admissions	1.15 (1.00–1.31) (OR)

# Characteristics of Wildfire PM



<b>Source</b>	Wildfire PM results from <b>combustion of biomass</b>
<b>Particle Size</b>	<b>Smaller than PM from urban sources</b> → Higher proportion of Fine/Ultrafine PM (PM <sub>2.5</sub> and PM <sub>1</sub> in PM <sub>10</sub> )
<b>Exposure Pattern</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Contributing factor on <b>20% of the days PM<sub>2.5</sub> exceeded standard</b> (35 µg/m<sup>3</sup>)</li> <li>•2019–2020 Australian wildfire: daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> <b>reached 600 µg/m<sup>3</sup></b></li> <li>•<b>Episodic exposure</b> — high-intensity peaks with low background levels</li> </ul>
<b>Toxic Effects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b>More oxidative components</b> (oxygenated PAHs, quinones, heavy metals)</li> <li>•<b>More proinflammatory components</b> (aldehydes, oxides of nitrogen)</li> <li>•<b>Greater oxidative potential</b></li> <li>•Wildfire PM in urban areas: toxic effects <b>5X greater than urban PM</b></li> <li>•<b>High temperatures and oxidant gases amplify health risks</b></li> </ul>



# Quantifying the short-term mortality effects of wildfire smoke in Europe: a multicountry epidemiological study in 654 contiguous regions

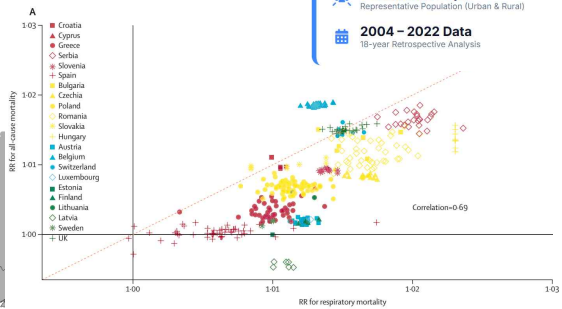
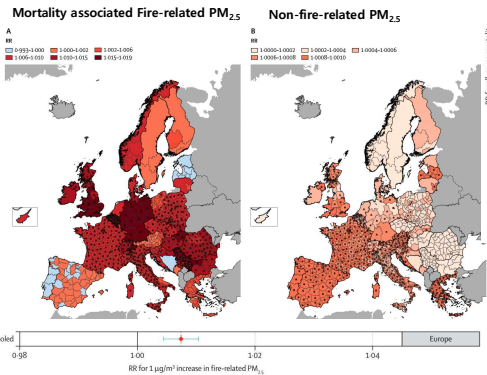


Anna Alari, Joan Ballester, Carles Millà, Tarik Benmarhnia, Mikhail Sofiev, Andreas Uppstu, Risto Hänninen, Cathryn Tonne

**32 European Countries**  
654 Contiguous Subnational Regions

**541 Million People**  
Representative Population (Urban & Rural)

**2004 – 2022 Data**  
18-year Retrospective Analysis



**Pooled Cumulative Relative Risks (RRs) per 1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> increase in fire-related PM<sub>2.5</sub>**

ALL-CAUSE MORTALITY

**1.007**

95% CI: 1.004 – 1.010

CARDIOVASCULAR

**1.009**

95% CI: 1.006 – 1.013

RESPIRATORY

**1.013**

95% CI: 1.008 – 1.019

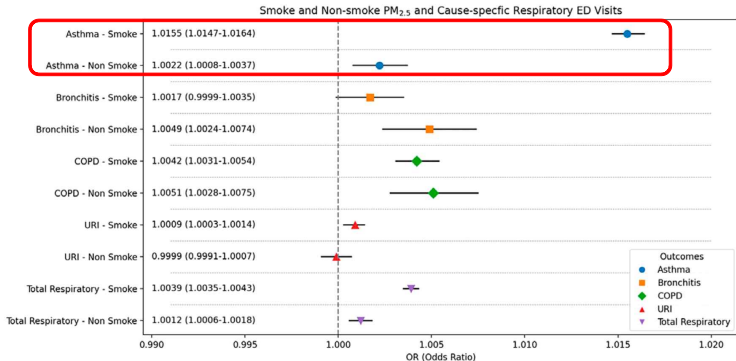
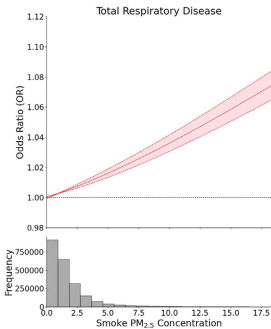
# Differential Effects of Wildfire Smoke Fine Particulate Matter Exposure on Respiratory Disease Emergency Department Visits in the Western United States

Wenhao Wang<sup>1</sup>, Linzi Li<sup>2</sup>, Qingyang Zhu<sup>1</sup>, Rohan Richard D'Souza<sup>3</sup>, Danlu Zhang<sup>3</sup>, Haisu Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Stefanie Ebell<sup>1,2</sup>, Howard H. Chang<sup>3</sup>, Alvaro Alonso<sup>2</sup>, and Yang Liu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Gangarosa Department of Environmental Health, <sup>2</sup>Department of Epidemiology, and <sup>3</sup>Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

ORCID iDs: 0000-0002-6228-7516 (W.W.); 0000-0003-3835-5598 (L.L.); 0000-0001-7206-5199 (Q.Z.); 0009-0001-9233-2162 (D.Z.); 0000-0002-7171-6167 (H.Z.); 0000-0003-4713-2337 (S.E.); 0000-0002-6316-1640 (H.H.C.); 0000-0002-2225-8323 (A.A.); 0000-0001-5477-2186 (Y.L.).

- **Study Design:** Time-stratified case-crossover design.
- **Study Population:** 6 million respiratory ED visits 5 Western US states (2007–2018).
- **Exposure:** Daily wildfire-specific vs. non-smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub>, machine learning at a 1-km resolution.
- **Outcome:** ED visits for asthma, bronchitis, COPD, URI, and total respiratory diseases.
- **Statistics:** Conditional logistic regression estimating ORs, adjusting for meteorology and holidays



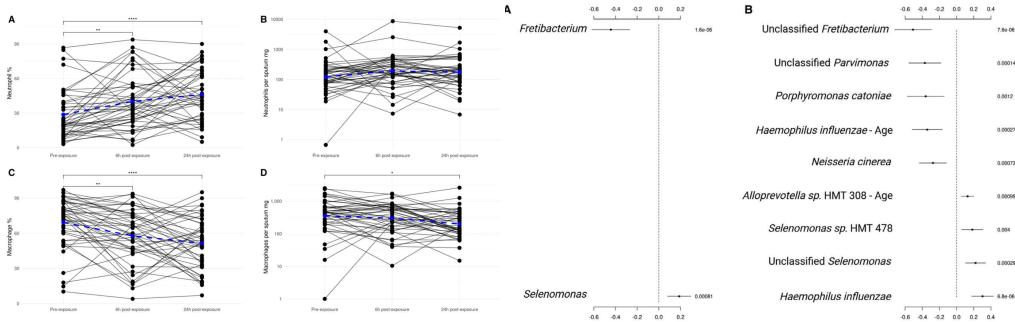
# Human Sputum Microbiome Composition and Sputum Inflammatory Cell Profiles Are Altered with Controlled Wood Smoke Exposure as a Model for Wildfire Smoke

Catalina Cobos-Urbe<sup>1</sup>, Radhika Dhingra<sup>2</sup>, Martha A. Almond<sup>3,4</sup>, Neil E. Alexis<sup>3,4</sup>, David B. Peden<sup>3,4</sup>, Jeffrey Roach<sup>5</sup>, and Meghan E. Rebull<sup>1,3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Curriculum in Toxicology & Environmental Medicine, <sup>2</sup>Environmental Sciences and Engineering Department, Gillings School of Global Public Health, <sup>3</sup>Center for Environmental Medicine, Asthma, and Lung Biology, <sup>4</sup>Department of Pediatrics, and <sup>5</sup>UNC Microbiome Core, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

ORCID IDs: 0000-0002-6671-0780 (C.C.-U.); 0000-0003-0202-1860 (R.D.); 0000-0002-9417-8269 (N.E.A.); 0000-0003-4526-4627 (D.B.P.); 0000-0001-9617-5877 (J.R.); 0000-0003-1918-2257 (M.E.R.).

