

# Air Pollution and Asthma

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# Contents

## Air pollution and Asthma

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- **Physiology**
- **Pollutants**
  - Particulate Matter (PM): PM 2.5 & 10
  - Gases
  - Traffic-related Air Pollution (TRAP)
- **Policy Issues and Future studies**

# Introduction

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- Urbanization – Air pollution
- Cause exacerbations or symptoms of pre-existing asthma
  - Adverse associations of PM10 with asthma symptoms (OR 1.03, 95% CI 1.01-1.05)
  - Significant positive associations with symptoms but not school absence
- Childhood asthma
  - (10 European cities) 14% of the cases of incident asthma in children and 15% of all exacerbations of childhood asthma <- exposure to pollutants related to road traffic.
- Can air pollution cause new-onset asthma?
  - The incidence of asthma: a change in PM10 per 1 mg/m<sup>3</sup> change (HR 1.30 (1.05 -1.61))  
-> not sensitive to further adjustments
  - Asthma onset (OR per 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>: 1.46 (1.07-1.99) and incident asthma (OR 1.54 (1.00– 2.36)) and the levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)  
-> remained statistically significant after adjusting for potential confounders

*Environ Health Perspect* 2010; 118: 449–57.

*J Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2008 May;121(5):1133-1139

*Eur Respir J* 2013; **42**: 594–605

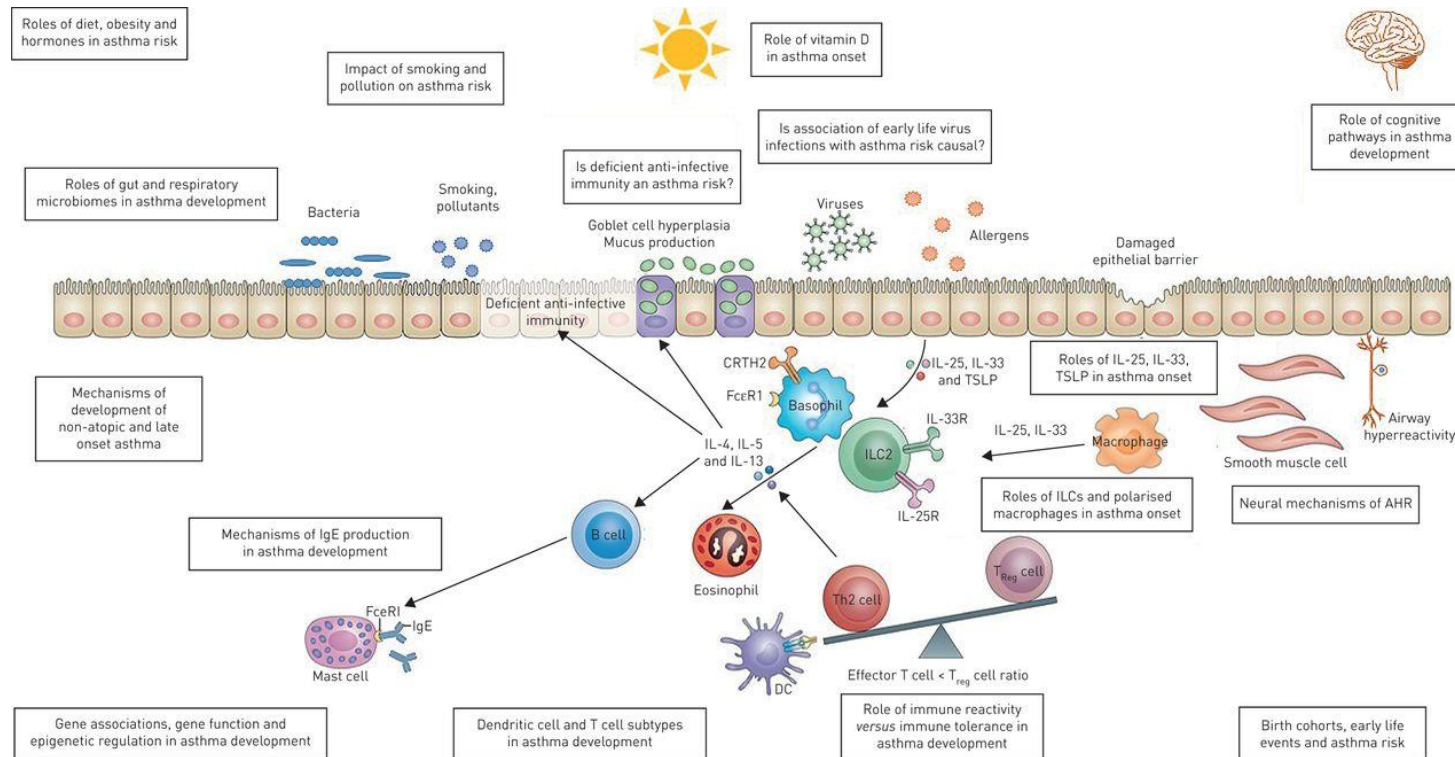
*Thorax* 2009; 64: 664–70.

*Eur Respir J* 2009; 33: 1261–1267

# Lung Physiology in Asthma

Edward MR, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2017; 49: 1602448

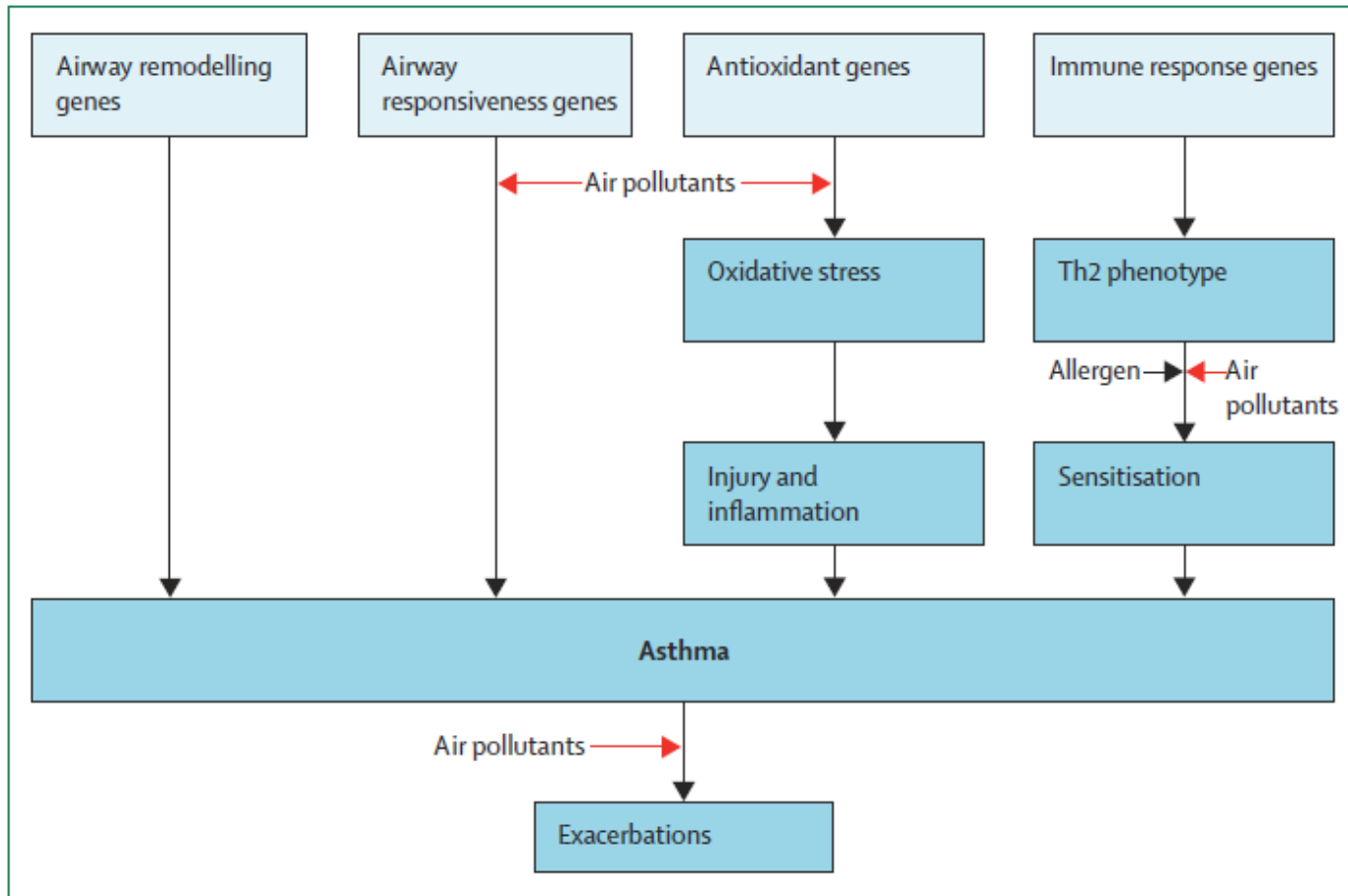
- Airway inflammation & hyper-responsiveness



-> Oxidative stress and damage  
 Airway remodeling  
 Inflammatory pathways and immunological responses  
 Enhancement of respiratory sensitization to aeroallergens

