

The Environment and Lung Health in Children



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Outline

- Definition
- Why are children more vulnerable
- Acute effects of air pollution
- Chronic effects of air pollution
- Smoking and health







Environment

- Air, water, minerals, organisms and all other external factors surrounding and affecting the organism at any time

Why are children more vulnerable?

- Children are exposed to a higher burden of airborne pollutants because of their greater ventilatory rate
- Their breathing zone is lower than that of adults so they are more exposed to heavier pollutants that tend to concentrate at lower air levels
- They spend more time outdoors, engaged in physical activity
- They are also exposed at a vulnerable stage, when the immune and metabolic systems are less mature and the lungs are rapidly developing
- They are more likely to suffer the long term effects of exposures

“Criteria” air pollutants

- Ozone
- Carbon monoxide
- Nitrogen oxides
- Sulfur dioxide
- Particulate matter



Fiaa - Koura



Deir Ammar - North



Imane High School - Barja



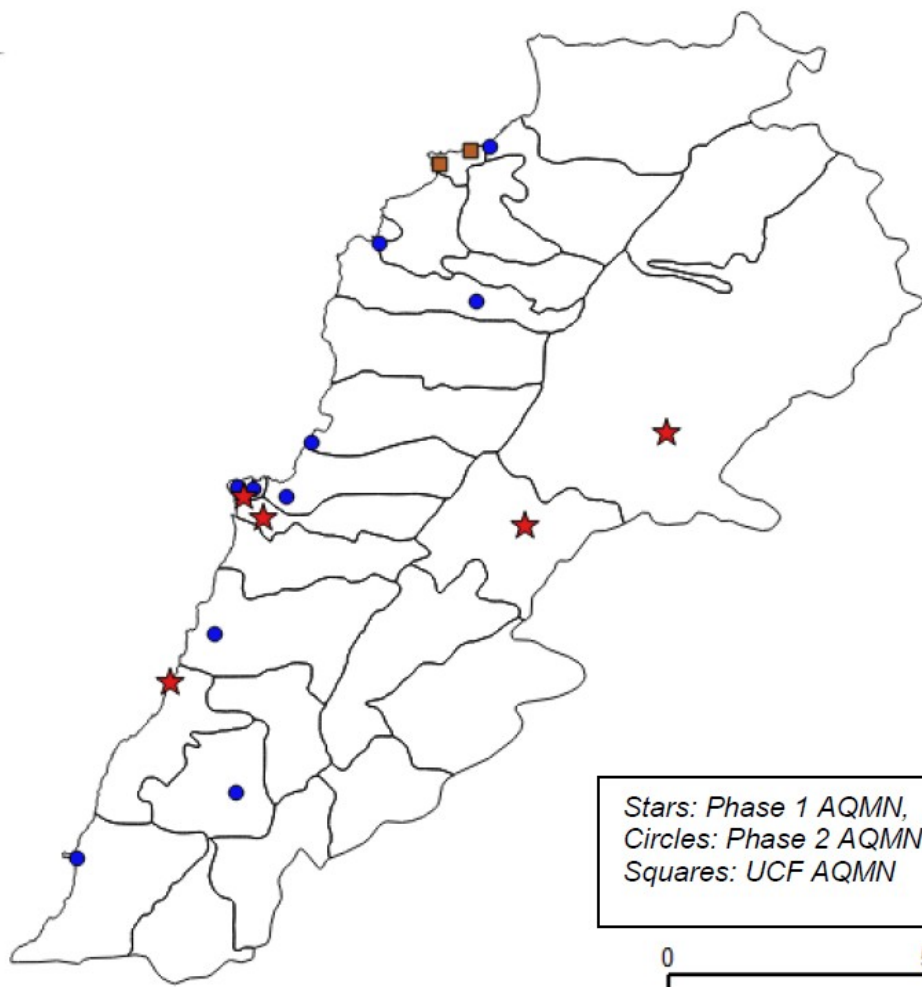
LAU - Beirut



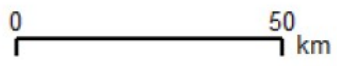
Teir Debba - Tyre



Barouk Reserve



Stars: Phase 1 AQMN,
Circles: Phase 2 AQMN
Squares: UCF AQMN



NO₂ annual values over Greater Beirut

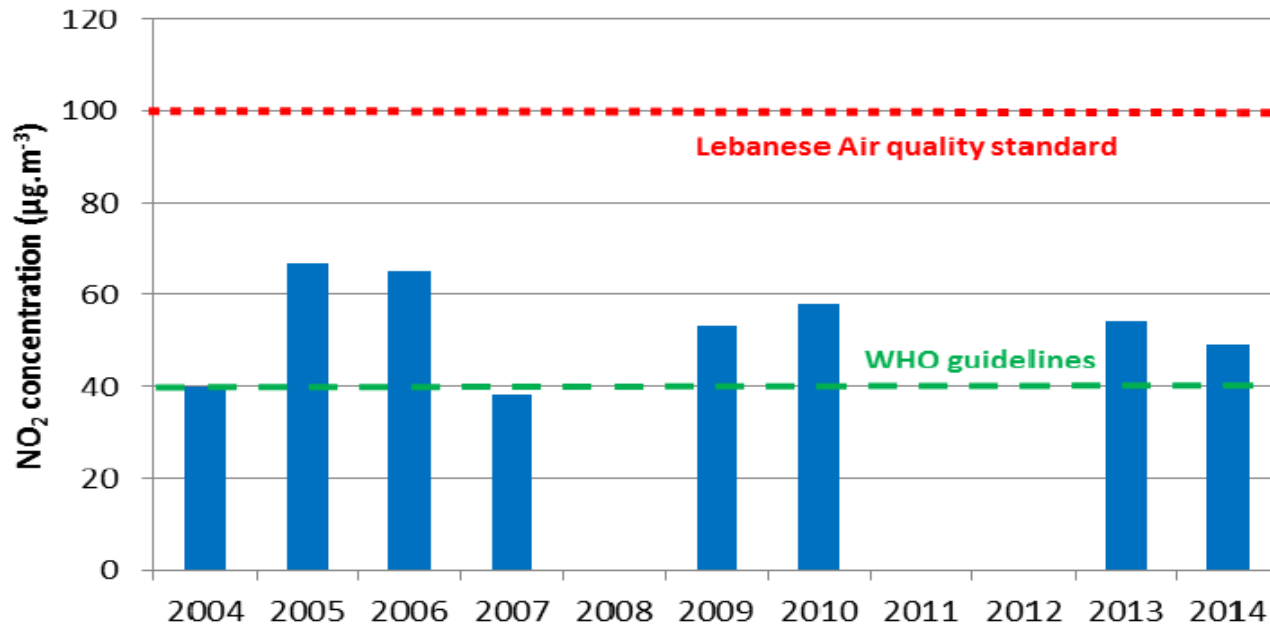


Figure 3: NO₂ annual values over Greater Beirut Area¹⁰.