- **Study Design:** Controlled human exposure study with longitudinal sampling.
- **Study Population:** 54 healthy, non-smoking adult volunteers.
- **Exposure:** 2hr exposure to wood smoke (500 $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>) with exercise.
- **Outcome**
  - Sputum microbiome composition (16S rRNA sequencing) and inflammatory cell profiles (macrophages, neutrophils) at baseline, 6h, and 24h post-exposure.





# GeoHealth

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

10.1029/2025GH001332

Min-Taek Lee and Hoyoung Cha  
contributed equally to this work.

### Key Points:

- Even short-term exposure to small wildfires significantly increase the risk of healthcare utilization for respiratory diseases
- Exposure to wildfire smoke had immediate and delayed effects on the respiratory diseases healthcare utilization

## Impact of Wildfire Smoke on Respiratory Disease Associated Healthcare Utilization in Gang-Won Province, South Korea, in 2017

Min-Taek Lee<sup>1,2</sup>, Hoyoung Cha<sup>3</sup>, Ju Won Lee<sup>1,2</sup>, Jongjin Baik<sup>4</sup>, Hae In Jung<sup>5,6</sup>, Kyoung Min Moon<sup>5,6</sup>, Changhyun Jun<sup>4</sup>, Sun-Young Jung<sup>1,2</sup>, and Kang-Mo Gu<sup>5,6,7</sup> 

<sup>1</sup>College of Pharmacy, Chung-Ang University, Seoul, Korea, <sup>2</sup>Department of Global Innovative Drugs, The Graduate School of Chung-Ang University, Seoul, Korea, <sup>3</sup>Department of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, Korea University, Seoul, Korea, <sup>4</sup>School of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering, Korea University, Seoul, Korea, <sup>5</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, College of Medicine, Chung-Ang University, Seoul, South Korea, <sup>6</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Allergy Medicine, Chung-Ang University Hospital, Seoul, Korea, <sup>7</sup>Biomedical Research Institute, Chung-Ang University Hospital, Seoul, South Korea

# Methods - Study Area & Period

- Gangwon Province Overview

81.5% forest coverage

Structure vulnerable to wildfires

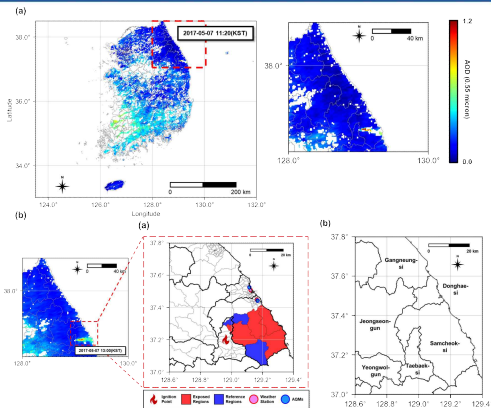
- Wildfire Incident area (A.O.D.)

May 6-9, 2017 in Samcheok and Donghae (764Ha)

- Study Period

- Pre-wildfire: April 22 – May 5, 2017
- Wildfire: May 6 – 9, 2017
- Post-wildfire: Immediate and extended (2-week)

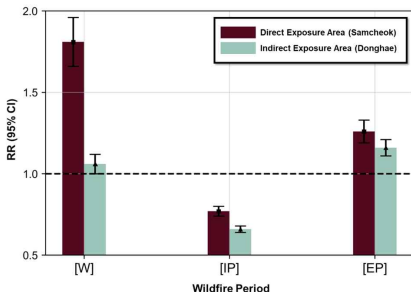
4.22.~5.5. (14 days)	5.6.~5.9	5.10.~5.23. (14 days)	5.24.~6.6. (14 days)
Pre-wildfire Period (Control)	During Wildfire	Immediate Post-wildfire Period	Extended Post-wildfire Period



Wildfire-exposed areas

- (a) Locations of ignition of AQMs, Weather Station, and Affected Areas from the May 6, 2017, wildfire
- (b) Administrative divisions of Gangwon-do (Samcheok (directly-exposed area), Donghae (indirectly-exposed area))

# Relative Risk of Respiratory Disease healthcare utilization by Region



(a) Samcheok (Direct exposed area)

Age Group (year)	2017 [W] RR (95% CI)	2017 [IP] RR (95% CI)	2017 [EP] RR (95% CI)
All age	1.81(1.67-1.96)	0.77(0.75-0.80)	1.26(1.20-1.33)
≥ 20	1.83(1.68-1.98)	0.76(0.74-0.79)	1.23(1.17-1.29)
0-9	2.20(2.04-2.38)	0.83(0.80-0.86)	1.44(1.37-1.52)
10-19	1.23(1.13-1.33)	0.71(0.69-0.74)	1.09(1.03-1.15)
20-65	1.90(1.76-2.06)	0.80(0.77-0.82)	1.19(1.13-1.25)
>65	1.76(1.61-1.93)	0.71(0.68-0.73)	1.24(1.17-1.31)

(b) Donghae (Indirect exposed area)

Age Group (year)	2017 [W] RR (95% CI)	2017 [IP] RR (95% CI)	2017 [EP] RR (95% CI)
All age	1.06(1.01-1.12)	0.66(0.64-0.68)	1.16(1.11-1.21)
≥ 20	1.21(1.14-1.27)	0.64(0.62-0.66)	1.08(1.03-1.12)
0-9	0.71(0.67-0.75)	0.71(0.69-0.74)	1.57(1.51-1.64)
10-19	1.08(1.02-1.13)	0.66(0.64-0.68)	0.96(0.92-1.00)
20-65	1.13(1.08-1.19)	0.67(0.66-0.69)	1.07(1.03-1.11)
>65	1.40(1.31-1.49)	0.59(0.57-0.61)	1.07(1.02-1.12)

- During the wildfire period - the direct-exposure area 81% increase RR (RR = 1.81, 95% CI 1.67-1.96) vs 6%
- During the extended post-wildfire period, the direct-exposure area an 26% increase in the RR vs. 16%

# Relative Risk Ratio of Respiratory Disease healthcare utilization by Region

(a) Samcheok (Direct exposed area)

Age Group (year)	2017 [W] RR (95% CI)	2017 [IP] RR (95% CI)	2017 [EP] RR (95% CI)	2017/2018 [W] RRR (95% CI)	2017/2018 [IP] RRR (95% CI)	2017/2018 [EP] RRR (95% CI)
All age	1.81(1.67-1.96)	0.77(0.75-0.80)	1.26(1.20-1.33)	1.30(1.15-1.45)	0.97(0.91-1.04)	1.75(1.61-1.91)
≥ 20	1.83(1.68-1.98)	0.76(0.74-0.79)	1.23(1.17-1.29)	1.49(1.32-1.67)	1.04(0.97-1.11)	1.84(1.69-2.00)
0-9	2.20(2.04-2.38)	0.83(0.80-0.86)	1.44(1.37-1.52)	1.37(1.22-1.54)	0.94(0.87-1.00)	1.83(1.67-2.01)
10-19	1.23(1.13-1.33)	0.71(0.69-0.74)	1.09(1.03-1.15)	1.39(1.24-1.55)	1.20(1.12-1.28)	1.99(1.83-2.17)
20-65	1.90(1.76-2.06)	0.80(0.77-0.82)	1.19(1.13-1.25)	1.44(1.29-1.61)	0.98(0.92-1.04)	1.72(1.58-1.88)
>65	1.76(1.61-1.93)	0.71(0.68-0.73)	1.24(1.17-1.31)	1.22(1.07-1.39)	0.94(0.87-1.01)	1.67(1.52-1.83)

(b) Donghae (Indirect exposed area)