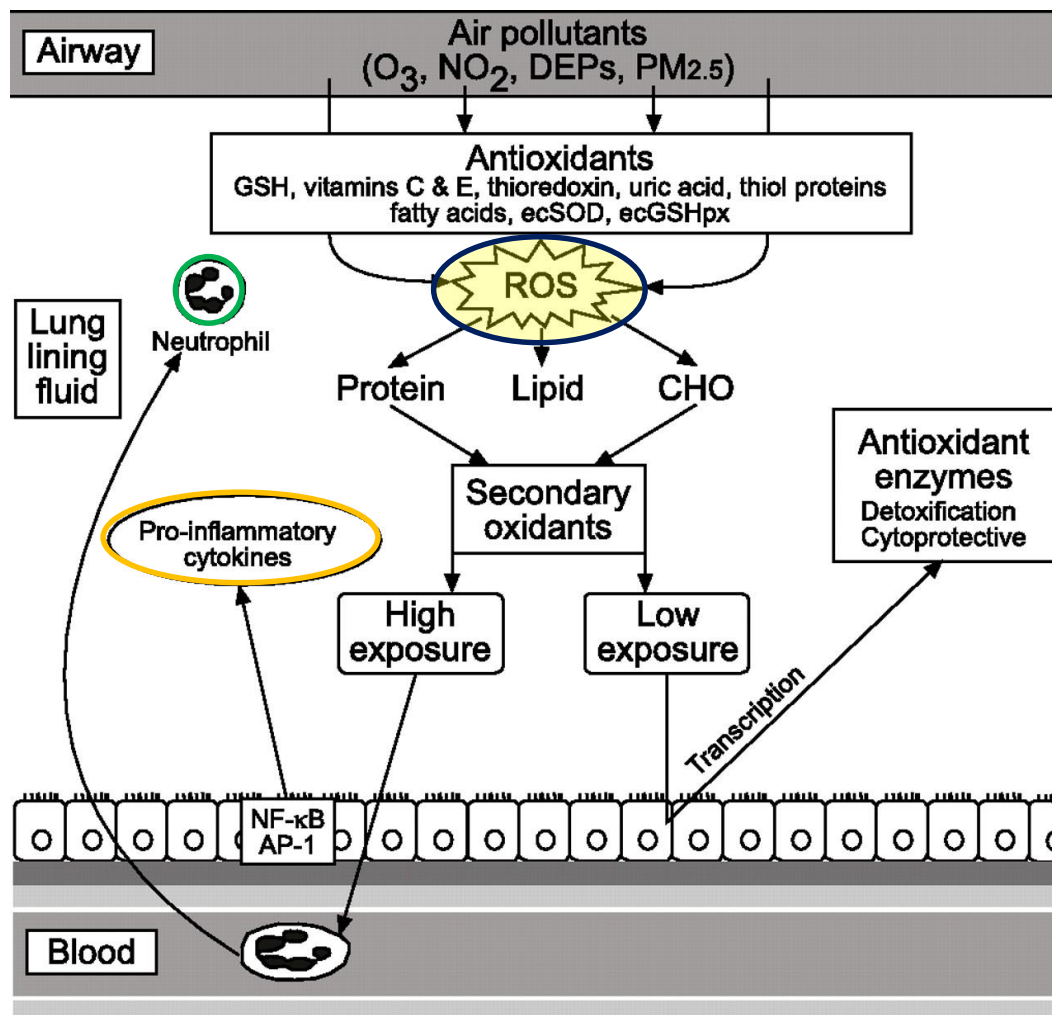
# Air pollution effects in Asthma

Guanieri M. Lancet 2014; 383: 1581–92



# Pollutant exposure

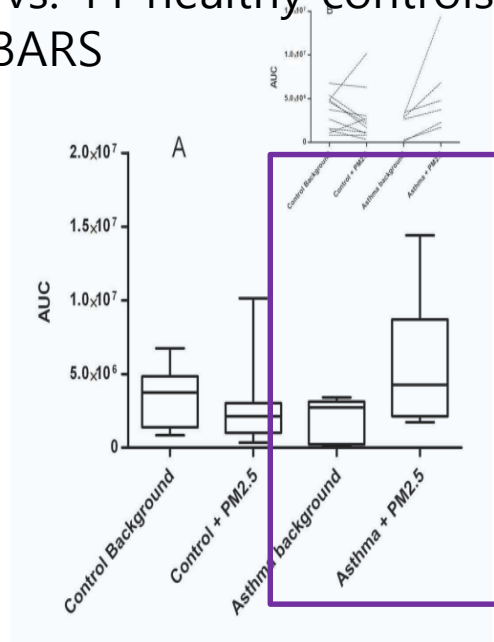
Bateman SS, et al. *Eur Respir J* 2008; 31: 179–196



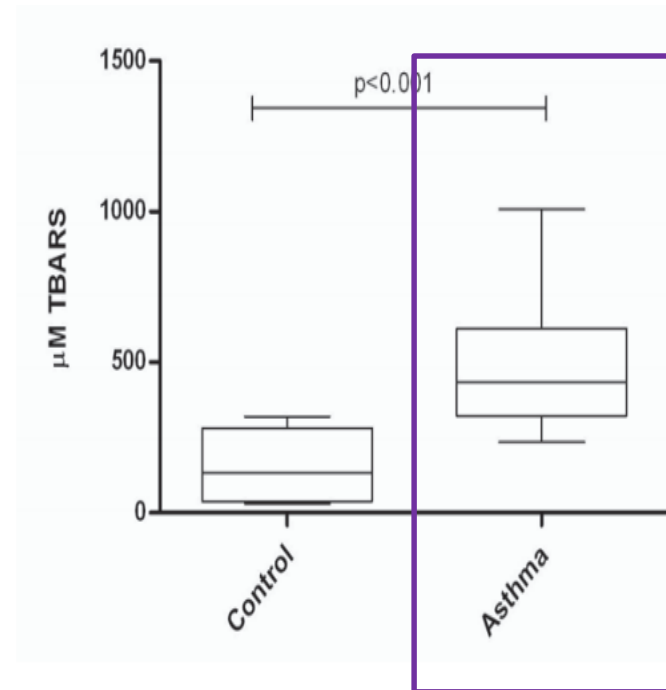
# Antioxidant actions

Sierra-Vargas MP, et al. *J Occup Med Toxicol.* 2009 Jun 29;4:17

In Mexico  
6 asthma pts vs. 11 healthy controls  
Neutrophil, TBARS



**Figure 4**  
**In vitro generation of reactive oxygen and nitrogen species by neutrophils in contact with PM<sub>2.5</sub>.** A. In vitro production of reactive oxygen and nitrogen species by neutrophils from healthy volunteers (NHV) compared with neutrophils from asthmatic patients (NAP), measured by luminol-enhanced chemiluminescence and expressed as the area under the curve (AUC). The graph represents the mean of AUC for each group. B. Each line represents the chemiluminescence response of each subject that participated in the study, before and after treatment with PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The pattern shows a general increase in this response in the NAP group.



**Figure 7**  
**Susceptibility of lipids to oxidation.** The graph shows a higher susceptibility of lipids from the asthmatic group to damage as a consequence of oxidative stress.

# Antioxidant actions

Canova C, et al. Epidemiology. 2012 Jul;23(4):607-15.

In UK  
209 admitted asthma patients  
PM10- Acute exacerbation

**TABLE 5.** Adjusted<sup>a</sup> Association of COPD/Asthma Exacerbations for Each 10- $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  Increase in  $\text{PM}_{10}$  at Lag 0–3, by Individual Antioxidant Capacity, for 158 Chelsea and Westminster Hospital Admissions, 2008–2010

Effect Modifier	OR (95% CI)	Test for Interaction
Vitamin C		<i>P</i> = 0.007
<13 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	2.17 (1.38–3.43)	
$\geq 13$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	0.90 (0.56–1.46)	
Uric acid		<i>P</i> = 0.238
<236 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.83 (1.18–2.84)	
$\geq 236$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.13 (0.72–1.77)	
Vitamin A		<i>P</i> = 0.697
<2.2 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.37 (0.90–2.07)	
$\geq 2.2$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.69 (1.04–2.75)	
Vitamin A (corrected for cholesterol)		<i>P</i> = 0.153
<0.5 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.18 (0.78–1.78)	
$\geq 0.5$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	2.02 (1.22–3.36)	
Vitamin E		<i>P</i> = 0.062
<23.7 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.79 (1.19–2.68)	
$\geq 23.7$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.12 (0.66–1.90)	
Vitamin E (corrected for cholesterol)		<i>P</i> = 0.256
<5.5 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.64 (1.09–2.47)	
$\geq 5.5$ $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$	1.37 (0.83–2.26)	

<sup>a</sup>Models adjusted for temperature and humidity.

# Antioxidant actions

In South Africa  
GSTM1  
AP-FEV1 variability

Reddy P, et al. *Am J Ind Med.* 2012 Dec;55(12):1078-86.

**TABLE V.** Effect of Pollutant Exposure by *GSTM1* Genotype (Percent Change<sup>a</sup> in Intraday Variability<sup>b</sup> of FEV<sub>1</sub> Associated With Ambient Levels<sup>c</sup> of Pollutants From Single Pollutant Linear Regression Models Using Generalized Estimating Equations (GEE))

GSTM1		PM <sub>10</sub>		SO <sub>2</sub>		NO <sub>2</sub>		NO	
		Est	CI	Est	CI	Est	CI	Est	CI
Pos	Lag1	-2.03	-6.95,288	0.31	-0.31,0.93	1.40	-0.36,3.17	1.34	-2.63,5.31
Null		-1.38	-7.52,4.75	0.44	-0.78,1.66	-0.17	-0.29,2.62	-2.19	-5.93,1.55
Pos	Lag 2	-2.57	-8.60,3.47	0.09	-0.44,0.61	1.17	-0.69,3.03	0.85	-3.47,5.17
Null		0.36	-7.17,7.89	1.06	-0.36,2.48	-0.04	-2.97,2.89	-1.56	-5.38,2.26
Pos	Lag 3	-0.52	-5.78,4.74	-0.56	-1.44,0.32	1.68	-0.58,3.95	1.52*	-2.11,5.16 (*0.05)
Null		-5.66	-14.45,3.14	1.46	-0.75,3.66	-0.73	-3.77,2.32	-3.06	-6.61,0.49
Pos	Lag 4	0.17	-2.05,2.38	6.28	-2.04,14.60	0.7	-1.22,2.61	1.34	-0.67,3.36
Null		-0.12	-3.26,3.02	-4.10	-13.84,5.64	1.82	-1.82,5.46	0.30	-3.32,2.92
Pos	Lag 5	1.83	-0.22,3.88	-0.23	-7.15,6.67	1.39	-0.98,3.75	-0.69	-3.26,1.89
Null		-1.04	-4.49,2.40	-2.47	-14.07,9.12	1.88	-2.53,6.34	0.34	-2.41,3.10
Pos	5-day average	-0.98 <sup>†</sup>	-1.56, -0.41 ( <sup>†</sup> 0.00)	1.08*	0.44, 2.60 (*0.00)	-5.75*	-11.63, 0.12 (*0.01)	1.27	-1.03, 3.58
Null		-0.15	-1.50, 1.20	-1.18	-2.89, 0.53	1.63	-5.14, 8.40	0.51	-3.68, 4.70

Covariates in each model: race, school, caregiver smoking, caregiver education, household income, season, interaction between genotype and pollutants. Bold denotes significant *P*-value.

<sup>a</sup>The percent change value shown is for an increase of one interquartile range in each respective pollutant: NO<sub>2</sub>: 8.19 ppb; NO: 29.7 ppb, PM<sub>10</sub>: 29.4 μg m<sup>-3</sup>; SO<sub>2</sub>: 9.8 ppb.

<sup>b</sup>Intraday variability for FEV<sub>1</sub> is defined as: 100 (maximum best FEV<sub>1</sub>-minimum best FEV<sub>1</sub>)/maximum best FEV<sub>1</sub>; where the "best FEV<sub>1</sub>" is the highest valid, error-free value for the specific time of day (08:00 hr, 09:45 hr, 11:30 hr, and 13:20 hr). An increase in the estimate for intraday FEV<sub>1</sub> is indicative of a negative impact on lung function.

<sup>c</sup>Pollution levels used in regression models combine measured and imputed values.

\**P*-value for genotype-pollutant interaction term ≤ 0.05.

<sup>†</sup>*P*-value for the change in estimate ≤ 0.05.

# Antioxidant actions

In South Africa  
GSTP1  
AP-FEV1 variability

Reddy P, et al. *Am J Ind Med.* 2012 Dec;55(12):1078-86.