PM annual values over Greater Beirut

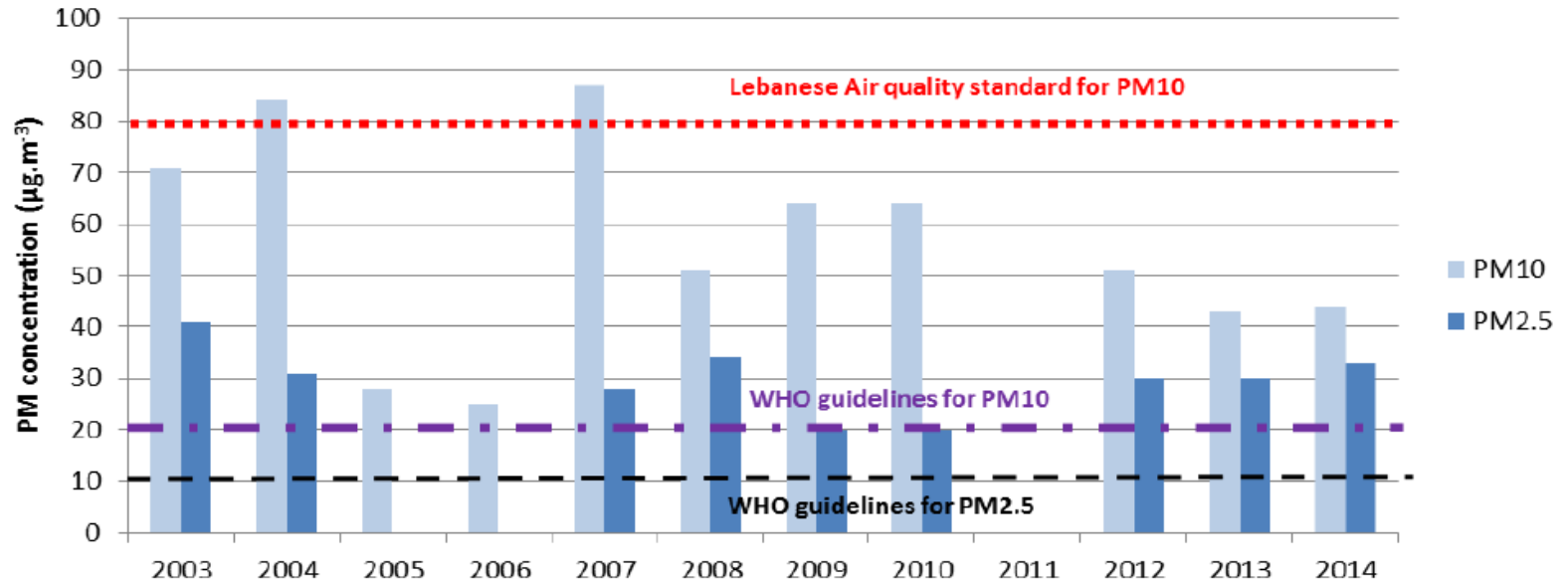


Figure 4: PM annual values over Greater Beirut area¹¹

Ozone

- Results from a photochemical reaction between UV light and chemical precursors (volatile hydrocarbons, nitrogen and sulfur oxides...)
- Abounds in sunny areas, during specific seasons and times of the day
- Induces irritation and injury in the respiratory epithelium through generation of free radicals

The “summer camp” studies

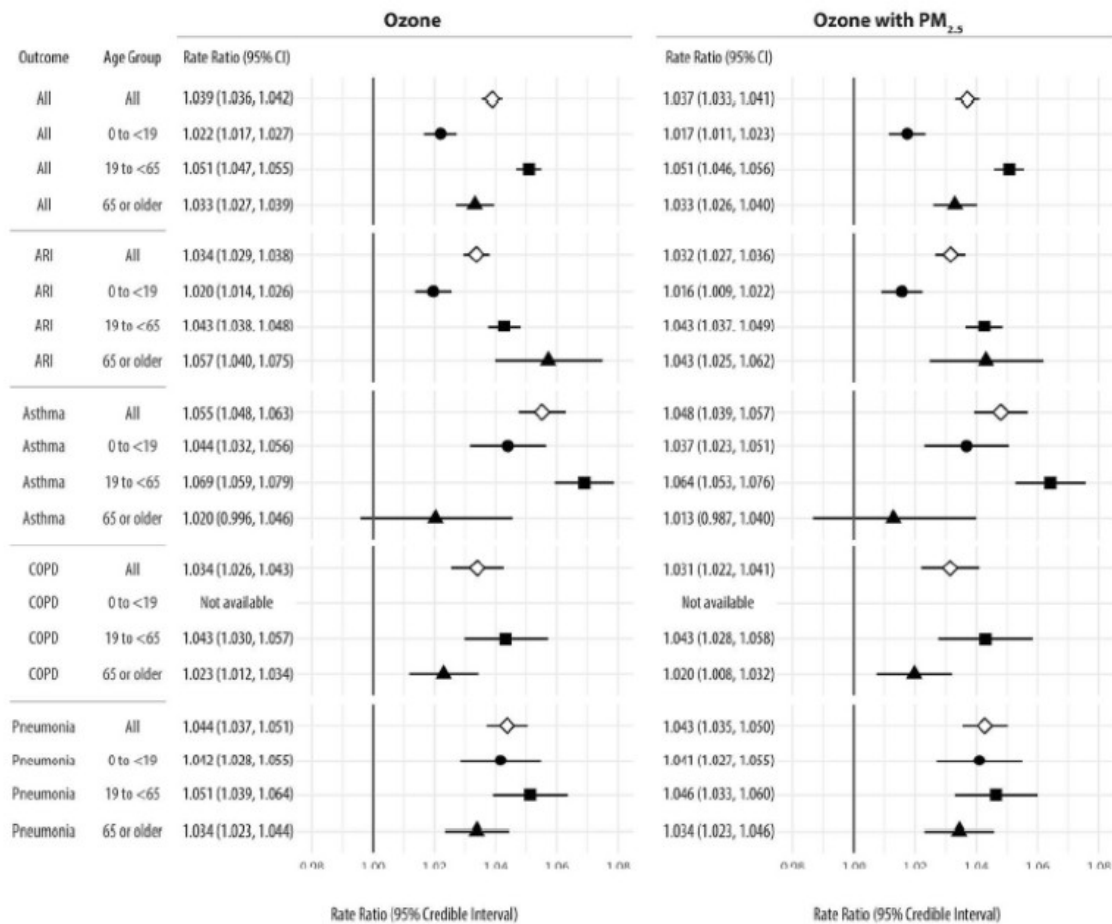
- Ozone causes a dose-dependant drop in pulmonary functions (FEV_1) in healthy children

Kinney PL et al, *Environ Health Perspect* 1996

Ozone exposure and pulmonary function

Days	Change in PEF (L/min)	95% CI	<i>P</i> -value
Lag 0	-3.67	-4.73, -2.61	< 0.01
Lag 1	-1.29	-2.24, -0.33	< 0.01
Lag 2	1.47	0.52, 2.41	< 0.01
Lag 3	0.59	-0.33, 1.50	NS

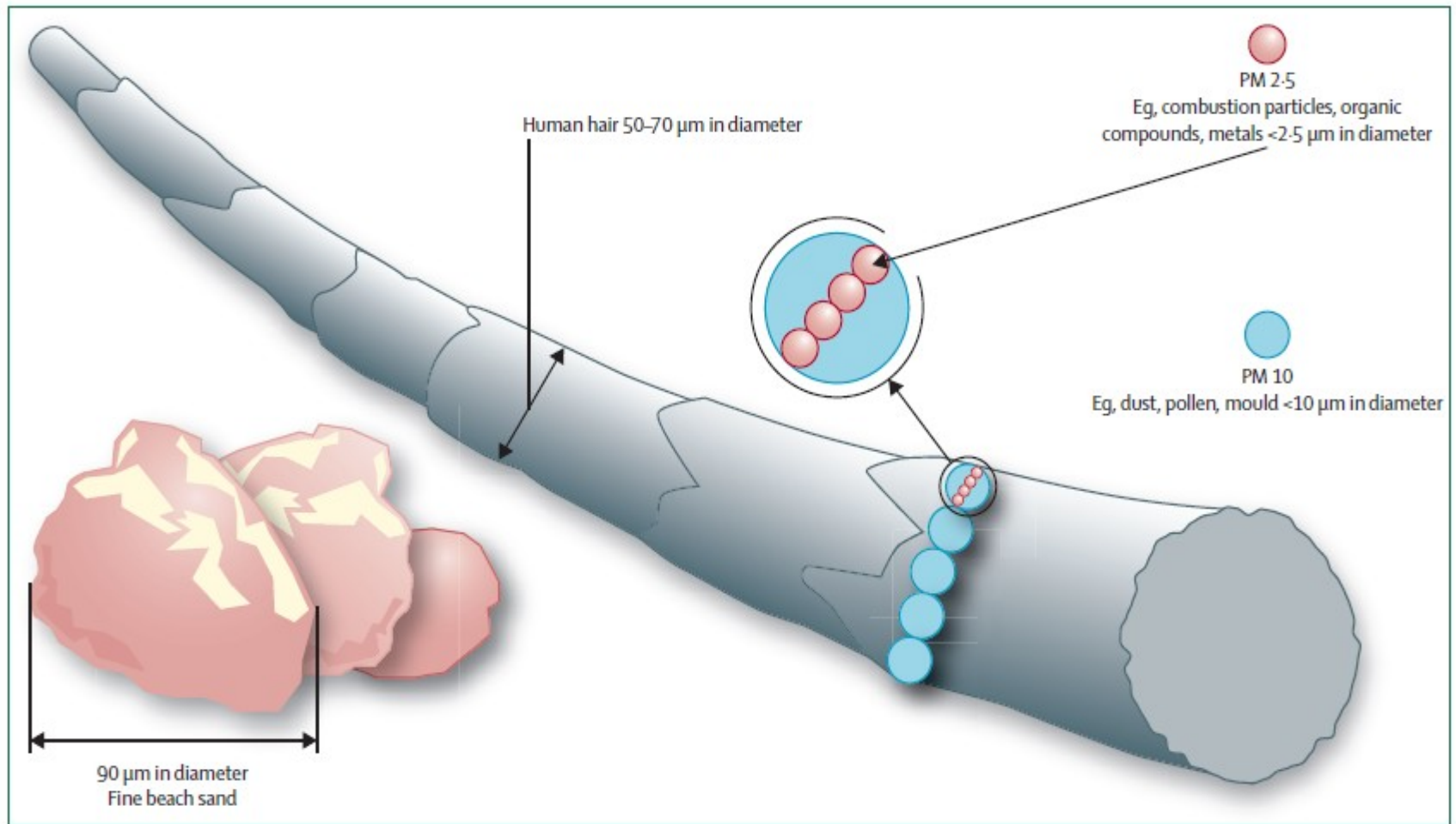
ER visits with increased ozone concentration