Age Group (year)	2017 [W] RR (95% CI)	2017 [IP] RR (95% CI)	2017 [EP] RR (95% CI)	2017/2018 [W] RRR (95% CI)	2017/2018 [IP] RRR (95% CI)	2017/2018 [EP] RRR (95% CI)
All age	1.06(1.01-1.12)	0.66(0.64-0.68)	1.16(1.11-1.21)	0.48(0.45-0.52)	0.51(0.48-0.53)	0.81(0.77-0.86)
≥ 20	1.21(1.14-1.27)	0.64(0.62-0.66)	1.08(1.03-1.12)	0.53(0.50-0.58)	0.48(0.45-0.50)	0.74(0.70-0.78)
0-9	0.71(0.67-0.75)	0.71(0.69-0.74)	1.57(1.51-1.64)	0.31(0.29-0.33)	0.55(0.52-0.58)	1.09(1.03-1.16)
10-19	1.08(1.02-1.13)	0.66(0.64-0.68)	0.96(0.92-1.00)	0.75(0.70-0.80)	0.59(0.57-0.62)	0.90(0.85-0.96)
20-65	1.13(1.08-1.19)	0.67(0.66-0.69)	1.07(1.03-1.11)	0.55(0.51-0.59)	0.53(0.50-0.55)	0.80(0.76-0.85)
>65	1.40(1.31-1.49)	0.59(0.57-0.61)	1.07(1.02-1.12)	0.52(0.48-0.57)	0.42(0.40-0.44)	0.63(0.59-0.68)

- In the direct-exposure area, the RRRs during the wildfire (RRR = 1.30, 95% CI 1.15-1.45) and extended post-wildfire (RRR = 1.75, 95% CI 1.61-1.91) periods were significantly elevated.



## Air pollution and COPD: GOLD 2023 committee report

Don D. Sin<sup>1</sup>, Dany Doiron<sup>2</sup>, Alvar Agusti<sup>3</sup>, Antonio Anzueto<sup>4</sup>, Peter J. Barnes<sup>5</sup>, Bartolome R. Celli<sup>6</sup>, Gerard J. Criner<sup>7</sup>, David Halpin<sup>8</sup>, MeiLan K. Han<sup>9</sup>, Fernando J. Martinez<sup>10</sup>, Maria Montes de Oca<sup>11</sup>, Alberto Papi<sup>12</sup>, Ian Pavord<sup>13</sup>, Nicolas Roche<sup>14</sup>, Dave Singh<sup>15</sup>, Robert Stockley<sup>16</sup>, M. Victorina Lopez Varlera<sup>17</sup>, Jadwiga Wedzicha<sup>5</sup>, Claus Vogelmeier<sup>18</sup> and Jean Bourbeau<sup>2</sup> on behalf of the GOLD Scientific Committee

### BOX 1 Impact of ambient air pollution on respiratory health in patients living with COPD: key messages

- Wildfires and extreme weather events such as heat waves are major threats to COPD patients, and acutely increase their risk of morbidity and mortality [46]
- Over the next 30 years, the number of persons dying from air pollution exposure is expected to increase by 100–300% owing to climate change [44]

An aerial photograph of a flooded landscape. A winding river flows through the center, surrounded by lush green fields. The water is a light brownish-yellow color, indicating it might be carrying sediment. The surrounding land is a mix of green and brown, suggesting some areas are submerged while others are not. The overall scene depicts a significant flooding event in a rural or agricultural area.

# Climate Change and Floods



# Respiratory Impacts of Flooding

## DIRECT EXPOSURE & INDIRECT SYSTEMIC RISKS

### ➡ Direct Respiratory Effects

#### Contaminated Exposure

- **Toxicants:** Exposure to pesticides and drug-resistant pathogens in floodwater.
- **Aerosolization:** Drying sediments turn into **toxic dust** that residents inhale.
- **Cleanup Risk:** High intensity exposure during cleaning and sediment removal.

[📄 Clinical Link:](#) Urban flooding is directly associated with increased ARIs.

### 🏠 Indirect Systemic Effects

#### Infrastructure & Housing

- **Care Disruption:** Damaged clinics and interrupted vaccination/chronic care programs.
- **Housing Compromise:** Overcrowding and poor ventilation in water-damaged homes.
- **Transmission:** Facilitated spread of viral infections due to displacement.

[🏠 Management vulnerability](#) persists months after water recedes.

# Post-Flood Mould Exposure

A CRITICAL BUT UNDERSTUDIED RESPIRATORY THREAT



## Stage 1

Floodwaters subside, leaving saturated materials.



## Stage 2

Persistent damp indoor micro-environments.



## Stage 3

Rapid and massive proliferation of fungal spores.

→ **Duration: Few weeks to months**

## Associated Respiratory Spectrum

Asthma Onset/Exacerbation

Bronchitis & Chronic Cough

Aspergillosis (Infectious)

Allergic Rhinitis

▲ Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis (Severe/Rare)

### HIGH-RISK GROUPS

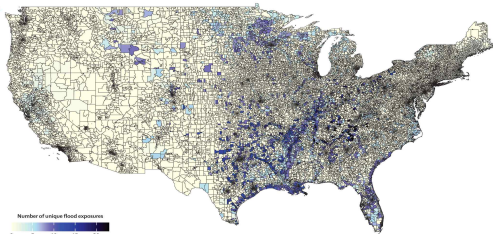
Children & Immunocompromised



*Research Gap: Strong biological plausibility exists, but longitudinal post-flood research is currently limited.*

# Severe flooding and cause-specific hospitalisation among older adults in the USA: a retrospective matched cohort analysis

Sarika Aggarwal, Jie K Hu, Jonathan A Sullivan, Robbie M Parks, Rachel C Nethery



- **Study Design:** Retrospective matched cohort analysis
- **Study Population**
  - 4.5 million hospitalizations of Medicare  $\geq 65$  US (2000–2016)
- **Exposure**
  - 72 major floods, Flood map(Satellite), Lag 4 week (12wk Extended)
  - 같은 ZIP code를 flood 시기와 non-flood 시기로 비교하는 self-matched design
- **Outcome**
  - Hospitalization rates in 13 exclusive disease categories (Including Respiratory)
- **Statistics**
  - Conditional quasi-Poisson distributed lag models comparing flooded days (+4 weeks lag) to self-matched, non-flooded control days.

## Significant Hospitalization Rate Increases (Mean % Change)

+3.1%

SKIN DISEASES

+2.5%

NERVOUS SYSTEM

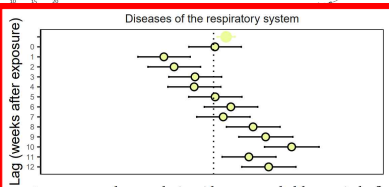
+1.3%

MUSCULOSKELETAL

+1.1%

INJURIES

\*Peak musculoskeletal risk (+5.6%) observed at 4-week lag, likely due to cleanup-related strain or delayed care.



In our secondary analysis with an extended lag period of 12 weeks, we observed increased rates of hospitalisation for respiratory system diseases during the later lag weeks (ie, weeks 8–12) with a peak increase during lag week 10 (4.1% [95% CI 2.7–5.5]). Other causes of hospitalisation exhibited patterns consistent with the primary analysis

# Air Pollution

Outdoor & Indoor Air Quality

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# Long-term exposure to low ambient air pollution concentrations and mortality among 28 million people: results from seven large European cohorts within the ELAPSE project



Massimo Stafoggia, Brenti Offedal, Jie Chen, Sophia Rodopoulou, Matteo Renzi, Richard W Atkinson, Mariska Bauwelinck, Jochem D Klompmaaker, Anur Mehta, Daniël Vienneau, Zanana J Andersen, Tam Bellander, Jørgen Brandt, Giulia Cesaroni, Kees de Hoogh, Daniela Fehst, John Gulliver, Ole Hertel, Barbara Hoffmann, Ulla A Hvidtfeldt, Karl Heinz Jöckel, Jeanette T Jørgensen, Kleo Katsouyanni, Matthias Ketzel, Doris Tove Kristjofsen, Anton Lager, Karin Leander, Shuo Liu, Petter L S Ljungman, Gabriele Nagel, Göran Pershagen, Annette Peters, Ole Raaschou-Nielsen, Debora Rizzuto, Sara Schramm, Per E Schwarze, Gianluca Severi, Torben Sigsgaard, Maciek Strak, Yvonne T van der Schouw, Monique Verschuren, Gudrun Weinmayr, Kathrin Wolf, Emanuel Zitt, Evangelia Samoli, Francesco Forastiere, Bert Brunekreef\*, Gerard Hoek\*, Nicole A H Janssen\*