**TABLE VI.** Effect of Pollutant Exposure by *GSTP1* Genotype (Percent Change<sup>a</sup> in Intraday Variability<sup>b</sup> of FEV<sub>1</sub> Associated With Ambient Levels<sup>c</sup> of Pollutants From Single Pollutant Linear Regression Models Using Generalized Estimating Equations (GEE))

GSTP1		PM <sub>10</sub>		SO <sub>2</sub>		NO <sub>2</sub>		NO	
		Est	CI	Est	CI	Est	CI	Est	CI
AA	Lag1	-0.14	-5.31, 5.0	-0.11	-0.62, 0.39	186*	-0.14, 3.87 (* <b>0.04</b> )	0.58	-4.00, 5.17
AG + GG		0.50	5.35, 6.34	1.17 <sup>†</sup>	0.16, 2.18 ( <sup>†</sup> <b>0.03</b> )	-3.40	-5.95, -8.85	-1.56	-5.53, 2.41
AA	Lag2	-4.47*	-10.70, 1.18 (* <b>0.01</b> )	0.22	-0.34, 0.77	2.29 <sup>†,*</sup>	0.01, 4.56 (* <b>0.00</b> ; <sup>†</sup> <b>0.04</b> )	-0.15	-4.94, 4.64
AG + GG		9.0	-0.83, 18.84	0.32	-1.13, 1.78	-3.82 <sup>†</sup>	-6.53, -1.11 ( <sup>†</sup> <b>0.01</b> )	-0.78	-4.92, 3.37
AA	Lag3	-2.52*	-10.23, 5.20 (* <b>0.02</b> )	-0.72*	-2.14, 0.69 (* <b>0.03</b> )	2.33	-0.36, 5.02	-0.77	-5.32, 3.78
AG + GG		7.98 <sup>†</sup>	1.14, 14.78 ( <sup>†</sup> <b>0.02</b> )	3.05 <sup>†</sup>	1.53, 4.56 ( <sup>†</sup> <b>0.00</b> )	-3.05 <sup>†</sup>	-6.02, -0.08 ( <sup>†</sup> <b>0.04</b> )	-0.32	-4.37, 3.74
AA	Lag4	0.35	-1.55, 2.24	-4.06	-13.87, 5.34	-0.41	-2.91, 2.09	-1.40	-3.55, 0.78
AG + GG		-0.86	-3.73, 2.02	4.37	-3.06, 11.81	2.04	-1.36, 5.45	0.73	-1.51, 2.96
AA	Lag5	-0.18	2.37, 2.02	-0.09	-7.81, 7.63	-0.46	-3.25, 2.33	-1.43	-4.00, 1.14
AG + GG		1.08	-2.62, 4.77	-1.03	-8.29, 6.25	2.66	-0.93, 2.63	2.04	-1.01, 5.09
AA	5-day average	-0.40	-1.42, 0.62	0.63	-1.01, 2.26	-3.52	-11.45, 4.40	1.91	-0.85, 4.67
AG + GG		0.20	-1.18, 1.63	-1.80	-3.87, 0.26	4.42	-3.27, 12.11	0.63	-2.09, 3.36

Covariates in each model: race, school, caregiver smoking, caregiver education, household income, season, interaction between genotype and pollutants. Bold denotes significant *P*-value.

<sup>a</sup>The percent change value shown is for an increase of one interquartile range in each respective pollutant: NO<sub>2</sub>: 8.19 ppb; NO: 29.7 ppb, PM<sub>10</sub>: 29.4 μg m<sup>-3</sup>; SO<sub>2</sub>: 9.8 ppb.

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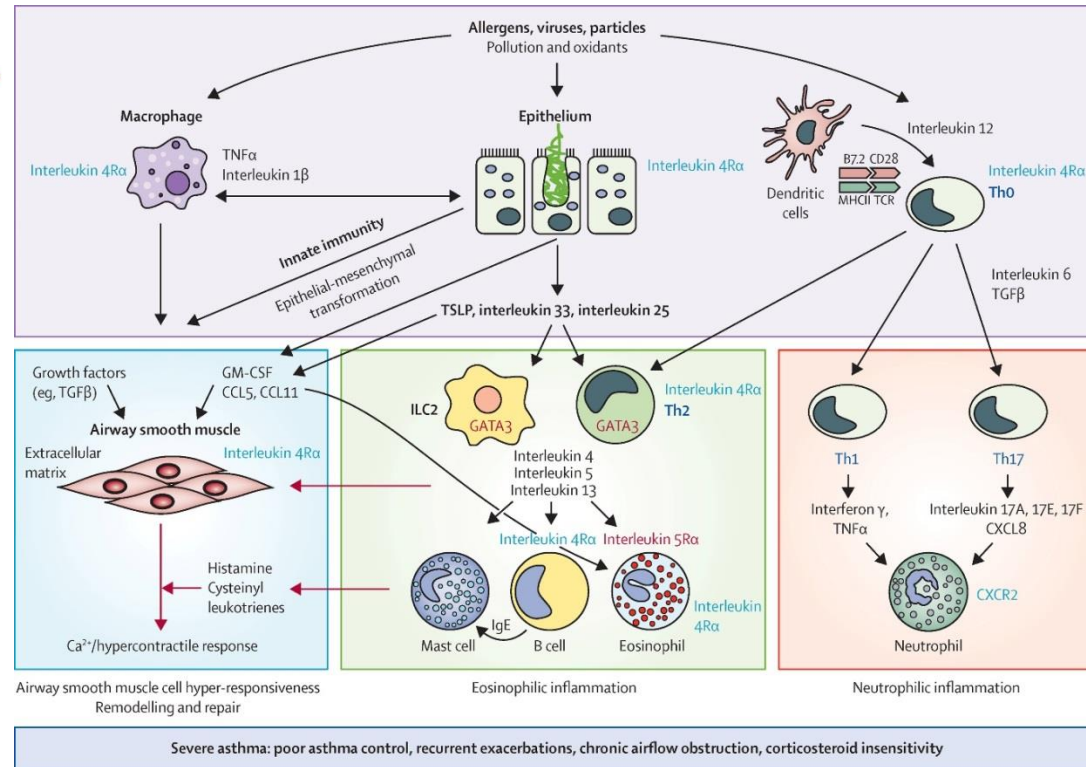
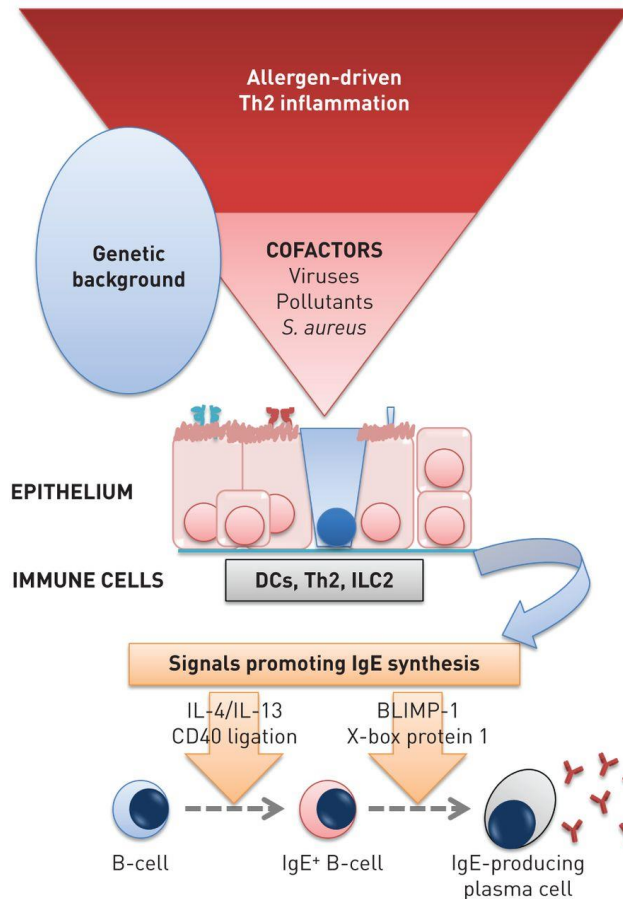
<sup>c</sup>Pollution levels used in regression models combine measured and imputed values.

\**P*-value for genotype-pollutant interaction term ≤ 0.05.

<sup>†</sup>*P*-value for the change in estimate ≤ 0.05.

# Immune-response

- Enhanced pulmonary neutrophilic inflammation and the promotion of a Th2/Th17 phenotype

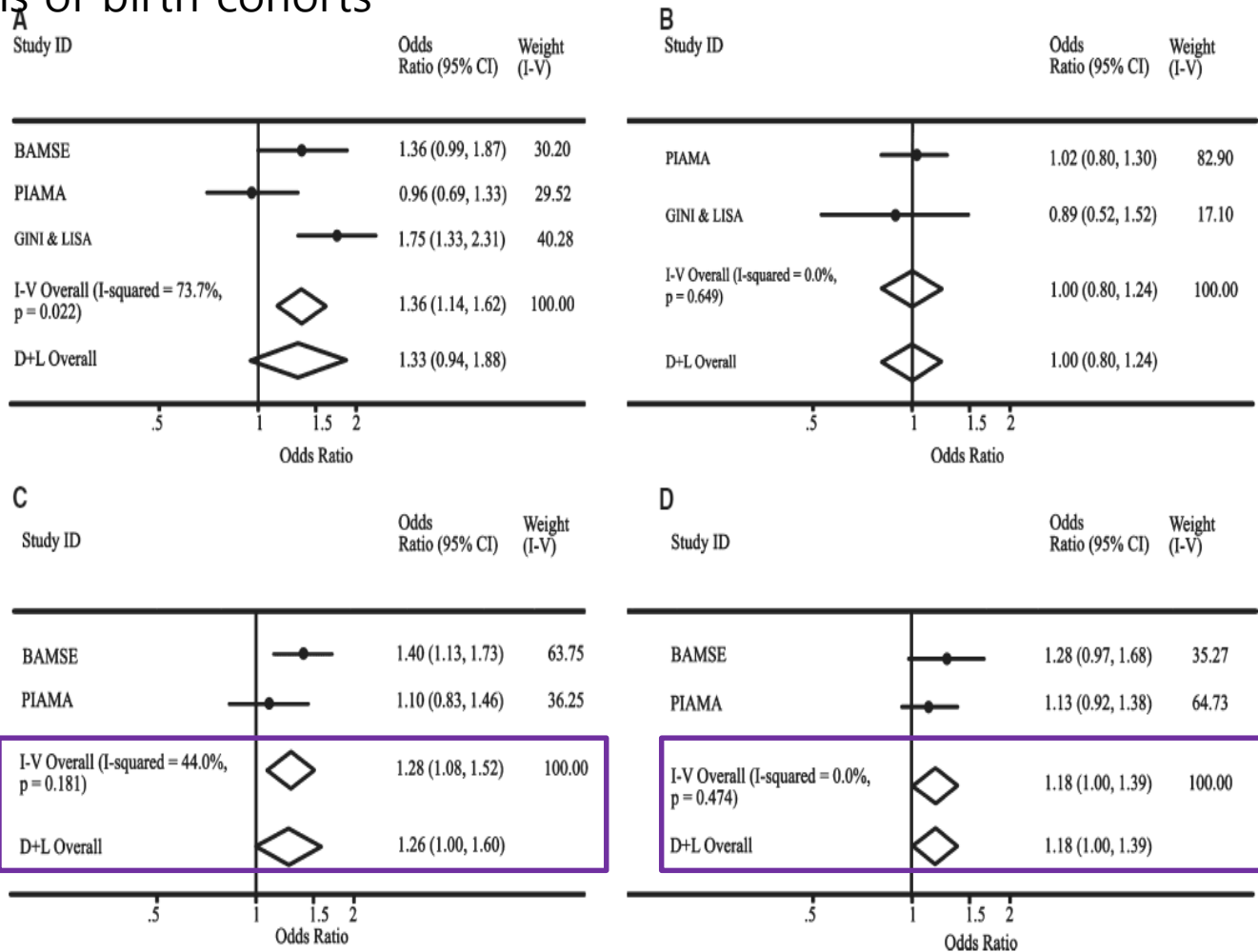


Chung KF. *Lancet*. 2015 Sep 12;386(9998):1086-96.