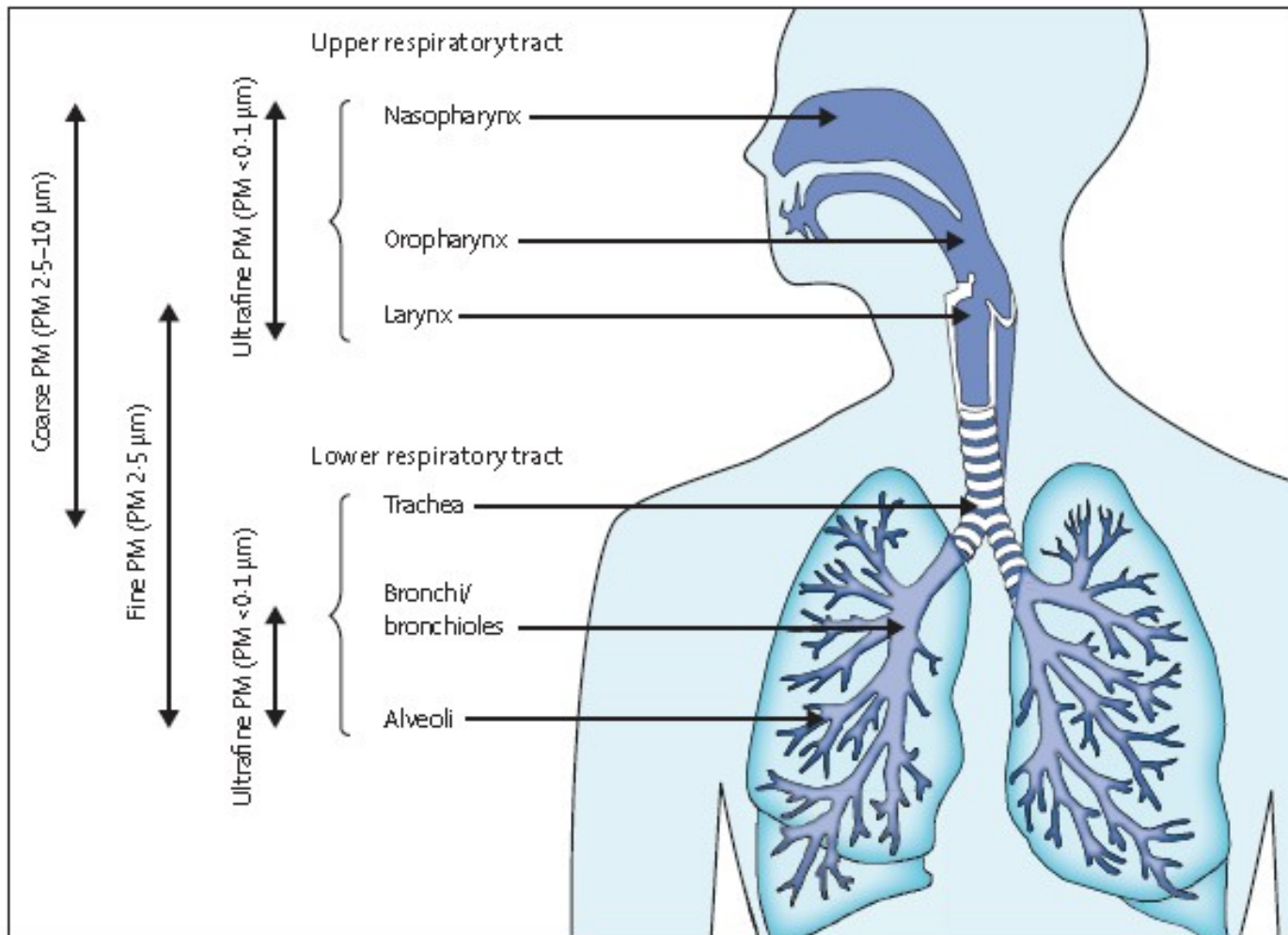
Abbreviations: PM_{2.5}, Fine Particulate Matter (2.5 micrometers in diameter or less); 95% CI, 95% Credible Interval; ARI, Acute Respiratory Infection; COPD, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Particulate matter

- Suspended particles: fine solids, aerosols, soil dust, road dust, soot, ash, molds, pollens...
- Generated from factories, mines and quarries, construction activity, dust storms, volcanoes, refuse burning, vehicular exhaust...
- Designated as PM_{10} or $PM_{2.5}$, depending on the size in micrometers