28,153,138

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

258 Million

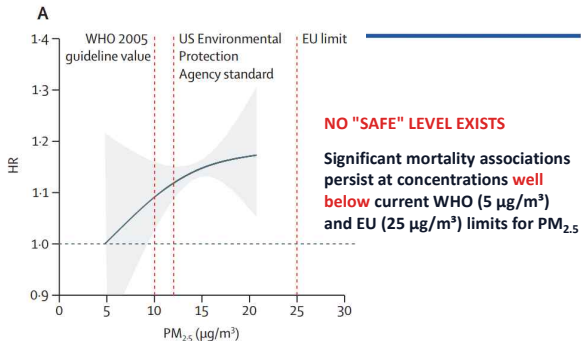
PERSON-YEARS

100m<sup>2</sup>

SPATIAL RESOLUTION

07

INTEGRATED COHORTS



## BOX 1 Impact of ambient air pollution on respiratory health in patients living with COPD: key messages

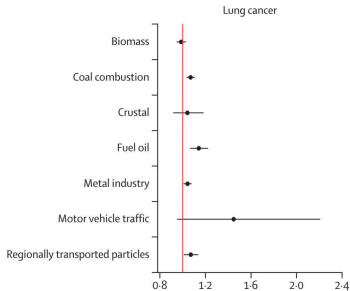
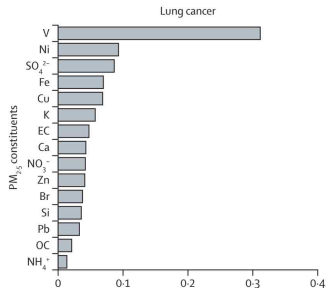
- There are no “safe” levels of ambient air pollution [41, 106]
- The relationship between air pollution levels and respiratory events is supra-linear [106]

# Long-term exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> constituents and incident cancer among Medicare beneficiaries in the USA: a national cohort study



- **Study Design:** National cohort study.
- **Study Population:** 15M (aged ≥65 years), 2000 and 2018.
- **Exposure:** 3-year average 15 PM<sub>2.5</sub>, ZIP code (machine learning models)
- **Outcome:** Incident lung, colorectal, prostate, breast, and endometrial cancers.

Yijing Feng, Tingfan Jin, Yaguang Wei, Kyle Steenland, Joel Schwartz



## Public Health Impact

"Reducing PM<sub>2.5</sub> by just 1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> across the USA can prevent **2,300** new lung cancer cases annually."

## Health Disparities

- Higher risk in individuals **aged 75+**
- Pronounced vulnerability in **Males**
- Socioeconomic gap ( **Medicaid-eligible** )

## CONCLUSION

Regulatory standards must transition from Total Mass to Constituent-Based control.

### The Primary Driver: Vanadium (V)

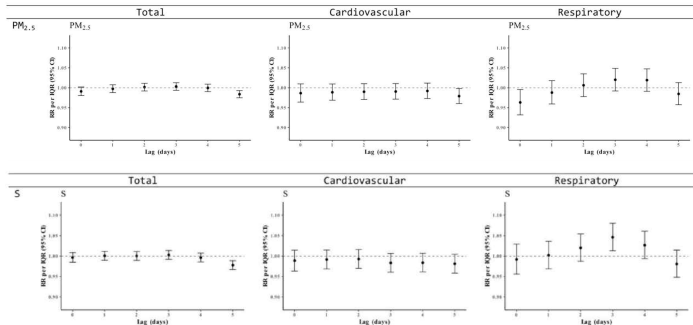
Vanadium contributes **31.3%** of the total mixture effect, followed by Nickel (9.3%).

### Highest Risk Sources

FUEL OIL	COAL
<b>1.141 HR</b>	<b>1.069 HR</b>

# Effects of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and particle constituents on overall, cardiovascular, and respiratory mortality in Seoul

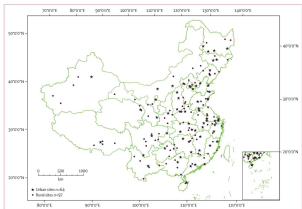
Oh Beom Kwon<sup>1</sup>, Eun Ju Lee<sup>1</sup>, Myoung Nam Lim<sup>2</sup>, Young Ji Han<sup>3</sup>, Jun Young Ahn<sup>4</sup>, Hye Jung Shin<sup>4</sup>, Jung Min Park<sup>4</sup>, Jeeyoung Kim<sup>3</sup> & Woo Jin Kim<sup>1,5,6</sup>



	Mass of components		
	Mean ± SD	Minimum-maximum	IQR
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	26.02 ± 16.32	1.07–142.0	17.77
Ions (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )			
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	4.02 ± 3.34	0–27.48	3.83
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	5.03 ± 5.66	0–51.91	5.79
Cl <sup>-</sup>	0.28 ± 0.31	0–2.57	0.35
Na <sup>+</sup>	0.07 ± 0.09	0–0.62	0.10
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	3.09 ± 2.81	0–25.19	3.00
K <sup>+</sup>	0.12 ± 0.13	0–1.05	0.15
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	0.01 ± 0.02	0–0.21	0.004
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	0.06 ± 0.08	0–0.58	0.09
Carbon			
OC	3.58 ± 1.91	0.20–12.55	2.40
EC	1.06 ± 0.58	0.03–4.04	0.70
Metal (ng/m <sup>3</sup> )			
S	2711.71 ± 2057.66	45.74–16032.50	2325.72
K	239.65 ± 195.24	7.68–2287.96	212.04
Ca	68.78 ± 75.72	0–1104.97	48.08
Ti	10.63 ± 0.08	0.08–137.87	7.08
V	3.30 ± 4.25	0–31.60	4.20
Cr	1.26 ± 0.90	0–7.19	1.05
Mn	11.05 ± 7.84	0.03–56.10	8.71
Fe	199.73 ± 129.29	9.64–1642.18	125.33
Ni	1.26 ± 1.39	0–10.14	1.47
Cu	7.90 ± 4.89	0.33–29.21	6.23
Zn	53.33 ± 34.88	0.84–258.70	41.00
As	3.79 ± 3.45	0–45.23	3.63
Se	1.06 ± 1.06	0–6.42	1.15
Br	7.38 ± 5.88	0.02–63.13	6.22
Pb	18.28 ± 12.23	0.03–89.32	15.51

# Mortality and long-term exposure to source-specific PM<sub>2.5</sub>: evidence from a national cohort study in China

Xia Meng\*, Yuchang Zhou\*, Su Shi\*, Shuxiao Wang, Maryam Zaid, Hongliang Zhang<sup>†</sup>, Jianlin Hu<sup>†</sup>, Gang Li, Haidong Kan, Maigeng Zhou<sup>†</sup>  
 2010–11 of the China Chronic Disease and Risk Factors Surveillance (CCDRFS) project



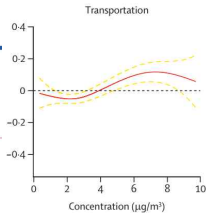
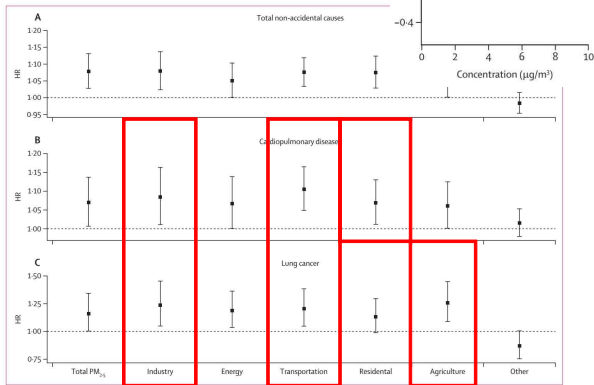
N=96,955 (>18yr, ~2020.12.31.)