# Allergen sensitization

Bowatte G, et al. Allergy. 2015 Mar;70(3):245-56.

## Meta-analysis of birth cohorts

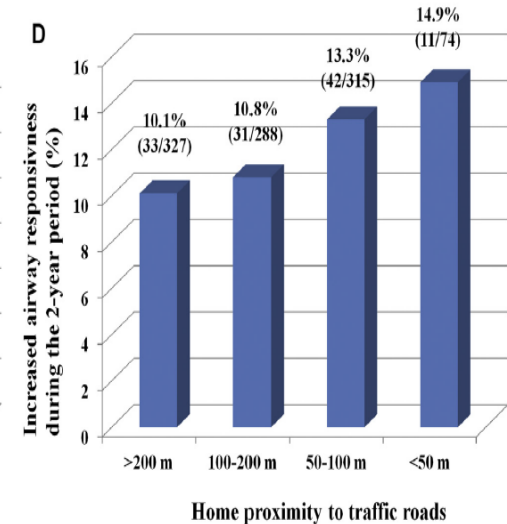
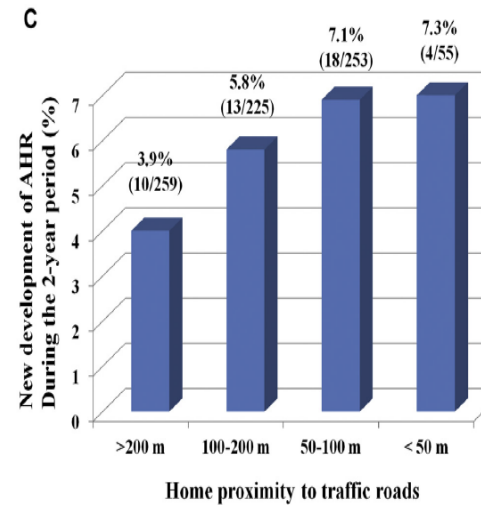
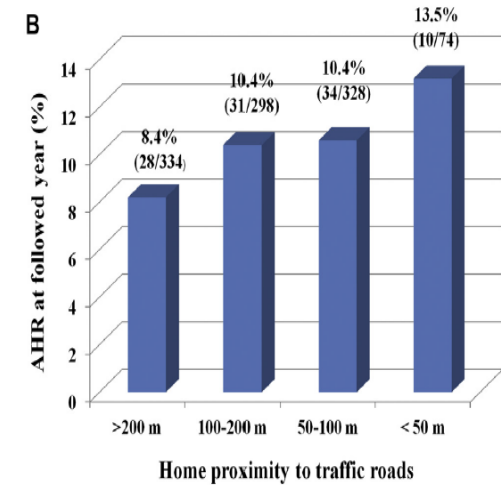
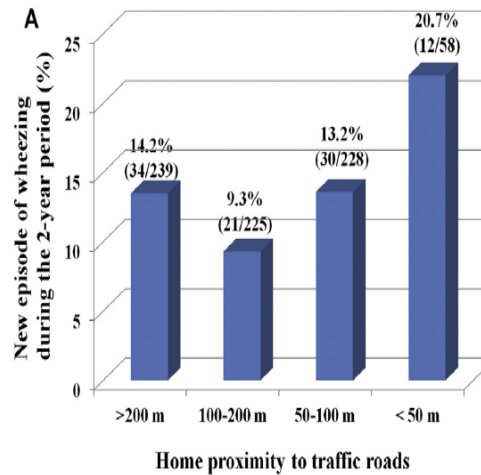


**Figure 4** Early childhood exposure per 2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  increase in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and sensitization to (A) outdoor allergens, (B) indoor allergens, (C) food allergens at the age of 4 years and (D) food allergens at the age of 8 years.

# Airway hyperresponsiveness

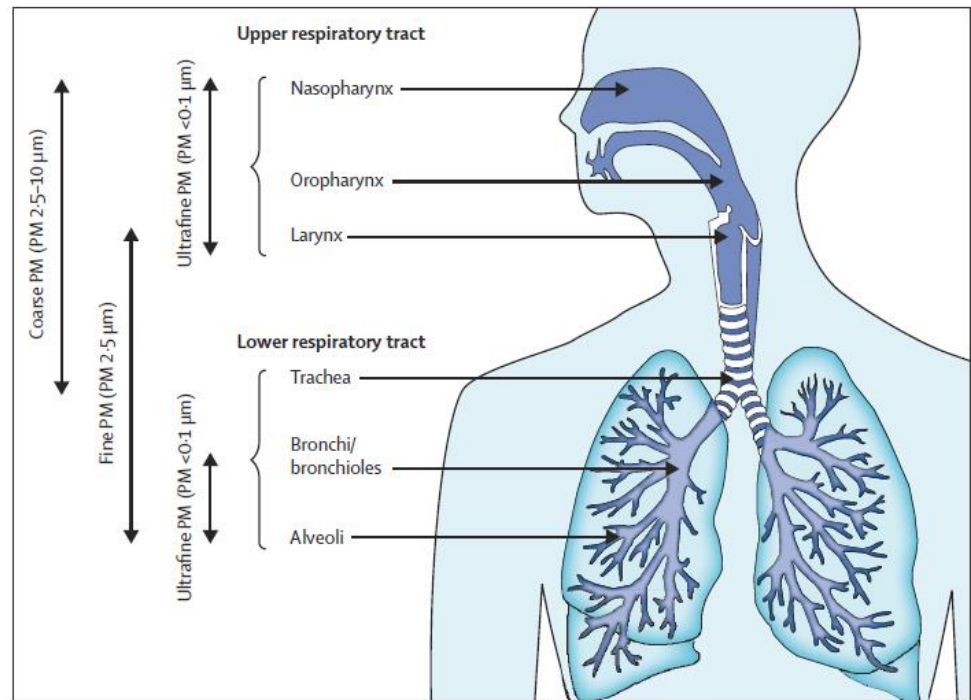
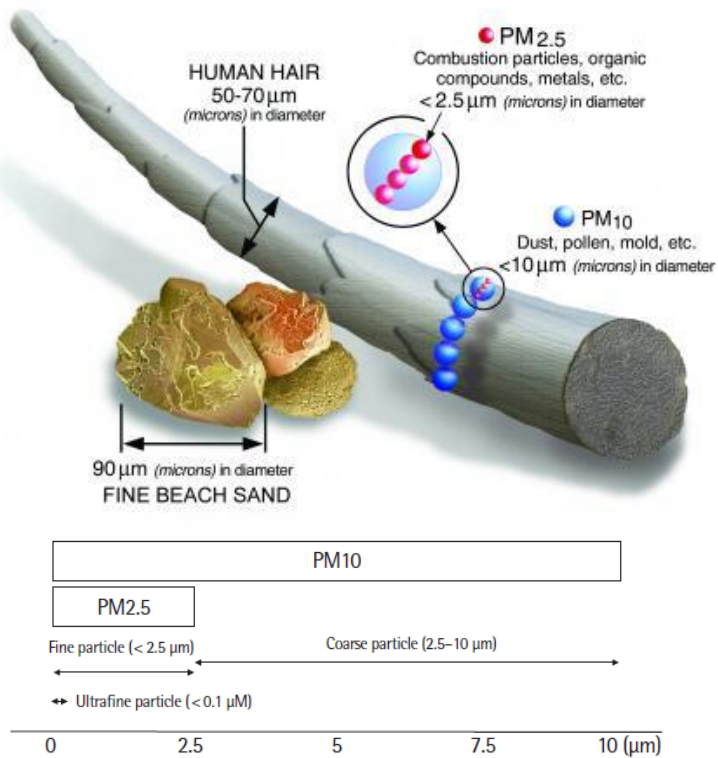
Kim BJ, et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol.* 2014 Jun;133(6):1763-5.

N=1,340  
2-year prospective survey



# Compartmental deposition of PM

the US Environmental Protection Agency



# PM 10 & 2.5

Ubiquitous atmospheric aerosol  
with both anthropogenic and natural sources

- **Composition**

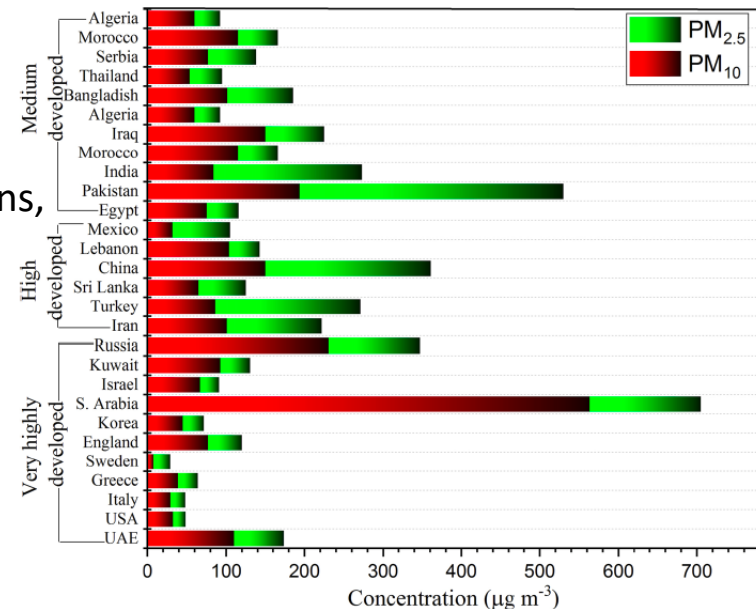
- Combustion or not
- Transition metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and environmentally persistent free radicals

- Oxidative stress

- Phenotype change in asthma

- Exacerbation of symptoms

Fig. 3 PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations ( $\mu\text{m}^{-3}$ ) in medium-developed, high-developed and very highly developed countries of world



*Environ Geochem Health.* 2018 Oct 8. doi: 10.1007

# PM: Allergic sensitization

Mann JK, et al. *Environ Health Perspect.* 2010 Oct;118(10):1497-502

**Table 4.** Association between air pollution at “representative lag” and wheeze in selected subgroups of the FACES cohort.