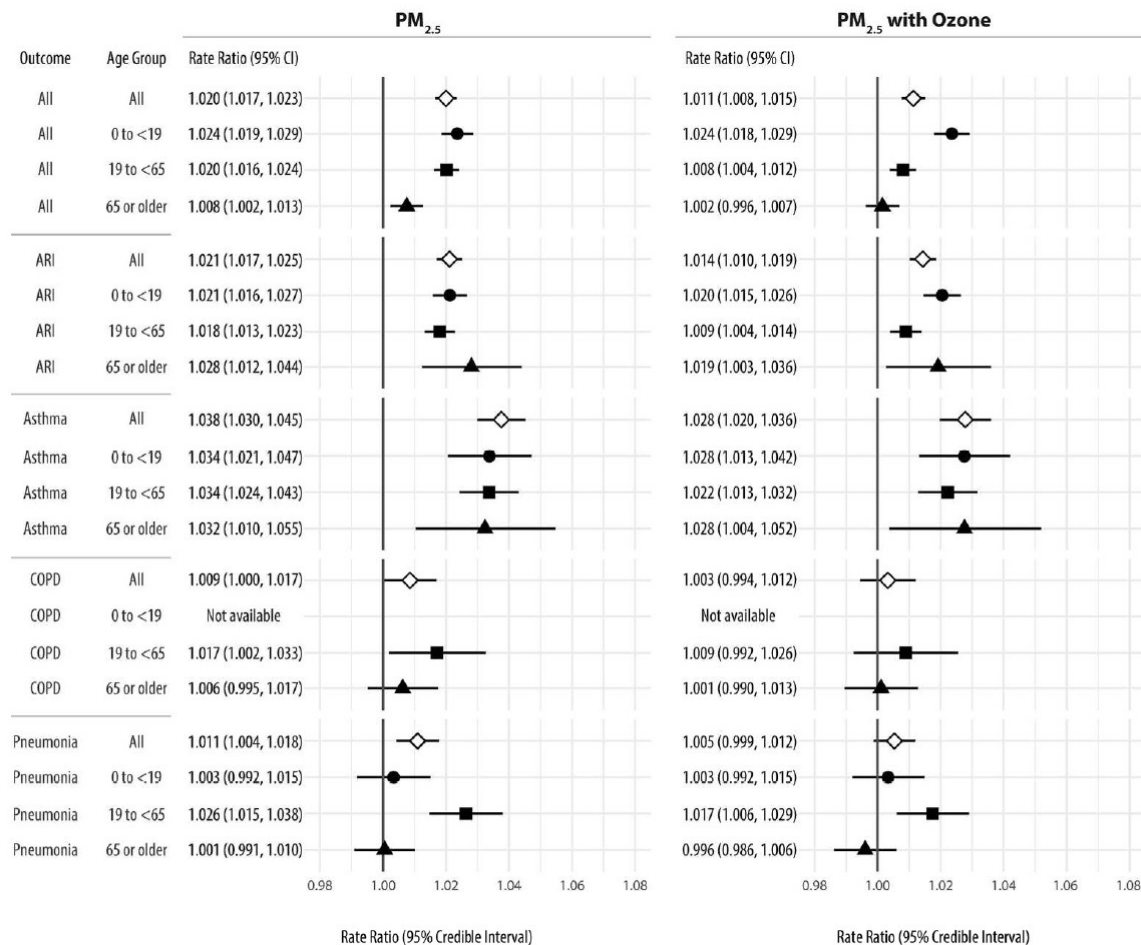


Size matters

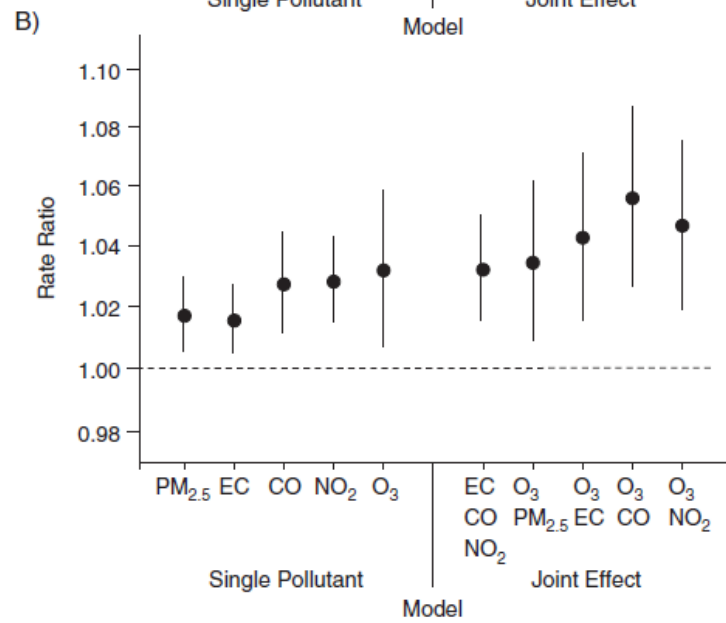
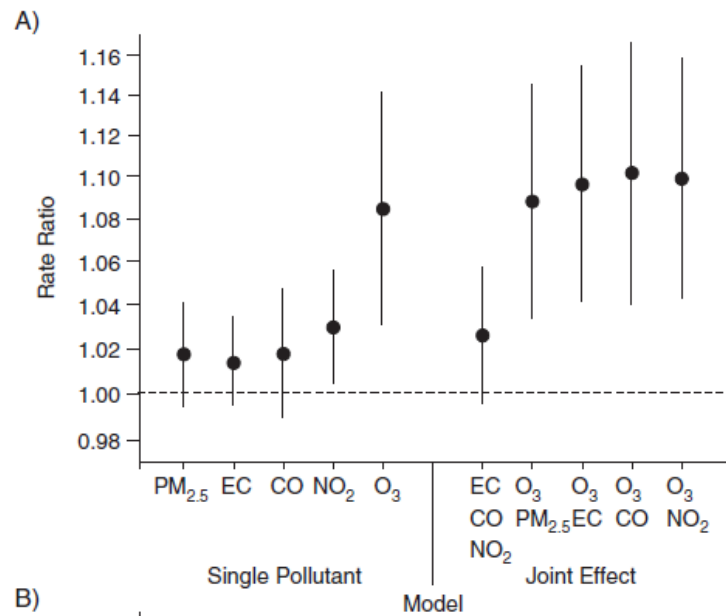


- Associated with increased airway inflammation and decreased immune responses to both viral and bacterial infections
- Promotes TH2 response by inhibiting production of INF-gamma (Guarneri and Balmes, 2014)

ER visits with increased PM_{2.5} concentration



Abbreviations: PM_{2.5}, Fine Particulate Matter (2.5 micrometers in diameter or less); 95% CI, 95% Credible Interval; ARI, Acute Respiratory Infection; COPD, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease



Beijing Olympics 2008



- Outpatient visits for asthma decreased by 41.6% during the Olympic games
- Exhaled NO was lower in schoolchildren during the Olympic games