High-resolution machine-learning-based (Random Forest) and CMAQ-derived source-specific PM<sub>2.5</sub>

## Outcome Definitions

- Total non-accidental mortality ICD-10: A00–R99
- Respiratory Disease Mortality: J00–J99
- Lung cancer mortality: C34

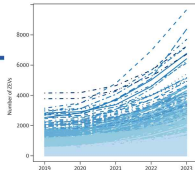
Model: Cox proportional hazards model



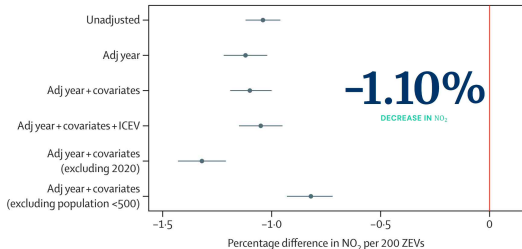
# Zero-emissions vehicle adoption and satellite-measured NO<sub>2</sub> air pollution in California, USA, from 2019 to 2023: a longitudinal observational study



Sandra P Eckel, Futo Chen, Sam J Silva, Daniel L Goldberg, Jill Johnston, Lawrence A Palinkas, Alberto Campos, Wilma Franco, Erika Garcia



A Primary and sensitivity analyses, 2019–23 TROPOMI NO<sub>2</sub> and ZEVs



- **Study Design**
  - Longitudinal observational study
  - Natural experiment of the electric vehicle transition
- **Study Population**
  - 1,687 ZIP code tabulation areas (ZCTAs), California (2019–2023)
- **Exposure**
  - Within-ZCTA changes in the annual number of registered light-duty zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs)
- **Outcome**
  - Annual mean tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> measured by the TROPOMI satellite instrument
- **Statistics**
  - Longitudinal linear mixed-effects models with ZCTA-level random intercepts (population size, socioeconomic status, fuel prices, telecommuting patterns)
  - ZEV counts were group-mean centered to isolate within-ZCTA effects

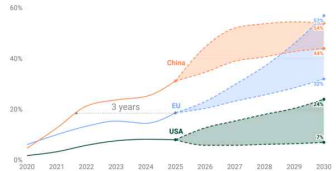
## • ZEV Adoption and NO<sub>2</sub> Reduction

- From 2019 to 2023 in California increases in registered light-duty zero-emissions vehicles
- **An increase of 200 zero-emissions vehicles corresponded to an approximately 1.1% decrease in NO<sub>2</sub>**



### Europe can regain global EV leadership, if it maintains 2035 ambition

BEV sales share



Source: GlobalData (China and USA, historical data), ACEA (Europe, historical data), BloombergNEF (China, forecast), Rhodium (USA, forecast) • Europe is EU + Norway



# Built Environment & Indoor Air Pollution Exposure

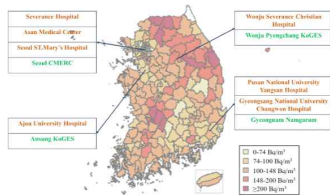
Urban Design · Indoor Air · Workplace Hazards

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Article  
**Residential Radon Exposure and Cigarette Smoking  
in Association with Lung Cancer: A Matched  
Case-Control Study in Korea**

Eung Joo Park <sup>1,2,3</sup>, Hokyo Lee <sup>3,4,5</sup>, Hyeon Chang Kim <sup>3,5,6</sup>, Seung Soo Sheen <sup>6</sup>,  
Sang Baek Koh <sup>7</sup>, Ki Soo Park <sup>8</sup>, Nam Han Cho <sup>9</sup>, Cheol-Min Lee <sup>10</sup> and  
Dae Ryong Kang <sup>1,2,4</sup>



**Figure 2.** Map of the study area and research sites. Regional indoor radon levels were obtained from the National Institute of Environmental Research (2011–2016). Fill colors correspond to radon levels in five categories. Stars designate the locations of study sites.

**Association between humidifier disinfectant use and development of lung cancer: A nested case-cohort study**

Soyoung Park <sup>1,2</sup>, Yeon-Soon Ahn <sup>3,4</sup>, Jungyun Lim <sup>5</sup>, Sol Yu <sup>6</sup>, Younghee Kim <sup>7</sup>,  
Jonglin Lee <sup>8,9,10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Kangbuk Samsung Hospital, Sungkyunkwan University, School of Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea  
<sup>2</sup> Department of Medicine and Institute of Genetic Culture, Kyungju College of Medicine, Kyungju University, Kyungju, Gyeongsang, Republic of Korea  
<sup>3</sup> Humidifier Disinfectant Health Center, National Institute of Environmental Research, Incheon, Republic of Korea  
<sup>4</sup> Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul, Republic of Korea  
<sup>5</sup> Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, Division of Population Health, Health Service Research & Primary Care, The University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom

Original Article

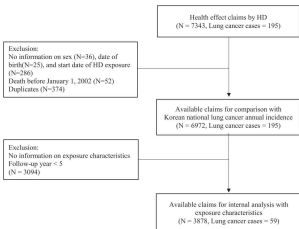
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**Cooking oil fume exposure and Lung-RADS distribution among school cafeteria workers of South Korea**

Minjun Kim <sup>1</sup>, Yagho Kim <sup>2</sup>, A Ram Kim <sup>3</sup>, Woon Jung Kwon <sup>4</sup>,  
Seoyoun Lim <sup>5</sup>, Woonjin Kim <sup>6</sup>, and Cheolin Yoo <sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Ulsan University Hospital, Ulsan University School of Medicine, Ulsan, Korea  
<sup>2</sup> Department of Diagnostic Radiology, Ulsan University Hospital, Ulsan University School of Medicine, Ulsan, Korea

OPEN ACCESS



**Lung-RADS distribution of participants according to work classification**

Lung-RADS	Total (n = 203)		p-value
	Exposed (n = 167)	Unexposed (n = 36)	
Negative	150 (89.8)	36 (100.0)	0.031*
Positive	17 (10.2)	0 (0.0)	

Values are presented as number (%). The p-values were calculated using  $\chi^2$  test. The p-values were analyzed using Fisher's exact test (Lung-RADS distribution).

Lung-RADS: lung-imaging reporting and data system.

\*p < 0.05.

Improvement of indoor air quality and health effects in COPD patients in a heavy industrial area

Jia Lin Zhang<sup>a,\*</sup>, Yi Ting Chang<sup>a</sup>, Ching Yu Hsiao<sup>a</sup>, Chung-Shin Yuan<sup>b,c</sup>, Yen-Ping Peng<sup>b</sup>, Dai Wei Wu<sup>a</sup>, Huang-Chi Chen<sup>a</sup>, Jia-Yu Kuo<sup>a</sup>, Hui-Lei Juan<sup>a</sup>, Pei-Shih Chen<sup>a,b,d,e</sup>

**Design:** Double-blind randomized crossover trial

**Participants:** 61 COPD patients

**Interventions (2 weeks each):**

PCO vs PCO + HEPA + activated carbon filters

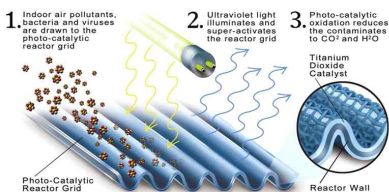
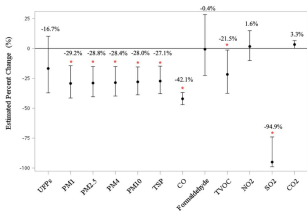
**Measurements:**

Indoor pollutants (PM, CO, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, TVOCs)

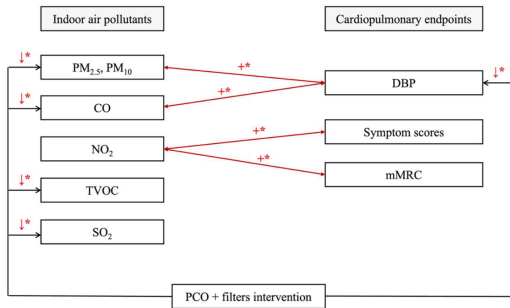
Lung function, symptoms, FeNO, blood pressure

**Analysis:** Linear mixed-effects models

(B) PCO + filters intervention

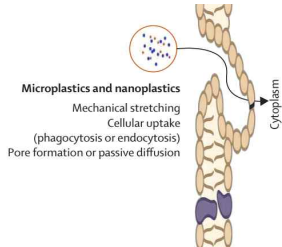
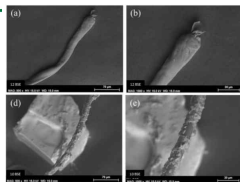


•HEPA → 가스상 오염물질 제거에는 한계  
 •Photocatalytic oxidation (광촉매 산화)  
 → CO, VOCs, SO<sub>2</sub> 등 가스상 오염물질 분해 가능



# Microplastic and nanoplastic pollution and associated potential disease risks

Nurshad Ali, Jenny Katsouli, Eric Auyang, Jorge Bernardino de la Serna



Microplastics and nanoplastics

Exposure through ingestion, inhalation, and skin



## Oxidative Stress & Inflammation

MNPs strongly induce **Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)** production, leading to cellular toxicity, tissue damage, and persistent low-level systemic inflammation.