“in a few days”

In California  
A cohort of 315 children with asthma  
AP-wheeze

Subgroup/pollutant	Lag	OR (95% CI)
Allergy to cat dander ( <i>n</i> = 49 children, 2,869 panel-days)		
NO <sub>2</sub> (ppb)	2	1.27 (1.06–1.51)*
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	3	1.28 (1.09–1.51)*
NO <sub>3</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5	1.21 (1.01–1.45)*
EC (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	6	1.33 (1.04–1.71)*
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5	1.23 (0.94–1.62)
O <sub>3</sub> (ppb)	1	0.93 (0.73–1.19)
Allergy to fungi ( <i>n</i> = 85 children, 4,943 panel-days)		
NO <sub>2</sub> (ppb)	2	1.23 (1.10–1.39)*
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	3	1.16 (1.02–1.33)*
NO <sub>3</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5	1.12 (0.97–1.29)
EC (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	6	1.30 (1.06–1.59)*
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5	1.16 (0.94–1.44)
O <sub>3</sub> (ppb)	1	1.06 (0.92–1.23)
Boys with mild asthma ( <i>n</i> = 47 children, 2,901 panel-days)		
NO <sub>2</sub> (ppb)	2	1.51 (1.23–1.85)*
PM <sub>10-2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	3	1.35 (1.10–1.65)*
NO <sub>3</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5	1.25 (1.03–1.52)*
EC (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	6	1.70 (1.37–2.12)*
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	5	1.41 (1.12–1.77)*
O <sub>3</sub> (ppb)	1	0.86 (0.65–1.13)

“Representative lag” is the one associated with the largest coefficient in the first 7 days.  
\**p* < 0.05.

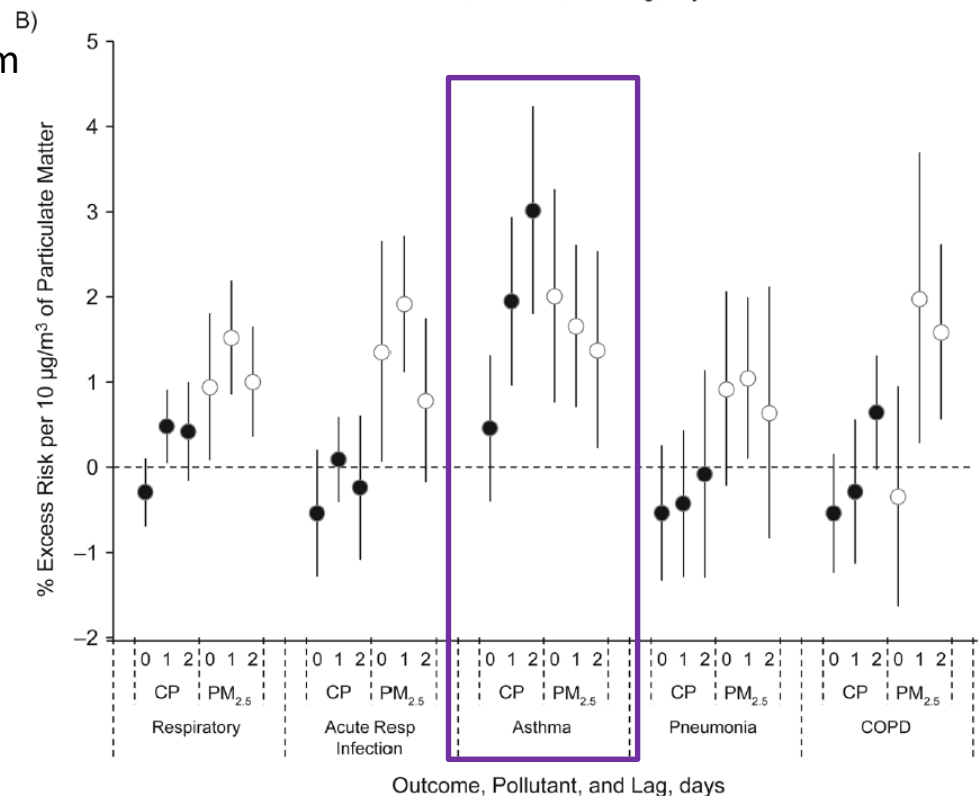
# PM 10 & 2.5

Malig BJ, et al. *Am J Epidemiol.* 2013;178(1):58–69

- **Coarse particle**

- Short or long-term exposure : symptom increase, poorly controlled asthma
  - > Increased health-care use
- Particulate matter from 2.5 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$

In 35 California counties  
487,068 cases  
74,978 asthma cases  
Coarse particle  
ER visit for pulmonary diseases



# PM: Symptom & Hospitalization

Meng Y-Y, et al. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2010 Feb;64(2):142-7.

**Table 3** Association (OR (95% CI)) between annual average air pollution concentrations and asthma outcomes for California Health Interview Survey 2001 respondents residing in the San Joaquin Valley, California (all ages)

In California

1,502 diagnosed asthma

Sx., ER visit, hospitalization

	Daily/weekly symptoms*		Emergency department visits/hospitalisation	
	Crude	Adjusted†	Crude	Adjusted†
Ozone				
	(193 yes, 559 no)		(78 yes, 681 no)	
Continuous (per 10 ppb)	1.13 (0.88 1.46)	1.23 (0.94 to 1.60)	1.47 (1.05 to 2.07)	1.49 (1.05 to 2.11)
Quartile				
<27.0	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
27.1 to 30.2	1.68 (1.01 to 2.79)	1.54 (0.91 to 2.61)	2.44 (1.18 to 5.07)	2.35 (1.12 to 4.95)
30.3 to 33.9	1.97 (1.19 to 3.26)	2.18 (1.30 to 3.68)	1.75 (0.81 to 3.79)	1.80 (0.82 to 3.95)
34.0+	1.44 (0.86 to 2.42)	1.62 (0.95 to 2.61)	2.63 (1.27 to 5.43)	2.65 (1.26 to 5.57)
PM <sub>10</sub>				
	(198 yes, 569 no)		(79 yes, 695 no)	
Continuous (per 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.31 (1.08 to 1.60)	1.29 (1.05 to 1.57)	1.32 (1.01 to 1.73)	1.29 (0.99 to 1.69)
Quartile				
<31.71	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
31.72 to 42.66	1.68 (0.99 to 2.85)	1.73 (1.00 to 2.98)	1.78 (0.87 to 3.67)	2.00 (0.95 to 4.20)
42.67 to 44.33	1.96 (1.17 to 3.30)	1.89 (1.11 to 3.22)	1.42 (0.67 to 3.01)	1.45 (0.67 to 3.11)
44.34+	2.64 (1.60 to 4.37)	2.51 (1.49 to 4.21)	2.17 (1.08 to 4.36)	2.03 (1.00 to 4.13)
PM <sub>2.5</sub>				
	(152 yes, 459 no)		(58 yes, 559 no)	
Continuous (per 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.86 (1.15 to 2.99)	1.82 (1.11 to 2.98)	1.42 (0.74 to 2.71)	1.47 (0.76 to 2.84)
Quartile				
<17.89	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
17.90 to 21.39	1.39 (0.76 to 2.51)	1.53 (0.83 to 2.84)	2.03 (0.85 to 4.86)	2.15 (0.87 to 5.29)
21.40 to 23.49	2.03 (1.14 to 3.60)	1.82 (1.01 to 3.29)	2.53 (1.08 to 5.95)	2.33 (0.97 to 5.58)
23.50+	2.39 (1.36 to 4.20)	2.46 (1.38 to 4.41)	2.23 (0.94 to 5.31)	2.30 (0.95 to 5.56)

\*Participants were asked in a single question to report the frequency of asthma symptoms, such as coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, chest tightness, and phlegm production.

†Adjusted for age, gender, race/ethnicity, poverty and insurance status.

O<sub>3</sub>, ozone; PM<sub>2.5</sub>, particulate matter less than 2.5 µm in aerodynamic diameter; PM<sub>10</sub>, particulate matter less than 10 µm in aerodynamic diameter.

# PM: Symptom & Hospitalization

Meng Y-Y, et al. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2010 Feb;64(2):142-7.

In California  
1,502 diagnosed asthma  
Sx., ER visit, hospitalization

**Table 4** Association (OR (95% CI)) between annual average air pollution concentrations and asthma outcomes for California Health Interview Survey 2001 respondents residing in the San Joaquin Valley, California by age group\*

	Children (ages 1–17)		Adults (ages 18+)	
	Daily/weekly symptoms †	Emergency department/hospitalisation	Daily/weekly symptoms †	Emergency department/hospitalisation
Ozone	(32 yes, 215 no)	(29 yes, 221 no)	(161 yes, 344 no)	(49 yes, 460 no)
Continuous (per 10 ppb)	0.76 (0.42 to 1.38)	1.63 (0.95 to 2.81)	1.40 (1.02 to 1.91)	1.43 (0.87 to 2.34)
PM <sub>10</sub>	(36 yes, 222 no)	(31 yes, 230 no)	(162 yes, 347 no)	(48 yes, 465 no)
Continuous (per 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.90 (0.60 to 1.37)	1.31 (0.89 to 1.93)	1.43 (1.13 to 1.82)	1.29 (0.87 to 1.92)
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	(25 yes, 173 no)	(21 yes, 179 no)	(127 yes, 286 no)	(37 yes, 380 no)
Continuous (per 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.64 (0.27 to 1.50)	1.48 (0.62 to 3.50)	2.96 (1.60 to 5.50)	1.58 (0.56 to 4.43)

\*Adjusted for gender, race/ethnicity, poverty and insurance status.

†Participants were asked in a single question to report the frequency of asthma symptoms, such as coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, chest tightness and phlegm production  
O<sub>3</sub>, ozone; PM<sub>2.5</sub>, particulate matter less than 2.5 µm in aerodynamic diameter; PM<sub>10</sub>, particulate matter less than 10 µm in aerodynamic diameter.

# PM: Hospital admission in Korea

Lee JT, et al. Epidemiology. 2002 Jul;13(4):481-4.