Li et al, *Sci Total Environ.* 2010

Lin et al, *Environ Health Perspect.* 2011

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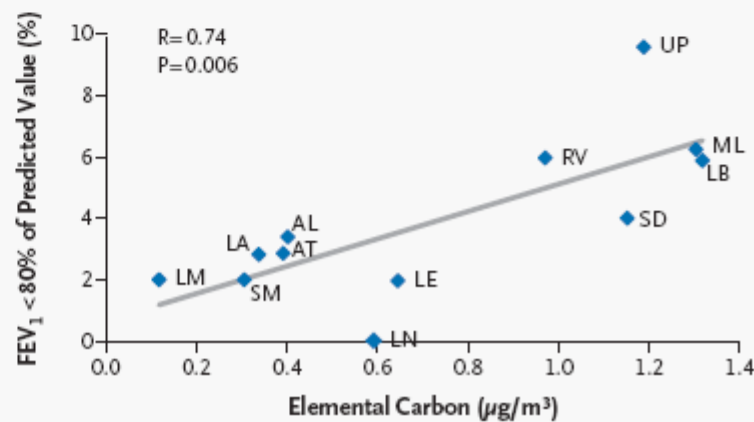
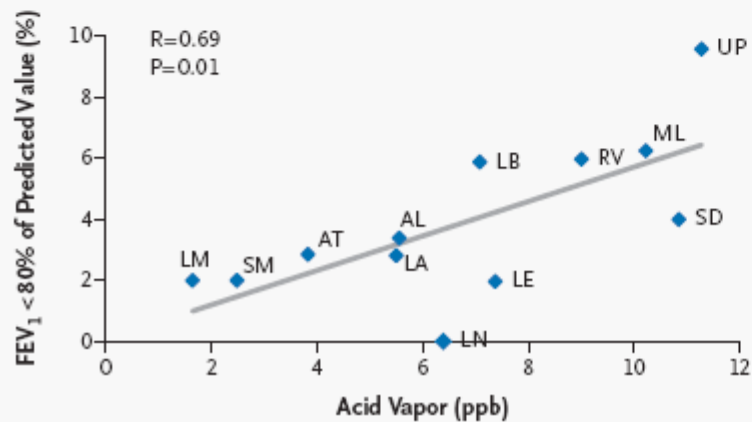
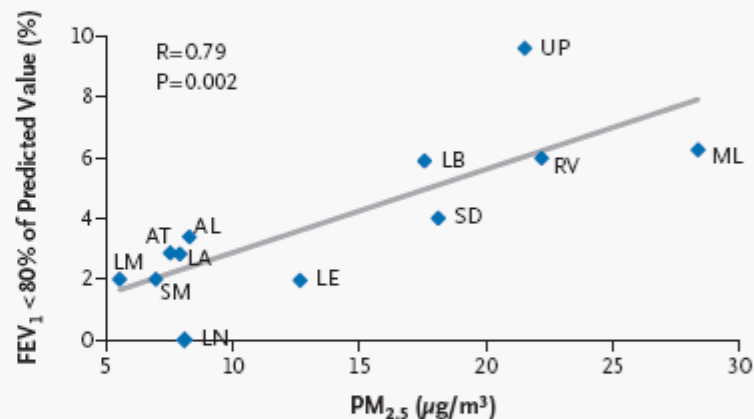
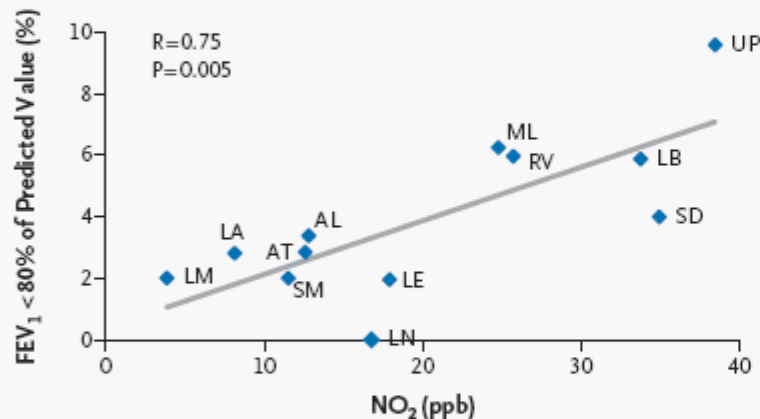
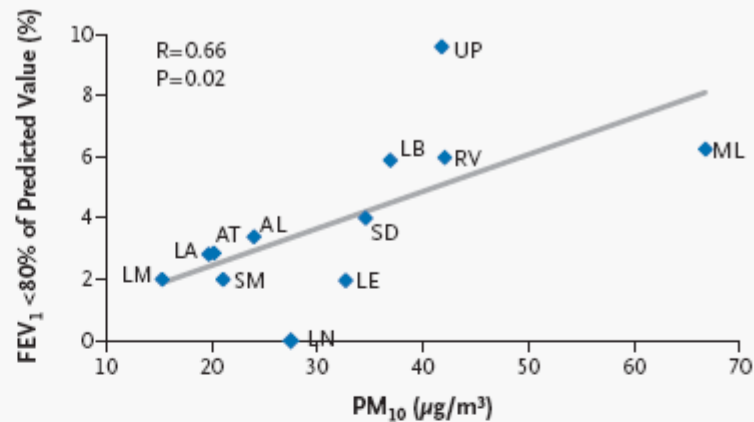
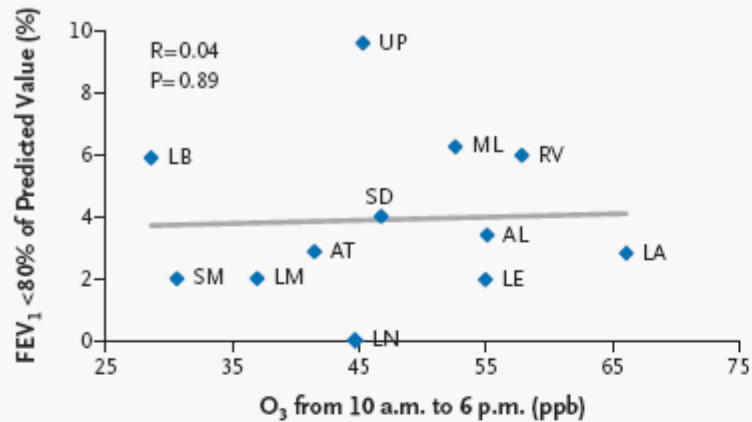
ESTABLISHED IN 1812

SEPTEMBER 9, 2004

VOL. 351 NO. 11

The Effect of Air Pollution on Lung Development
from 10 to 18 Years of Age

W. James Gauderman, Ph.D., Edward Avol, M.S., Frank Gilliland, M.D., Ph.D., Hita Vora, M.S.,
Duncan Thomas, Ph.D., Kiros Berhane, Ph.D., Rob McConnell, M.D., Nino Kuenzli, M.D., Fred Lurmann, M.S.,
Edward Rappaport, M.S., Helene Margolis, Ph.D., David Bates, M.D., and John Peters, M.D.



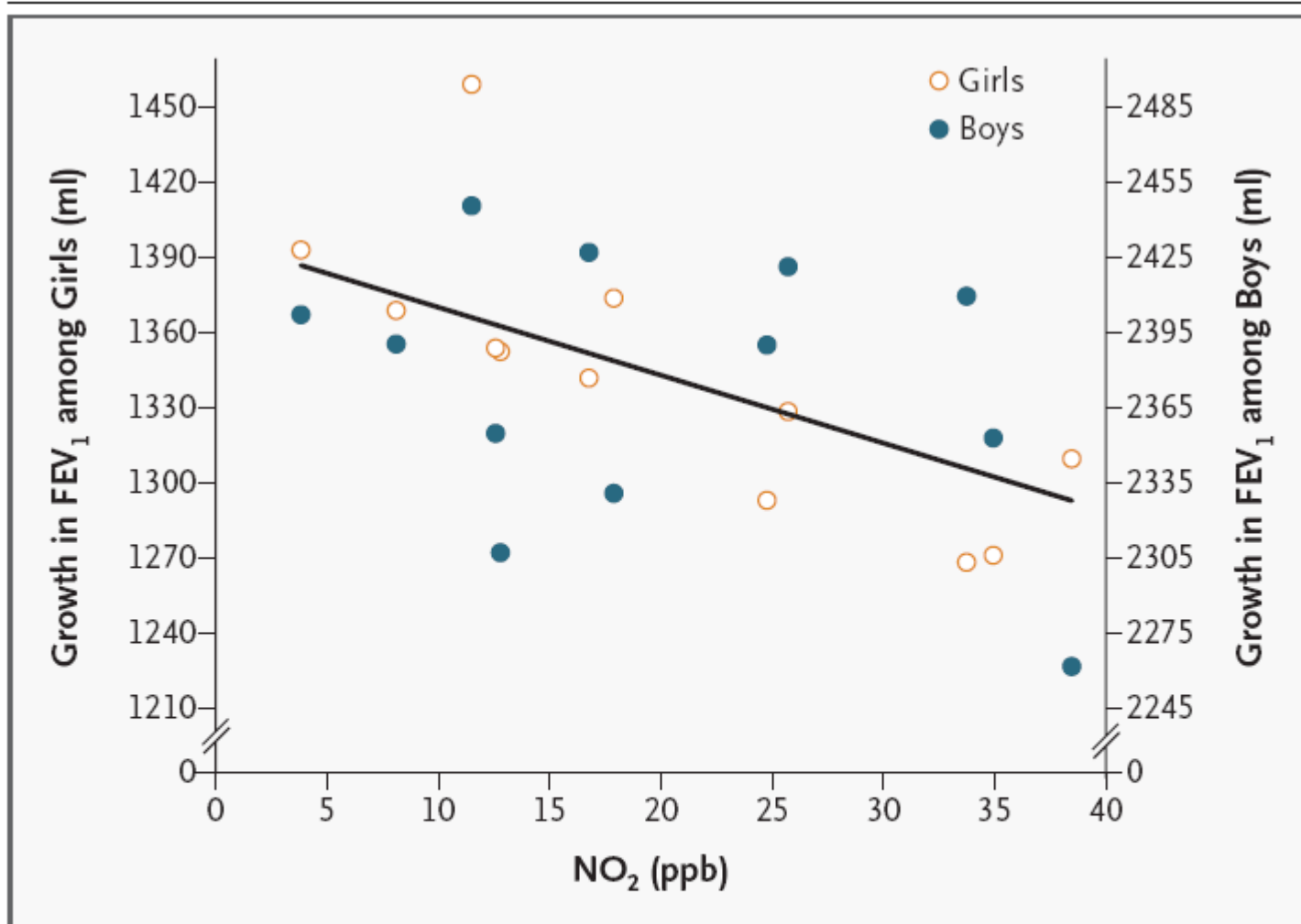
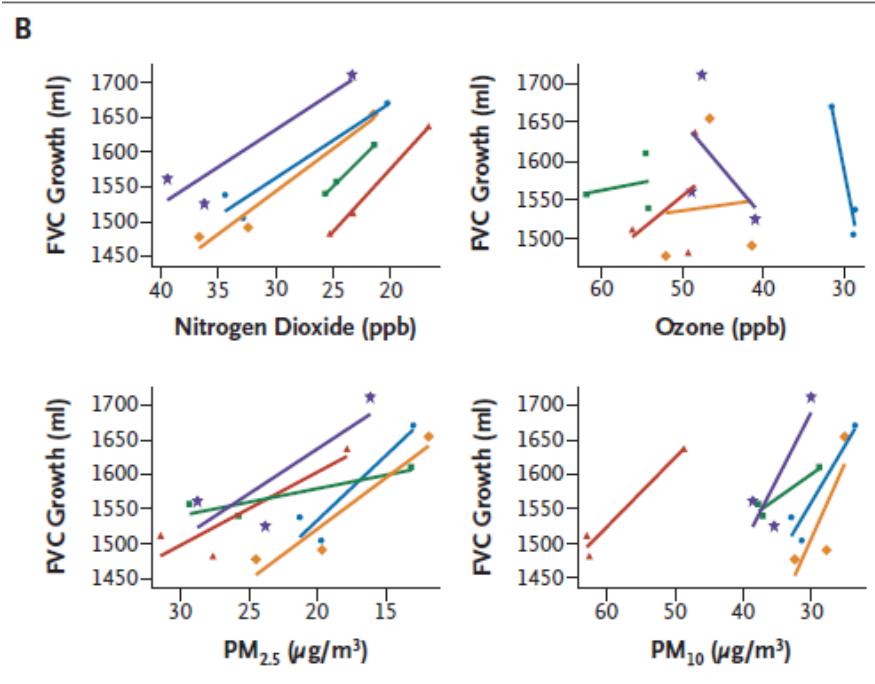
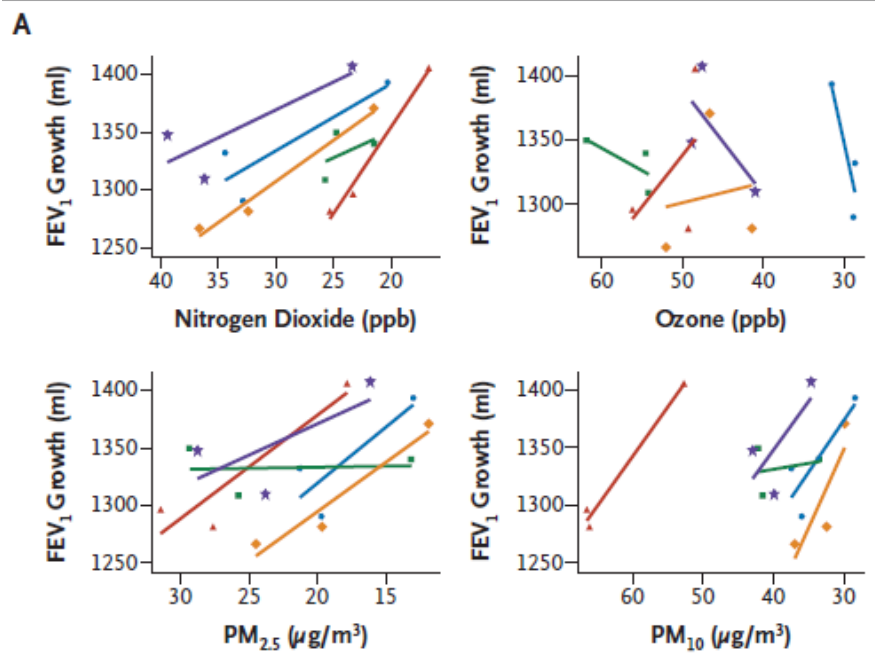