## Cellular Stress & Death

MNPs disrupt normal function by increasing **Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER) stress** and altering autophagy and **apoptosis** (programmed cell death) pathways.



## The "Trojan Horse" Effect

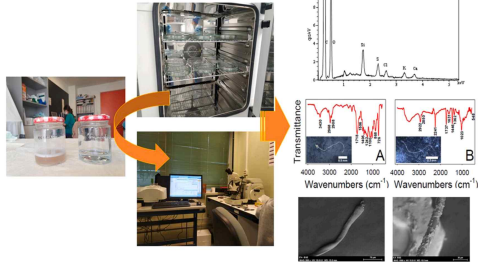
MNPs act as vectors carrying **co-contaminants** like bisphenol A, phthalates, heavy metals, and pathogens into the body for toxic release.

Research Paper

First evidence of microplastics isolated in European citizens' lower airway

Carlos Baeza-Martínez<sup>a</sup>, Sonia Olmos<sup>b</sup>, Miguel González-Pleiter<sup>c</sup>, Juanita López-Castellanos<sup>b</sup>,  
 Eduardo García-Pachón<sup>a</sup>, Mar Masía-Canuto<sup>d</sup>, Luis Hernández-Blas<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Pneumology Service, Hospital General Universitario d'Elie, Card de l'Assessor, 11, E-02203 Elie, Alicante, Spain  
<sup>b</sup> Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Technical University of Cartagena, Paseo Alfonso XIII 44,  
<sup>c</sup> Department of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Cantoblanco, E-28049 Madrid, Spain  
<sup>d</sup> Department of Clinical Medicine, Miguel Hernández University of Elche, E-03203 Elche, Alicante, Spain



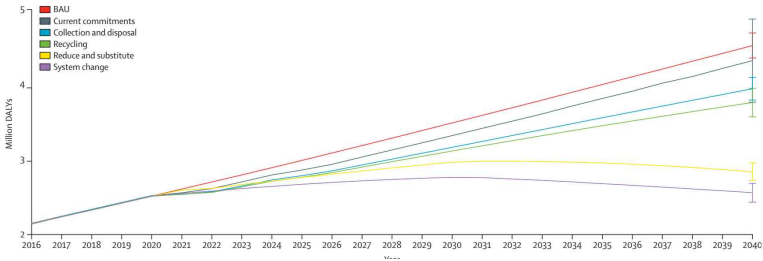
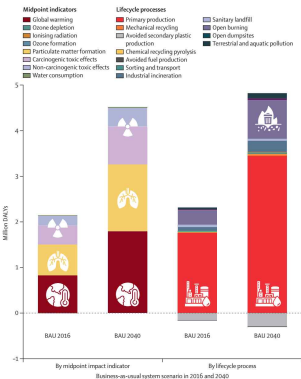
- **Microplastics detected in BALF** from lung cancer patients
  - Predominantly **microfibers (97.06%)**
  - Mean concentration: **9.18 items / 100 mL BALF**
  - Particulate microplastics: **5.88% (0.57 items / 100 mL)**
- **Clinical significance:** Confirms lower airway exposure and deposition in humans.

# Global health burdens of plastics: a lifecycle assessment model from 2016 to 2040

Megan Deeney, Lorie Hamelin, Claire Vialle, Xiaoyu Yan, Rosemary Green, Joe Yates, Suneetha Kadiyala



Disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs)  
Business as usual (BAU)

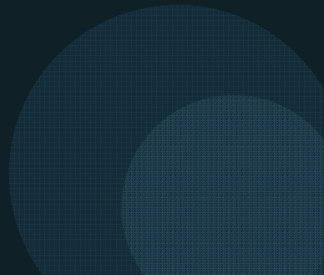


- **BAU scenario (2016–2040): Cumulative 83 million DALYs, with annual health burdens rising from 2.1 million in 2016 to 4.5 million in 2040 (more than doubling)**
- **Major contributors: Primary plastics production accounts for >80% of total DALYs**
- **Policy implication: Even the “system change” scenario reduces 2040 DALYs by 43% vs BAU**
- **Deep reductions in primary plastics production are the most effective single lever**

# Natural Environment & Ecosystems

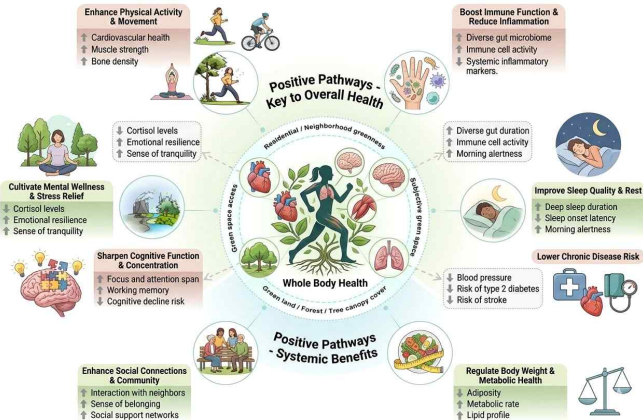
Green · Blue · Gray Spaces · One Health

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# Why Green Space?



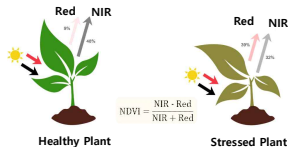
## Systemic Pathways to Whole Body Health: The Impact of **Green Space Exposure**

Urban Forestry & Urban Greening 2015;14(4):806-816.  
 Environmental Research 2017;158:301-317.  
 The Lancet Planetary Health 2019;3(11):e469-e477

# Remote Sensing & Green Space

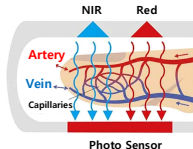
## Assessing Vitality: Chlorophyll in Plants vs. Hemoglobin in Blood

### Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)



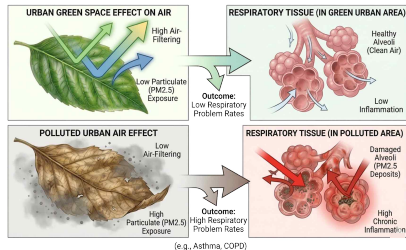
- **Purpose:** NDVI is satellite-derived metric used to quantify global **vegetation vitality and health**
- **Target:** **Chlorophyll** within plant leaves
- **Mechanism:**
  - \* **NIR:** Plant naturally reflect most NIR light
  - \* **Red:** Chlorophyll absorbs Red light which depends on the plant's vitality

### Pulse Oximeter



- **Purpose:** Non-invasive monitoring of a patient's **oxygen saturation** to assess **respiratory function**
- **Target:** **Hemoglobin(Hb)** in bloodstream
- **Mechanism:**
  - \* Oxygenated Hb: Absorbs more **NIR**
  - \* Deoxygenated Hb: Absorbs more **Red**

## Relation between green space and respiratory health



**Green space** may reduce **respiratory problems** by filtering **PM2.5** and other air pollutants, which lowers particle deposition in the alveoli and reduces inflammation and tissue damage

# Association Between Green Space and COPD

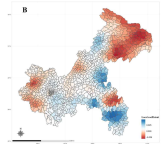
- Urban **green space** is associated with **respiratory health outcomes**, including COPD exacerbations, hospitalizations, and mortality.
- However, the **magnitude and direction** of these associations **vary across regions** and **populations**, suggesting spatial and demographic heterogeneity
- These findings suggest that **environmental context** and **population characteristics** should be considered when evaluating the health impacts of green space.