TABLE 4. Asthma-Related Hospital Admissions by Interquartile Increase in Daily Concentration of Five Pollution Variables, Using One- or Two-Pollutant Models\*

Pollutant	RR 95% CI				
	Baseline + PM <sub>10</sub>	Baseline + SO <sub>2</sub>	Baseline + NO <sub>2</sub>	Baseline + O <sub>3</sub>	Baseline + CO
PM <sub>10</sub>	1.07† 1.04–1.11	1.05 1.01–1.09	1.03 0.99–1.07	1.06 1.03–1.10	1.04 1.00–1.08
SO <sub>2</sub>	1.08 1.02–1.14	1.11† 1.06–1.17	0.95 0.88–1.03	1.12 1.06–1.17	0.99 0.92–1.07
NO <sub>2</sub>	1.13 1.07–1.19	1.20 1.11–1.29	1.15† 1.10–1.20	1.14 1.09–1.20	1.12 1.03–1.22
O <sub>3</sub>	1.10 1.05–1.15	1.12 1.07–1.17	1.11 1.06–1.16	1.12† 1.07–1.16	1.12 1.07–1.17
CO	1.13 1.07–1.20	1.17 1.08–1.27	1.04 0.95–1.14	1.16 1.11–1.22	1.16† 1.10–1.22

\* The baseline model includes the following variables: an intercept, indicator variables for day of week, and smooth spline functions of date, temperature, and humidity. Values for two-pollutant models indicate the effect of the row pollutant, after adjustment for the baseline variables and the column pollutant.

† From one-pollutant model.

# Gases

## Oxidative stress in asthma

- Ground level Ozone: Photochemical reactions
  - sunlight and pollutant precursor: nitrogen oxide, volatile compounds
- Nitrogen oxide: reaction of ozone with nitric oxide emitted during fossil fuel combustion
- Indoor exposure to nitrogen oxide: burn natural gas
- Sulphur dioxide: energy production or industrial processes

	Ozone	Nitrogen dioxide	Sulphur dioxide
Bronchoconstriction	+/-	-	+
Decreased FEV1 and FVC	+	-	-
Increased airway responsiveness	+	+	-
Airway inflammation	+	+	-
Enhanced responses to inhaled allergen	+	+	+

FEV1=forced expiratory volume in 1 s. FVC=forced vital capacity.

**Table 1: Acute effects of short-term exposures to pollutant gases in asthmatic adults**

# Gases

## Nitrogen oxide (NO, NO<sub>2</sub>)

- Experimental data : inconsistent or unclear

- Observational data

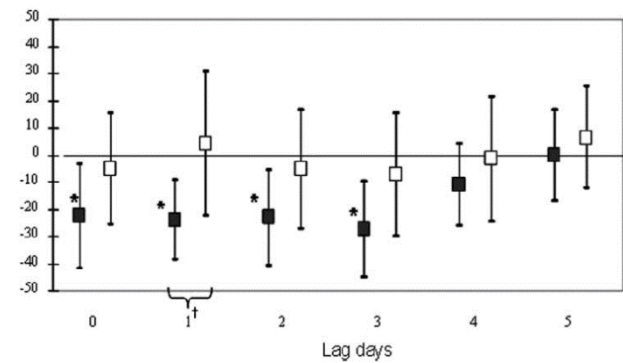
- Reduced response to bronchodilators

In Mexico

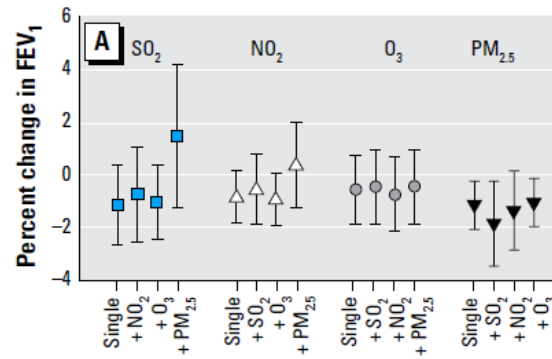
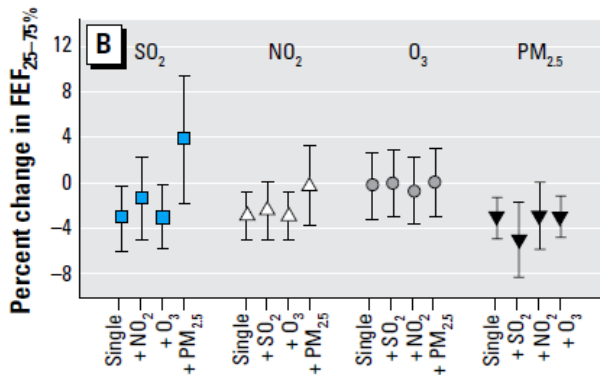
N=85

NO<sub>2</sub>-BD response

- Decrements in lung function



Cadena L, et al. *Chest*. 2009 Dec;136(6):1529-1536



Liu L, et al. *Environ Health Perspect*. 2009 Apr;117(4):668-74 22

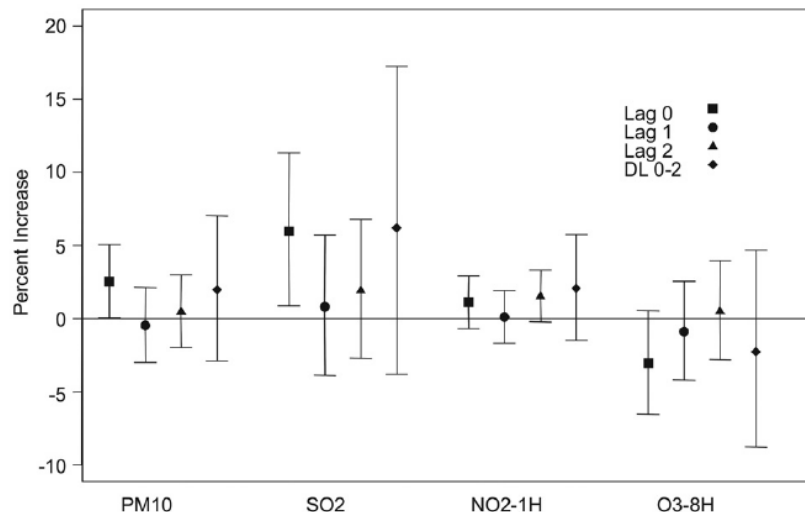
# Gases

## Nitrogen oxide (NO, NO<sub>2</sub>)

- Exacerbation of asthma

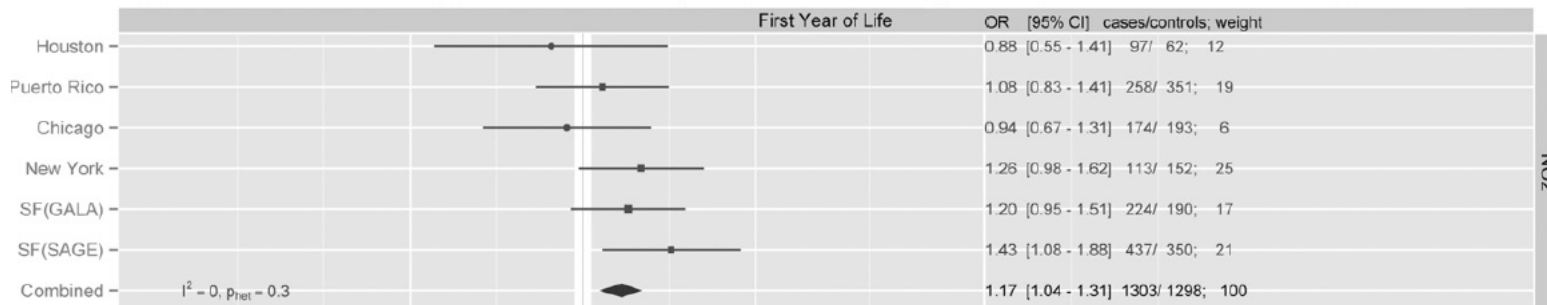
In Athens, Greece  
3 representative hospitals  
AP- Admission for AE

*Samoli E, et al. Environ Res 2011; 111: 418–24*



- Increase in adulthood asthma?

In the US and Puerto Rico  
4,329 (2,291 cases), case-control



Early-life air pollution and asthma risk in minority children: **Not** NO<sub>x</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>

# Gases

## Nitrogen oxide (NO, NO<sub>2</sub>)

**Table 3** Studies evaluating adult onset asthma on exposure to air pollution

Castro-Giner et al. [43]	Sweden, UK, Spain Barcelona, Germany, France, Paris, Belgium	Exposures to NO <sub>2</sub> at each of the participants' addresses were determined using air pollution maps using focal sum techniques in a global information system model.	20–44 years	NO <sub>2</sub>	No significant association between NO <sub>2</sub> exposure and development of asthma. Significant association between development of asthma and NO <sub>2</sub> exposure in those carrying NQO1 rs2917666 genotype.
Lindgren et al. [44]	Sweden	Self-reported exposure to traffic, traffic intensity within 100 m, modeled exposure to NO <sub>x</sub> using modified Gaussian dispersion model.	18–77 years	NO <sub>x</sub>	Asthma diagnosis was associated with living within 100 m of a road with greater than 10 cars/min. Participants with high exposure to NO <sub>x</sub> (> 19 µg/m <sup>3</sup> ) had increased odds ratio for asthma symptoms but not diagnosis.
Lindgren et al. [45]	Sweden	Self-reported exposure to traffic, traffic intensity within 100 m, modeled exposure to NO <sub>x</sub> using modified Gaussian dispersion model.	18–77 years	NO <sub>x</sub>	Increased prevalence of allergic asthma was seen for participants living within 100 m of a road with greater than 10 cars/min but not for non-allergic asthma. No statistical significance of allergic and non-allergic asthma prevalence on exposure to NO <sub>x</sub> at various concentrations.