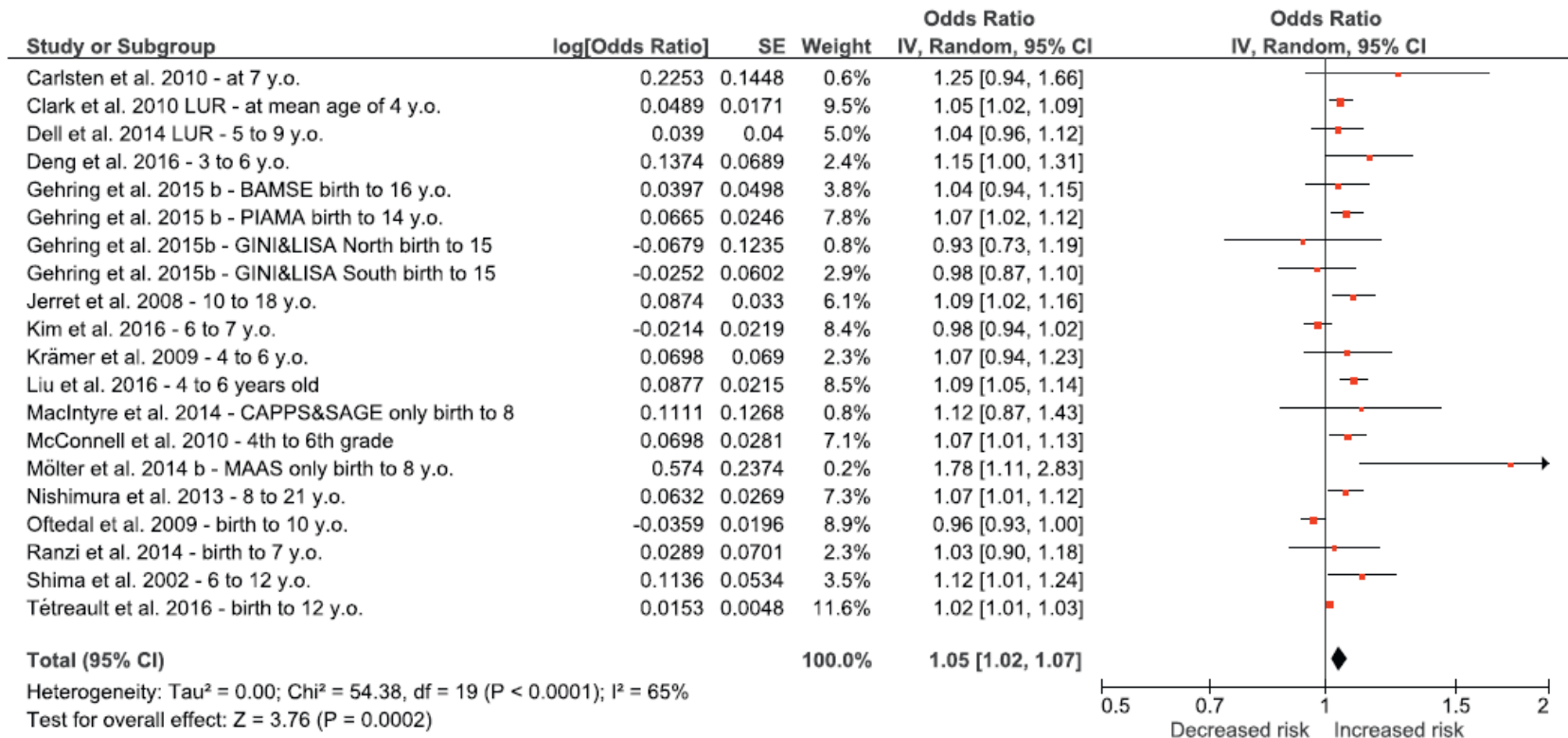
Figure 2. Community-Specific Average Growth in FEV₁ among Girls and Boys During the Eight-Year Period from 1993 to 2001 Plotted against Average Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) Levels from 1994 through 2000.