## Research 1 Green space showed a positive association with COPD mortality.

RESEARCH Open Access

### Spatial association between green space and COPD mortality: a township-level ecological study in Chongqing, China

Aiping Gou<sup>1†</sup>, Guanzheng Tan<sup>1†</sup>, Xianbin Ding<sup>2†</sup>, Jangbo Wang<sup>3†</sup>, Yan Jiao<sup>2</sup>, Chuyuan Gou<sup>4</sup> and Qiang Tan<sup>2</sup>



Green space (NDVI) on COPD mortality, with **positive associations in 63% of regions** and negative associations in 37%

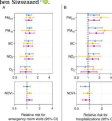
## Research 2 Long-term Air Pollution and Greenness Exposure Linked to health.



Long-term exposure to air pollution and greenness in association with respiratory emergency room visits and hospitalizations: The Life-GAP project

Shanshan Xu<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Alessandro Marras<sup>3</sup>, Randi Jacobsen Bertelsen<sup>4</sup>, Bryndis Benediktsson<sup>5,6</sup>, Jørgen Brandt<sup>7</sup>, Lise Marie Frohn<sup>8</sup>, Camilla Goels<sup>9</sup>, Thorarinn Gudsson<sup>10</sup>, Joachim Heinrich<sup>11</sup>, Mathias Holm<sup>12</sup>, Christer Jaroson<sup>13</sup>, Insa Markovych<sup>14,15</sup>, Lars Modig<sup>16</sup>, Hans Gru<sup>17</sup>, Vivi Schlitzner<sup>18</sup>, Torben Sørensen<sup>19</sup>, Aase Johannessen<sup>20</sup>

**Long-term exposure to particulate air pollution (PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, BC, NO<sub>2</sub>) was associated with increased respiratory emergency visits and hospitalizations.**



## Research 3 Urban Green Space Associated with Reduced Risk of Acute COPD.

International Journal of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Dovepress Taylor & Francis Group

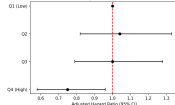
Open Access Full Text Article

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

### Association Between Urban Green Space and Acute Exacerbations of COPD in Korea: A Nationwide Study Using the NHIS-NSC Cohort

Hae In Jung<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Ju Won Lee<sup>3,4</sup>, Hyochan Kim<sup>5</sup>, Hoyoung Cha<sup>6</sup>, Jongjin Baik<sup>7</sup>, Kyoung Min Moon<sup>8</sup>, Changhyun Jun<sup>9</sup>, Sun-Young Jung<sup>10</sup>, Kang-Mo Gu<sup>11</sup>

Forest Plot of Green Space Exposure and AE-COPD Risk



Greater urban green space coverage was associated with a **lower risk of acute COPD exacerbations.**

# Association Between Green Space and Cancer

- Residential greenness was associated with **reduced incidence and mortality of certain cancers**, with the most consistent protective association observed for **lung cancer**.
- However, these associations **varied by cancer type**, with protective effects also observed for breast and prostate cancer, whereas no clear association was found for colorectal cancer.
- Additionally, increasing residential greenspace **may help reduce socioeconomic disparities** in total cancer incidence among disadvantaged populations.

**Research 1** Greenness was linked to lower lung and breast cancer mortality.

Full length article  
Long-term exposure to residential green spaces and site-specific cancer mortality in urban Belgium: A 13-year follow-up cohort study

Lucía Rodríguez-Loureiro<sup>1,2</sup>, Freija Verdoordt<sup>3</sup>, Wouter Lefebvre<sup>4</sup>, Charlotte Vanpoucke<sup>4</sup>, Lidia Casas<sup>1,5,1</sup>, Sylvie Gaduey<sup>1,1</sup>

Residential **green-space exposure** was associated with **lower lung and breast cancer mortality**, but not colorectal cancer; prostate cancer showed possible adverse associations.

**Research 2** Higher NDVI was linked to lower prostate and lung cancer incidence.

Relationships among green space, ambient fine particulate matter, and cancer incidence in Taiwan: A 16-year retrospective cohort study

Ying-Ihen Huang<sup>1</sup>, Ping-Hsien Lee<sup>2</sup>, Li-Chi Chen<sup>3</sup>, Bo-Cheng Lin<sup>3</sup>, Changqing Lin<sup>4</sup>, Ts-Chien Chen<sup>1,1</sup>

Higher NDVI was significantly associated with **lower risks of prostate and lung cancer incidence**, suggesting that residential greenness may exert a **protective effect** on these cancer types.

**Research 3** Residential greenspace may reduce cancer risk inequalities.

Neighborhood socioeconomic disparities in cancer incidence following a hypothetical intervention to increase residential greenspace cover in the UK Biobank cohort

Kuangyu Liu<sup>1,2</sup>, Jhari S. Byer<sup>3</sup>, Yujia Lu<sup>4</sup>, Francine Laden<sup>5,6</sup>, Mingyang Song<sup>1,2,3,4,5,6</sup>, Charlotte Roscoe<sup>1,2,3,4,5,6</sup>

Increasing residential greenspace, particularly within 300 m of the home, may help **reduce socioeconomic inequalities in total cancer incidence**, with the greatest benefits accruing to the most deprived populations.

# Urban Green Space Indicators (Remote Sensing)

- **NDVI – Normalized Difference Vegetation Index**

- Reflects vegetation vitality
  - High (0.6–1.0) / Moderate (0.2–0.5) / Low (0.0–0.2)

- **EVI – Enhanced Vegetation Index**

- **Corrects soil & atmospheric noise → more accurate than NDVI**
- **Specialized for dense vegetation & long-term monitoring**
  - High (0.5–0.8) / Moderate (0.2–0.5) / Low (0.0–0.2)

- **LAI – Leaf Area Index**

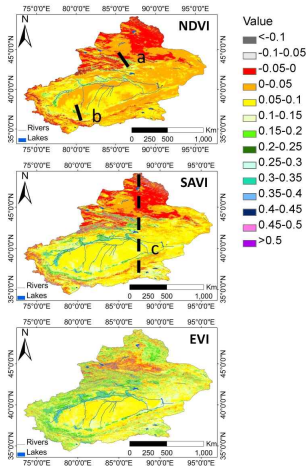
- **Directly captures the structural characteristics of vegetation**
  - High ( $\geq 5.0$ ) / Moderate (3.0–5.0) / Low (1.0–3.0)

- **Long-term exposure modeling**

- Annual mean, moving averages, lag structures
- Time-varying exposure reflecting residential mobility

- **Analytical scales**

- Quartiles (Q1–Q4; Q1 reference)
- Continuous increments (NDVI/EVI per +0.10, LAI per +1.0)

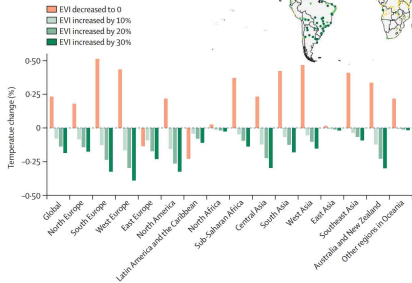
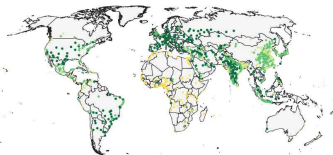


# Estimating the urban heat-related mortality burden due to greenness: a global modelling study

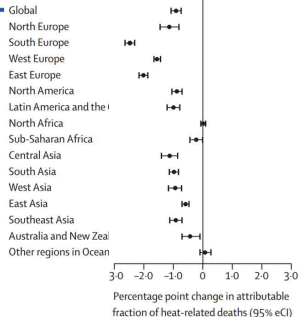
Yao Wu, Bo Wen, Tingting Ye, Wenzhong Huang, Yanming Liu, Antonio Gasparini, Francesco Sera, Shifu Tong, Eric Lavigne, Dominic Roye, Souzana Achilleas, Niilo Rytö, Mathilde Pascal, Ariana Zeka, Francesca de' Donato, Susana das Neves Pereira da Silva, Joana Madureira, Malcolm Mistry, Ben Armstrong, Michelle L Bell, Joel Schwartz, Yuming Guo, Shanshan Li, on behalf of the MCC Collaborative Research Network\*



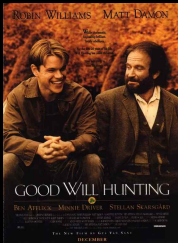
EVI increased by 30%



EVI increased by 30%



More than **3,153,225 (2.48%)** of total deaths were attributed to heat exposure in 2000–19, and a **30%** increase in **EVI** was estimated to prevent **1.16 million (95% eCI 0.92–1.40)** heat-related deaths globally.