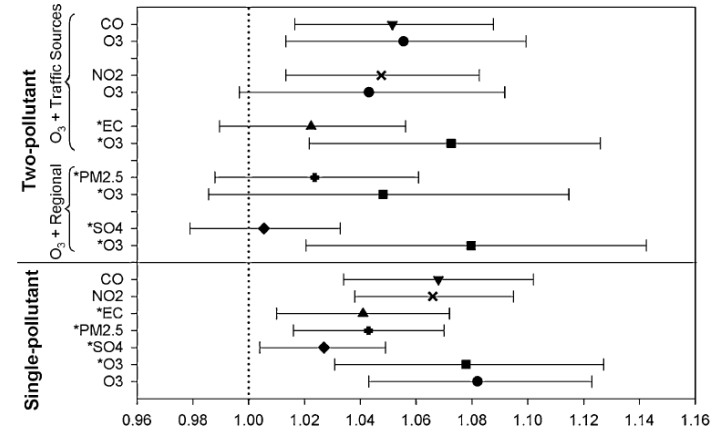
# Gases

## Ozone

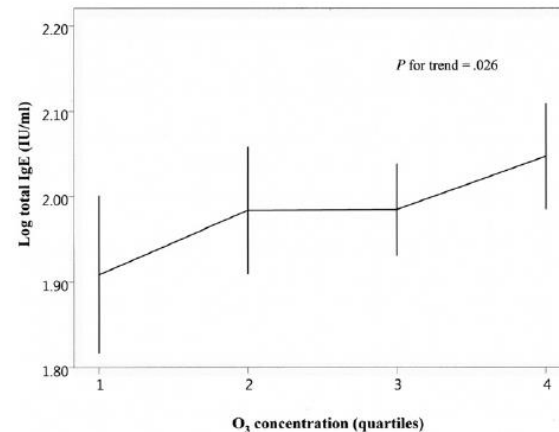
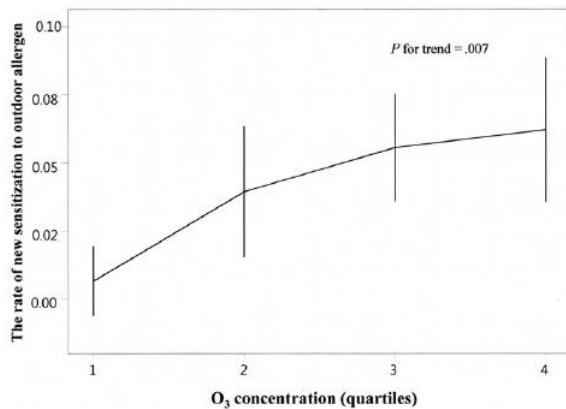
- Short-term exposure: Asthma exacerbation

In Atlanta  
N=591,386  
Ozone-asthma AE

Strickland MJ, et al. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2010; 182: 307–16.



- Long-term exposure: allergic sensitization, new-onset asthma



Kim BJ, et al. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol* 2011; 107: 214–19.

## heavily exposed?

	Low ozone communities		High ozone communities	
	N (incidence)*	RR (95% CI)	N (incidence)*	RR (95% CI)
<b>Number of sports played</b>				
0	58 (0-027)	1-0	46 (0-018)	1-0
1	50 (0-033)	1-3 (0-9–1-9)	40 (0-021)	1-3 (0-8–2-0)
2	20 (0-023)	0-8 (0-5–1-4)	16 (0-020)	1-3 (0-7–2-3)
≥3	9 (0-019)	0-8 (0-4–1-6)	20 (0-050)	3-3 (1-9–5-8)

McConnell R, et al. *Lancet* 2002; 359: 386–91.

# Gases

Sulphur dioxide: greatly reduced in the developed world

In China

30,139 (aged 3-12)

AP- asthmatic symptoms

Pollutant		PM <sub>10</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	O <sub>3</sub>	CO
<i>Multi-pollutant (five pollutants) model</i>						
Males	Persistent cough	0.92(0.64–1.34)	1.07(0.81–1.40)	1.18(0.90–1.56)	1.31(0.93–1.83)	0.99(0.75–1.31)
	Persistent phlegm	1.08(0.64–1.82)	1.05(0.73–1.52)	1.14(0.79–1.65)	1.11(0.71–1.72)	1.14(0.78–1.65)
	Doctor-diagnosed asthma	1.27(0.87–1.87)	0.88(0.66–1.16)	0.91(0.69–1.21)	<b>1.42(1.01–1.99)</b>	0.85(0.64–1.12)
	Current asthma	1.40(0.80–2.44)	1.05(0.71–1.54)	0.94(0.63–1.40)	1.28(0.79–2.07)	0.75(0.50–1.11)
	Current wheeze	1.39(0.93–2.08)	1.02(0.75–1.39)	1.07(0.79–1.46)	0.73(0.50–1.06)	0.95(0.70–1.29)
	Allergy rhinitis	1.17(0.73–1.86)	1.28(0.93–1.76)	1.16(0.84–1.58)	1.11(0.77–1.58)	0.70(0.51–0.96)
Females	Persistent cough	1.24(0.84–1.81)	1.08(0.82–1.42)	1.03(0.78–1.36)	1.04(0.74–1.46)	0.97(0.73–1.28)
	Persistent phlegm	0.96(0.58–1.61)	0.97(0.67–1.38)	0.79(0.54–1.14)	<b>1.98(1.25–3.13)</b>	1.22(0.84–1.77)
	Doctor-diagnosed asthma	<b>1.54(1.01–2.39)</b>	<b>1.45(1.06–1.98)</b>	0.97(0.72–1.33)	0.78(0.53–1.13)	0.69(0.51–0.95)
	Current asthma	<b>2.04(1.24–3.35)</b>	<b>1.91(1.00–3.67)</b>	1.34(0.84–2.15)	0.33(0.19–0.60)	0.72(0.45–1.16)
	Current wheeze	1.13(0.77–1.67)	0.82(0.62–1.09)	0.73(0.54–0.97)	<b>1.66(1.16–2.38)</b>	0.97(0.73–1.30)
	Allergy rhinitis	<b>1.84(1.06–3.19)</b>	1.15(0.81–1.63)	1.19(0.84–1.69)	0.99(0.67–1.45)	0.50(0.35–0.71)

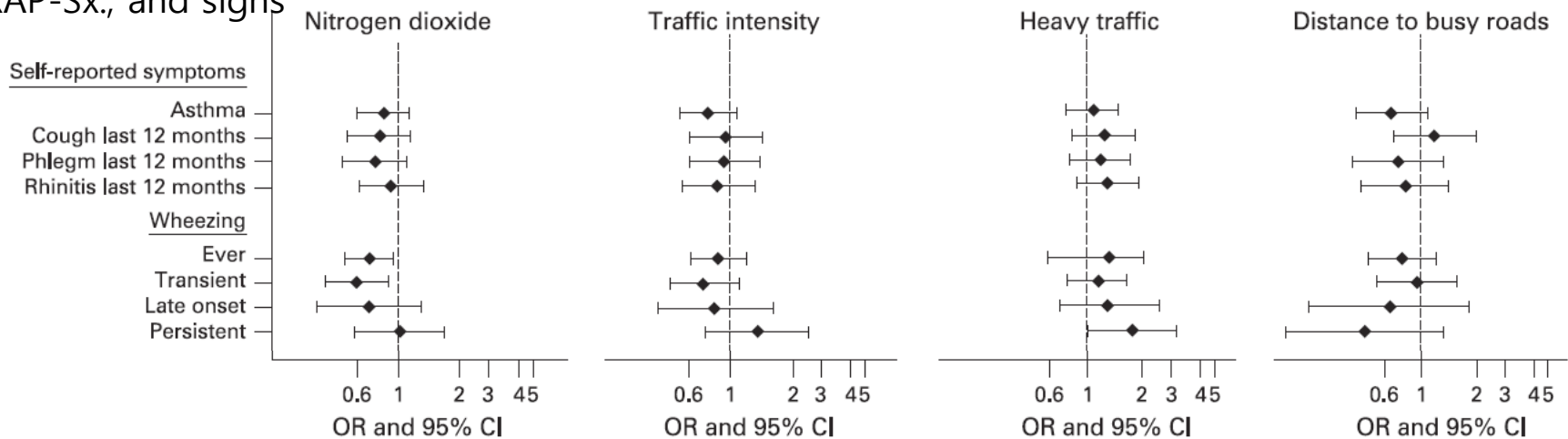
# TRAP (Traffic-related Air Pollution )

- A complex mixture of PM
  - **Combustion:** elemental or black carbon
  - **Non-combustion:** road dust, tyre wear, and brake wear
  - **Primary gaseous emissions:** nitrogen oxides
  - Specifically ambient polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and diesel-exhaust particles
  - Affect regulatory T cell (Treg) function through an epigenetic mechanism

In Rome

N=2,017, Cross-sectional survey

TRAP-Sx., and signs



# TRAP (Traffic-related Air Pollution)

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- Distances within 300–500 m of roadways
  - The most relevant for effects on human health.

Traffic-related air pollution: a critical review of the literature on emissions, exposure, and health effects. Boston, MA: Health Effects Institute, 2010.

- Diesel-exhaust particles
  - In isolation, have inconsistent effects in animals and in vitro
  - Exposure to such pollutants concomitant with or after sensitisation to variety of allergen
    - => Results in oxidative stress, airway hyper-responsiveness, enhanced neutrophilic and eosinophilic airway inflammation
    - => Switch to Th2/Th17 phenotypes

# TRAP (Traffic-related Air Pollution)

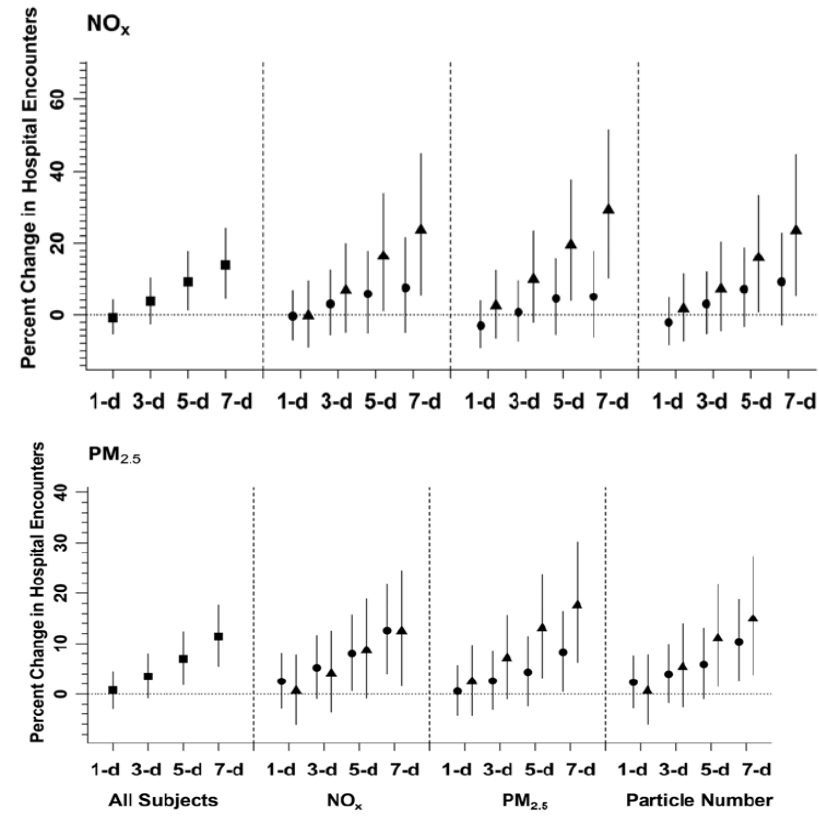
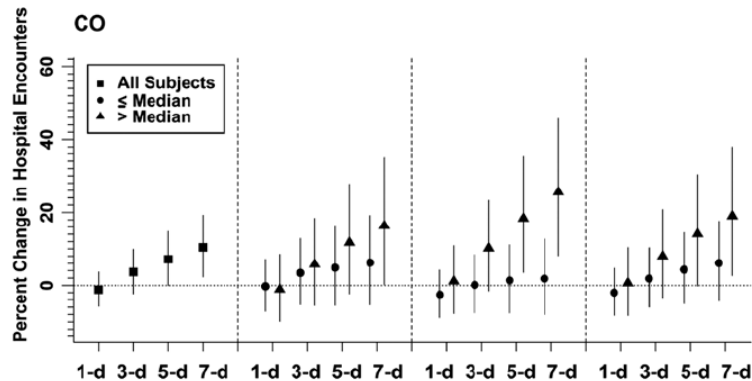
- Regional air pollution + long-term TRAP exposure

In California

N=7,492

11,390 asthma-related hospital encounter

TRAP-AP-hospital encounter



Dispersion-modeled traffic-related  
air pollutants: upper vs. lower half

Delfino RJ, et al. *Epidemiology* 2014; 25: 48–57.