● Long Beach
 ▲ Mira Loma
 ■ Riverside
 ◆ San Dimas
 ★ Upland

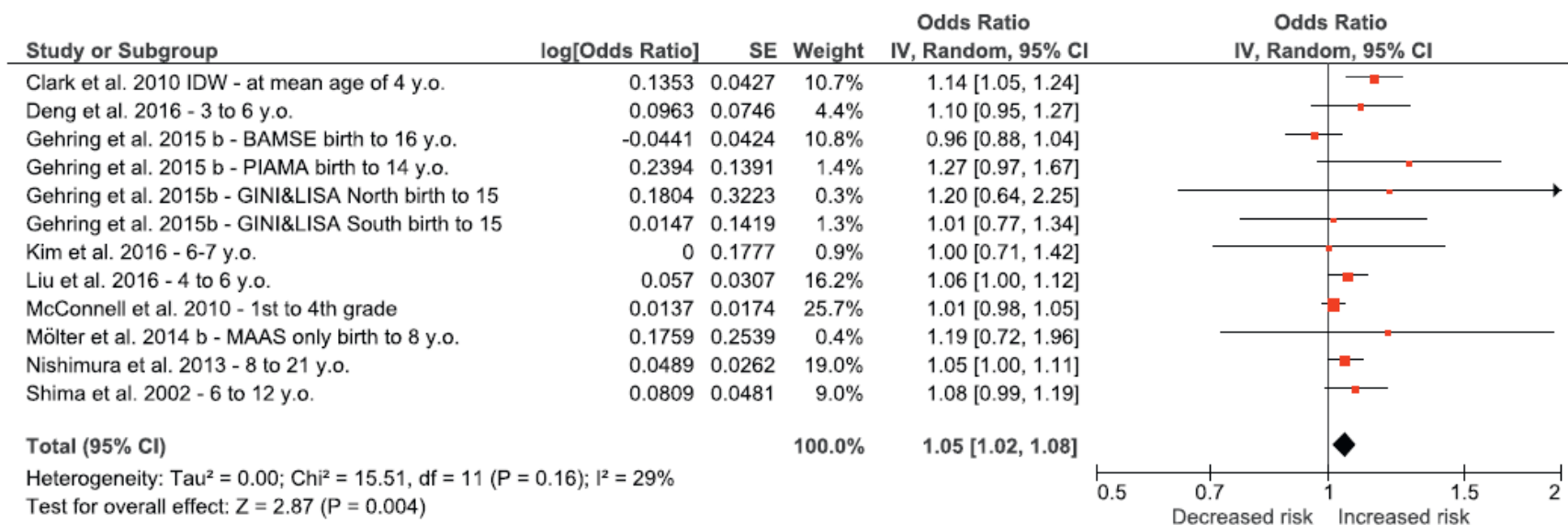


Gauderman et al, *NEJM* 2015

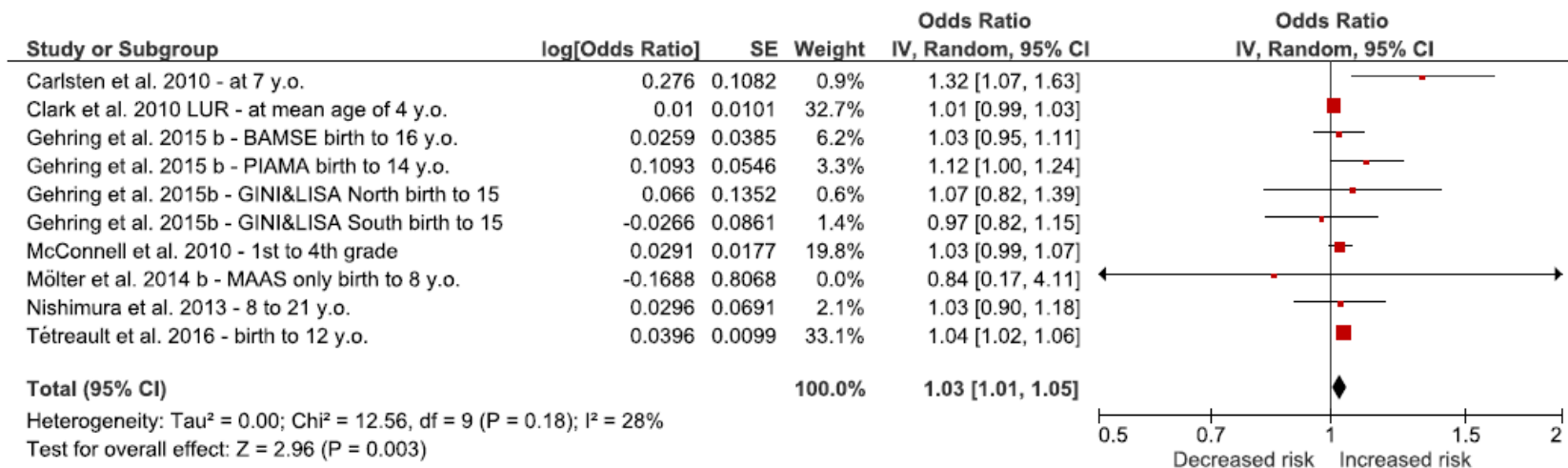
Traffic-related pollution and asthma: NO₂



Traffic-related pollution and asthma: PM₁₀



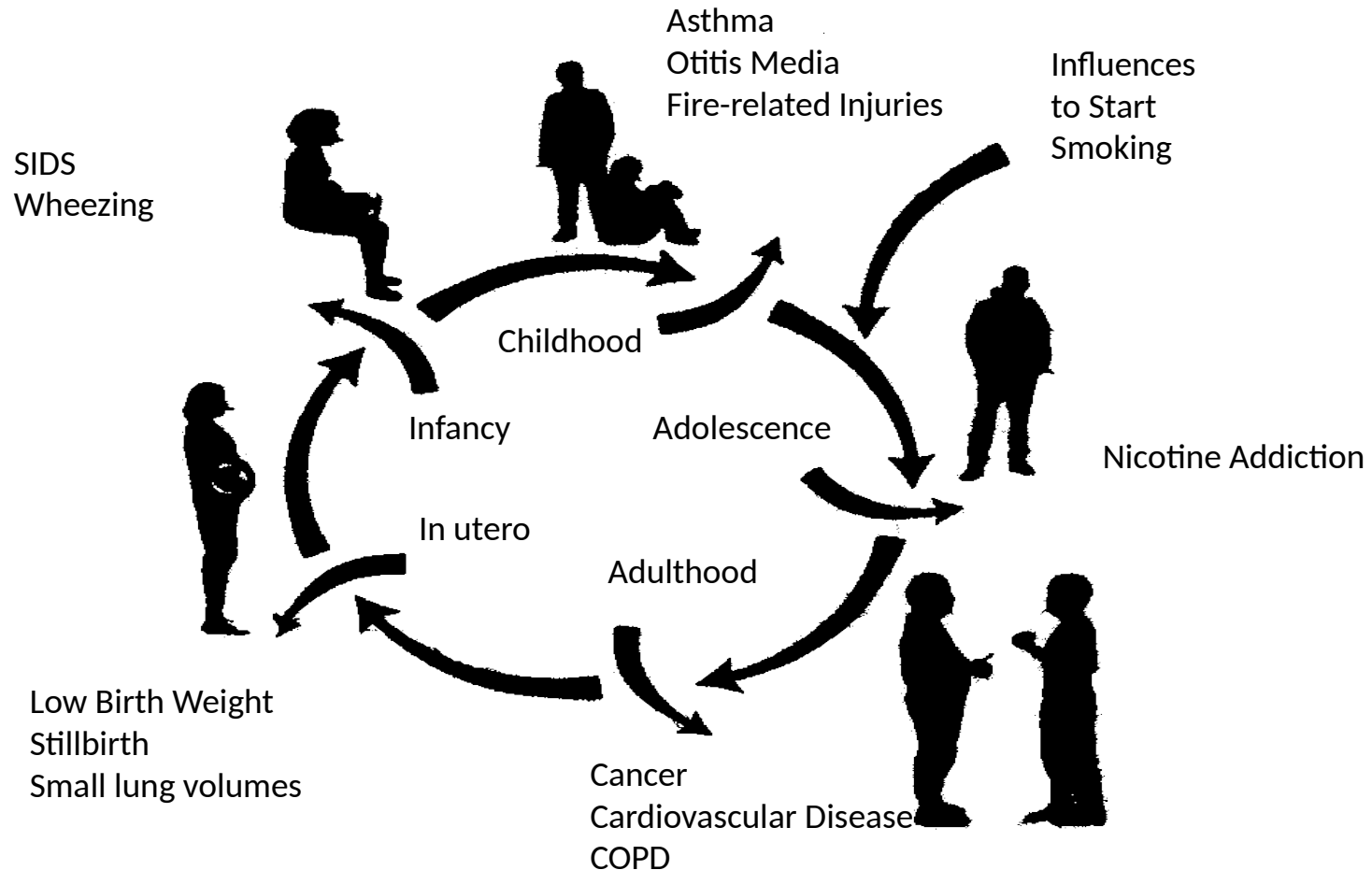
Traffic-related pollution and asthma: PM_{2.5}