# Examples of Good Environment



# Take Home Messages

Understanding & Responding to Environmental Lung Diseases



## 01 Expanding Concept of Environmental Lung Diseases

Beyond pneumoconiosis — encompasses all respiratory diseases from diverse indoor/outdoor inhalation hazards.

## 02 Climate Change = Respiratory Health Crisis

Wildfires, heat waves, floods increase respiratory severity and mortality. PM2.5 drives acute exacerbations.

## 03 Complex Environmental Exposures & Health Impact

PM2.5, NO<sub>2</sub>, and microplastics linked to airway inflammation, reduced lung function, and lung cancer risk.

## 04 Nature-based Solutions & Immune Resilience

Green/blue spaces mitigate pollution, reduce heat islands, enhance microbial diversity.

기후변화는 농작물 생산을 위협하고, 농업 생산의 기초를 흔들고 있다.



### 우리나라도 기상이변이 찾아졌다!

이른 봄부터 초여름처럼 더운 날씨가 오거나, 여름철 폭염과 집중호우는 물론 갑작스러운 가뭄도 빈번해졌다. 가을에는 열대야와 늦더위가 이어지고, 겨울에는 기온 변동이 커져 따뜻하다가도 갑작스러운 한파가 오고 있다. 빈번해진 극한 기상은 다양한 **농작물 피해**로 이어졌다.

- 1 장기간 지속되는 가뭄
- 2 폭염으로 인해 타버리는 작물
- 3 짧은 시간에 쏟아지는 폭우와 홍수
- 4 갑작스러운 한파와 폭설



사진 출처 : 농림축산식품부, 농촌진흥청

# 경청해 주셔서 감사합니다!

구강모 올림.

[9kangmo@gmail.com](mailto:9kangmo@gmail.com)

Instagram @respiratorymonster



## TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH FROM THE ENVIRONMENT

**8.5 million** out of **13.7 million** deaths caused by the environment are due to noncommunicable diseases



 World Health Organization

#EnvironmentalHealth

## WHO IS MOST IMPACTED BY THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental impacts on health are uneven across age and mostly affect the poor.

Low- and middle-income countries bear the greatest share of environmental disease.



### Men

are slightly more affected due to occupational risks and injuries.

### Women

bear higher exposures to traditional environmental risks such as smoke from cooking with solid fuels or carrying water.

Children under five and adults between 50 and 75 years old are most affected by the environment.



### YEARLY

**5.2 MILLION**

### Deaths in adults

between 50 and 75 years. The most common causes are noncommunicable diseases and injuries.

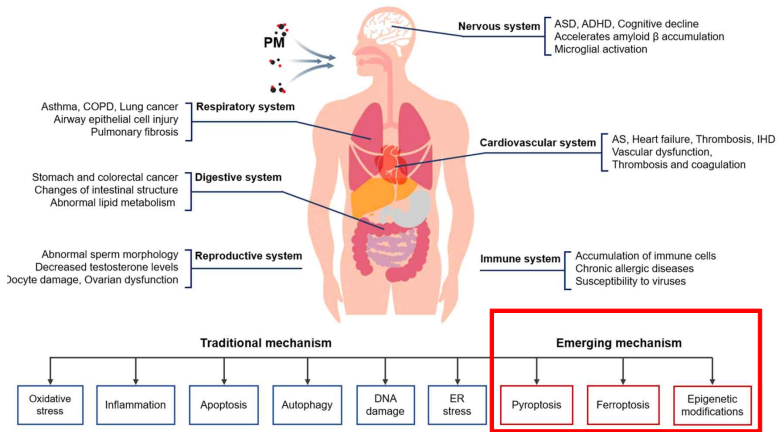
**1.6 MILLION**  
Deaths in children

under five. The most prominent causes are lower respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases.

 World Health Organization

#EnvironmentalHealth

# Ambient PM on the adverse health effects epidemiological and laboratory evidence



# Emerging Mechanisms of PM-induced Lung Injury

Beyond Traditional Oxidative Stress & Inflammation



## Pyroptosis

Inflammatory Cell Death

### Trigger

PM activates NLRP3 inflammasome via ROS and lysosomal damage

### Mechanism

Caspase-1 activation → Gasdermin D pore formation → cell lysis

### Key Mediators

IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-18 release amplifies neutrophilic inflammation

### Clinical Link

Drives acute airway inflammation in asthma & COPD exacerbations



## Ferroptosis

Iron-dependent Cell Death

### Trigger

PM-bound iron + ROS overwhelm GPX4 antioxidant defense

### Mechanism

Lipid peroxidation cascade → membrane integrity loss → cell death

### Key Mediators

Fe<sup>2+</sup> accumulation, GSH depletion, lipid peroxide buildup

### Clinical Link

Implicated in COPD progression, pulmonary fibrosis, and lung cancer



## Epigenetic Modification

Heritable Gene Expression Change

### Trigger

Chronic PM exposure alters DNA methylation & histone marks

### Mechanism

CpG hypermethylation of tumor suppressors; global hypomethylation

### Key Mediators

miRNA dysregulation, telomere shortening, histone acetylation changes

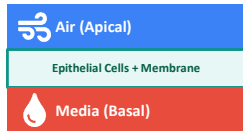
### Clinical Link

Transgenerational risk: prenatal exposure → childhood asthma & reduced lung growth

# Air-Liquid Interface (ALI) Culture System

Gold Standard for Airway Epithelial Differentiation | Leach T et al. *Sci Rep.* 2023;13:10137

## What is ALI?



### Apical side (top)

Exposed to air, mimicking in vivo airway

### Basal side (bottom)

Nutrient supply via culture media

### Porous membrane

Cells cultured on Transwell insert

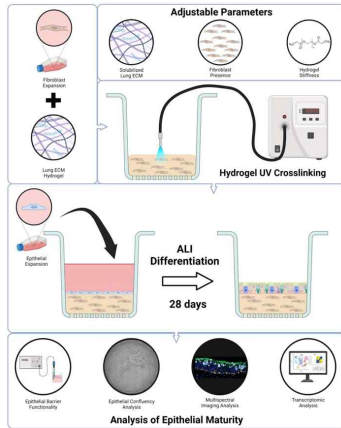
## Key Principles of ALI Culture

**1 Pseudostratification**  
Recapitulates multilayered airway epithelial architecture

**2 Mucociliary Differentiation**  
Goblet, ciliated, club, and basal cell maturation

**3 Barrier Function**  
Epithelial integrity confirmed by T EER measurement

**4 Mucus Production**  
MUC5AC/MUC5B secretion and mucociliary clearance





## Green Space

*Parks, forests, urban vegetation*

### Health Impacts

- ▼ All-cause & CV mortality
- ▼ Respiratory morbidity
- ▼ Depression, stress & distress
- ▲ Physical activity & social cohesion
- ▼ Lung cancer & chronic disease risk

### Mechanisms

- Air pollutant reduction (PM2.5, NO2)
- Heat island mitigation
- Noise attenuation
- Immune modulation (biodiversity)
- Stress reduction (cortisol)
- Physical activity promotion



## Blue Space

*Rivers, lakes, coastal environments*

### Health Impacts

- ▼ Psychological stress & anxiety
- ▲ Mental well-being & life satisfaction
- ▼ Cardiovascular risk markers
- ▼ Mortality in coastal populations
- ▲ Physical activity & recreation

### Mechanisms

- Restorative effects (visual-auditory)
- Microclimate cooling
- Social interaction & outdoor activity
- Sleep & circadian regulation



## Grey Space

*Roads, buildings, concrete, high-rise areas*

### Health Impacts

- ▼ Respiratory symptoms & bronchitis
- ▲ Allergy risk
- ▼ Microbial diversity exposure
- ▼ Contact with nature
- ▲ Risk of stress-related problems

### Mechanisms

- Hard-surface urban intensification
- Reduced exposure to natural space
- Separation from soil, plants
- Altered microbial communities
- Disconnection from nature

**Conclusion:** Green & blue spaces improve health via environmental buffering, stress pathways, immune modulation & behavioral mechanisms