# TRAP (Traffic-related Air Pollution )

- Phase 3 ISAAC study
  - Representing over 500 000 children and adolescents across five continents
  - Identified a dose-response association between symptoms of asthma

**Table 4.** Association between self-reported truck traffic on the street of residence and symptoms in 6- to 7-year-old children.

Group/symptom	No.			OR (95% confidence interval)		
	Country	Center	Total	High vs. never	Medium vs. never	Low vs. never
<b>All study participants<sup>a</sup></b>						
Current wheeze	29	70	197,515	1.46 (1.36–1.56)	1.31 (1.24–1.39)	1.09 (1.03–1.15)
Asthma ever	29	70	197,515	1.32 (1.23–1.42)	1.21 (1.14–1.28)	1.04 (0.98–1.10)
Severe asthma symptoms	29	69	194,932	1.64 (1.49–1.80)	1.33 (1.22–1.45)	1.08 (1.00–1.17)
Rhinoconjunctivitis	29	70	197,515	1.44 (1.34–1.54)	1.24 (1.17–1.32)	1.07 (1.01–1.13)
Eczema	28	69	194,622	1.37 (1.28–1.48)	1.20 (1.13–1.28)	1.08 (1.02–1.14)

**Table 3.** Association between self-reported truck traffic on the street of residence and symptoms in 13- to 14-year-old children.

Group/symptom	No.			OR (95% confidence interval)		
	Country	Center	Total	High vs. never	Medium vs. never	Low vs. never
<b>All study participants<sup>a</sup></b>						
Current wheeze	46	110	315,572	1.46 (1.36–1.56)	1.33 (1.25–1.41)	1.13 (1.07–1.19)
Asthma ever	46	110	315,572	1.23 (1.16–1.30)	1.11 (1.05–1.17)	1.04 (0.99–1.09)
Current wheeze–video	35	86	246,658	1.53 (1.40–1.67)	1.35 (1.25–1.47)	1.13 (1.04–1.22)
Severe asthma symptoms	46	108	310,808	1.65 (1.53–1.79)	1.35 (1.26–1.46)	1.10 (1.03–1.18)
Rhinoconjunctivitis	46	110	315,572	1.49 (1.41–1.59)	1.28 (1.21–1.35)	1.09 (1.03–1.14)
Eczema	45	109	313,085	1.59 (1.47–1.72)	1.35 (1.25–1.44)	1.09 (1.03–1.17)

# Possible Risk Modifiers

Previous study Gap

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- Young boys than in girls
- Ethnicity
- Socioeconomic status
- Secondhand tobacco smoking
- Neighborhood characteristics: crimes, and green spaces
- Stress
- Diet

# Future Perspectives

## Policy Issues

- Alert In Korea

- Ozone alert
- PM 10 & PM 2.5 alert

(미세먼지 농도별 예보 등급)

<b>중음</b> (PM <sub>10</sub> 30-50㎍/m <sup>3</sup> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> 15-25㎍/m <sup>3</sup> ) 대기오염관련 질환자군에서도 영향이 유발되지 않는 수준		<b>보통</b> (PM <sub>10</sub> 51-75㎍/m <sup>3</sup> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> 16-20㎍/m <sup>3</sup> ) 환자군에게 만성 노출시 경미한 영향이 유발될 수 있는 수준	
<b>나쁨</b> (PM <sub>10</sub> 76-100㎍/m <sup>3</sup> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> 21-25㎍/m <sup>3</sup> ) 환자군 및 민감군에게 유해한 영향이 유발될 수 있는 수준, 일반인도 건강상 불쾌감을 경험할 수 있는 수준		<b>매우 나쁨</b> (PM <sub>10</sub> 101-150㎍/m <sup>3</sup> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> 26-35㎍/m <sup>3</sup> ) 환자군 및 민감군에게 노출시 심각한 영향 유발, 일반인도 악한 영향을 받을 수 있는 수준	

(단위: 1시간 평균)

**미세먼지(PM<sub>2.5</sub>) 주의보·경보기준이 강화됩니다**

주의보 기준은 현행 90㎍/m<sup>3</sup>에서 75㎍/m<sup>3</sup>로, 경보 기준은 현행 150㎍/m<sup>3</sup>에서 130㎍/m<sup>3</sup>로 강화하여 위해 대처 안전보건 수준과 국민 건강 개선을 반영하고 있습니다. (내외원영역별 시행규칙 개정안은 4월 2일부터 시행되고, 규제상승 적용 거쳐 7월 1부터 시행될 예정입니다.)

**주의보 발령기준**  
75

**경보 발령기준**  
130

\*발령기준: 2시간 기준

예보구간		등급			
		중음	보통	나쁨	매우 나쁨
예측농도 (ppm)	O <sub>3</sub>	0-0.030	0.031-0.090	0.091-0.150	0.151 이상
행동요령 (오존)	민감군*	-	실외활동시 특별히 행동에 제약을 받을 필요는 없지만 몸상태에 따라 유의하여 활동	장시간 또는 무리한 실외활동 제한	가급적 실내 활동
	일반인	-	-	장시간 또는 무리한 실외활동 제한 특히 눈이 아픈 증상이 있는 사람은 실외활동을 피해야 함	실외에서의 활동을 제한, 실내 생활 권고

\* 민감군: 어린이, 노인, 천식 같은 폐질환 및 심장질환을 앓고 있는 어른

(단위: 1시간 평균)

**고농도 미세먼지 7가지 대응요령**

1. 최우선: 가급적 자제하기 (가급적 외출을 자제하고, 외출 시 마스크 착용)
2. 자제시 못하면 마스크(아니면 눈가리) 착용하기 (가급적 외출을 자제하고, 외출 시 마스크 착용)
3. 외출 시 민감군(어린이, 노인, 천식) 같은 폐질환 및 심장질환을 앓고 있는 어른은 주의하기 (가급적 외출을 자제하고, 외출 시 마스크 착용)
4. 외출 후 목을 씻어주기 (가급적 외출을 자제하고, 외출 시 마스크 착용)
5. 몸과 옷(특히 머리카락)을 깨끗이 씻어주기 (가급적 외출을 자제하고, 외출 시 마스크 착용)
6. 환기, 실내 물청소 등 실내 공기질 관리하기 (가급적 외출을 자제하고, 외출 시 마스크 착용)
7. 대기오염 유발행위 자제하기 (가급적 외출을 자제하고, 외출 시 마스크 착용)

- Considerations

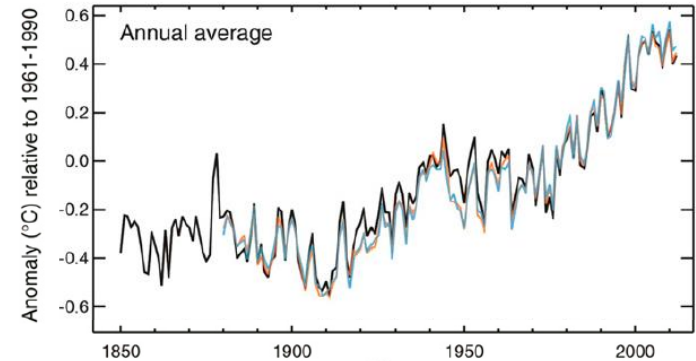
- Residency : How far away from the traffic road for residency in Korea?
- Indoor pollutant?
- Change in treatment? **How to do clinicians** : Avoid outdoor activities in asthma patients..

# Future Perspectives

## Policy Issues

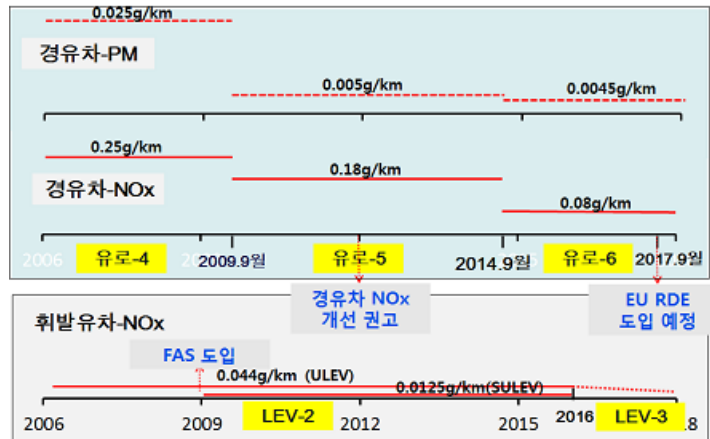
- **Climate change & clean-air regulation**

- Pollutants - climate change & Climate change - Pollutants



*Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2014; 189: 512–19.

### Vehicle registration for emissions

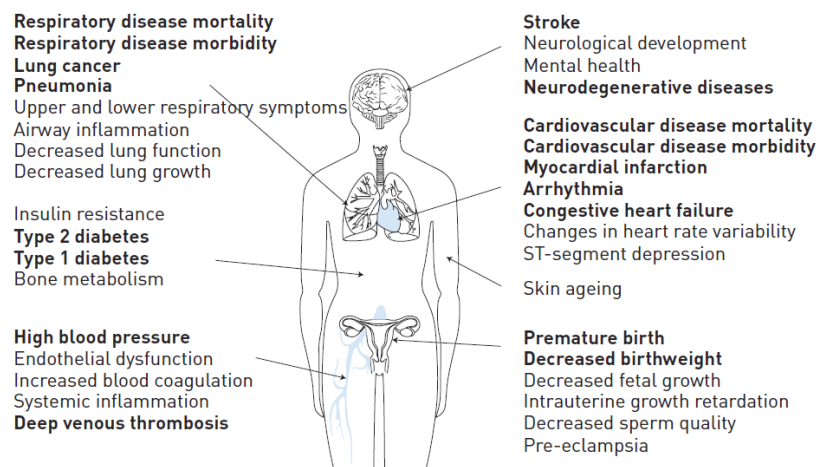


# Future Perspectives

further studies

- **Air pollutants – climate change – health imperatives**

- ✓ The onset of asthma and lag time
- ✓ Methodology: how assuming pre-exposed pollutants?
- ✓ Further Cardiovascular clinical effects
- ✓ Treatment strategies – which level target ?



[천식연구회 Workshop]

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**“Thanks for your attention.”**

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