Smoking and Health



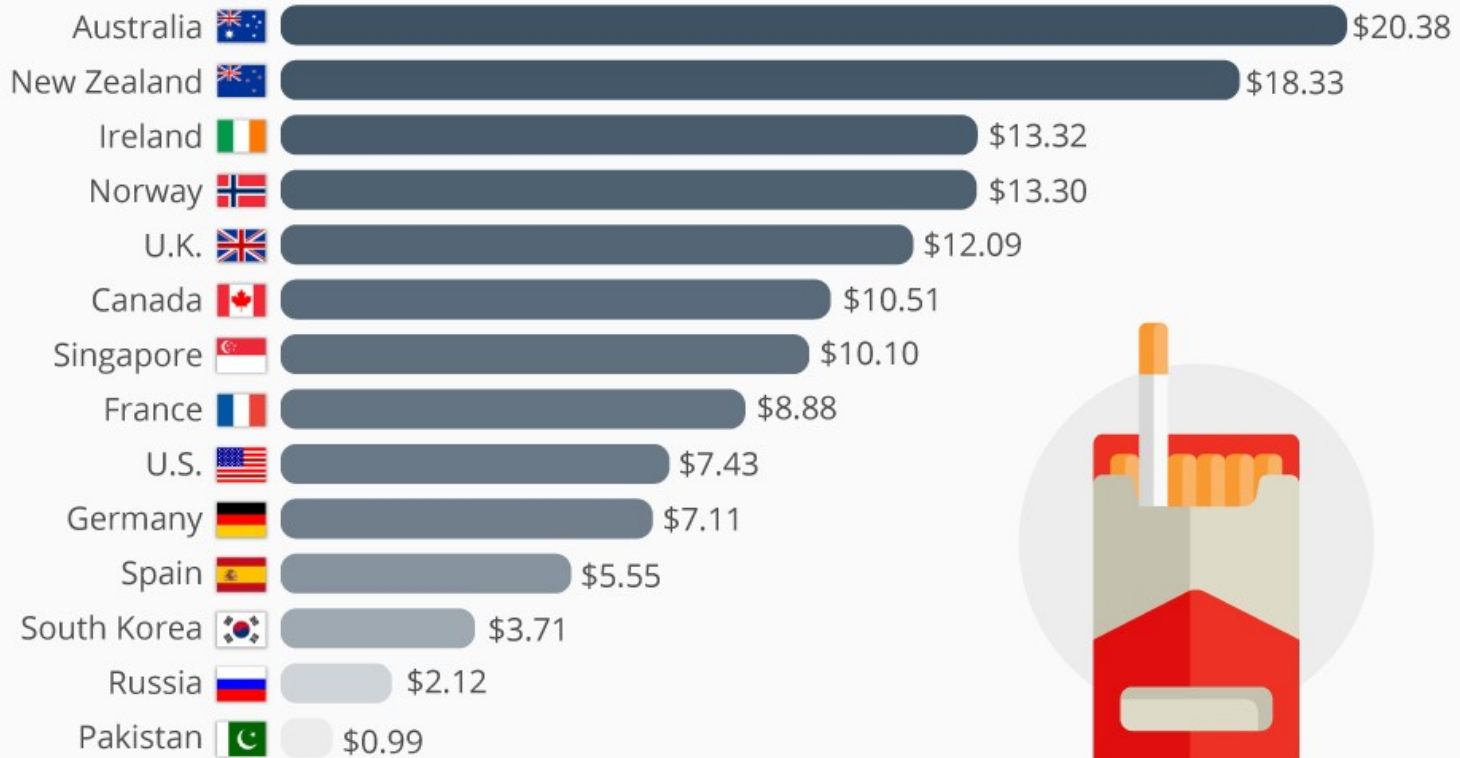
Life cycle of the health effects of smoking



Adapted from Aligne, 1997

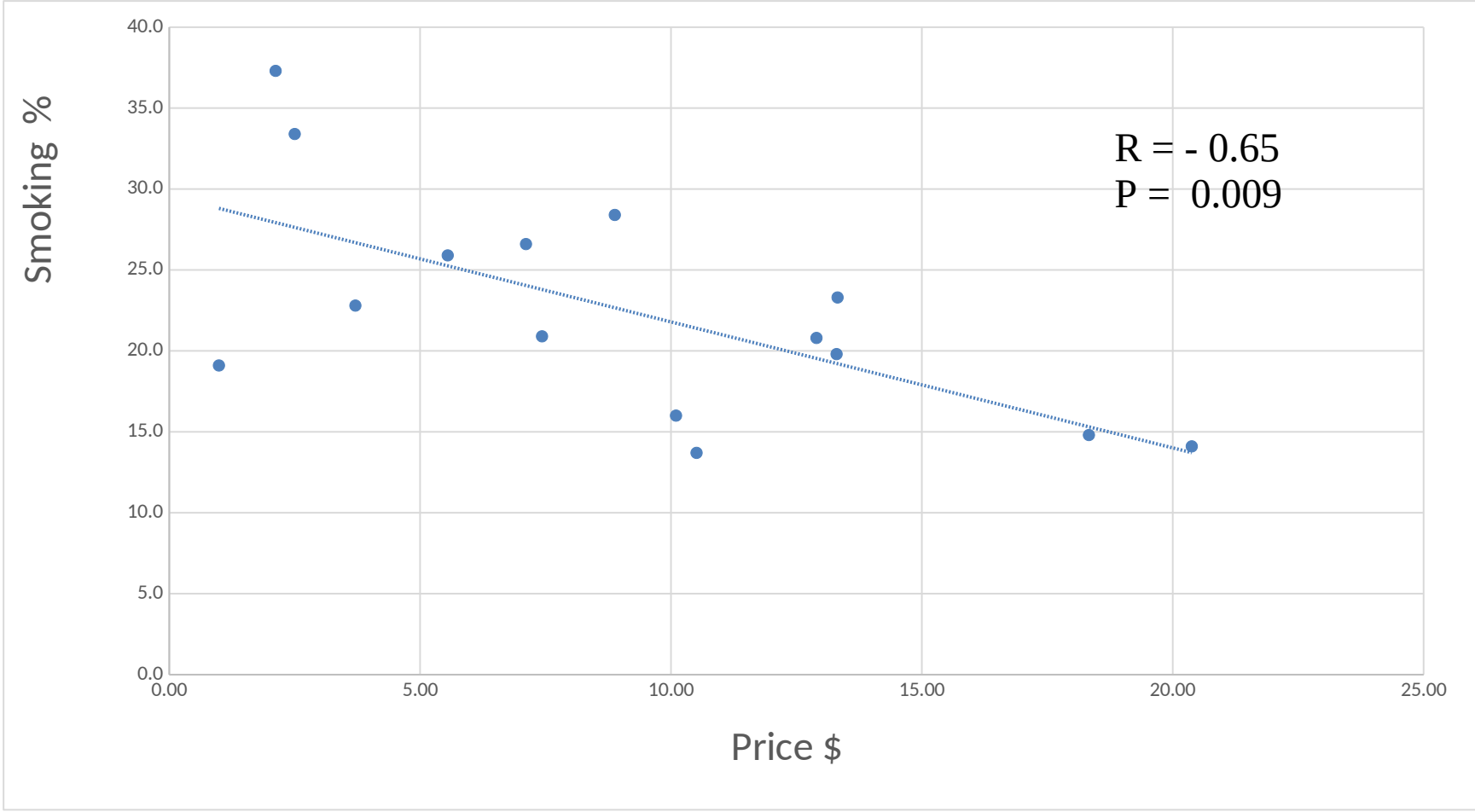
The Price of a Pack of Cigarettes around the World

Selling price for a 20 pack of Marlboro cigarettes in selected countries (Aug 2019)

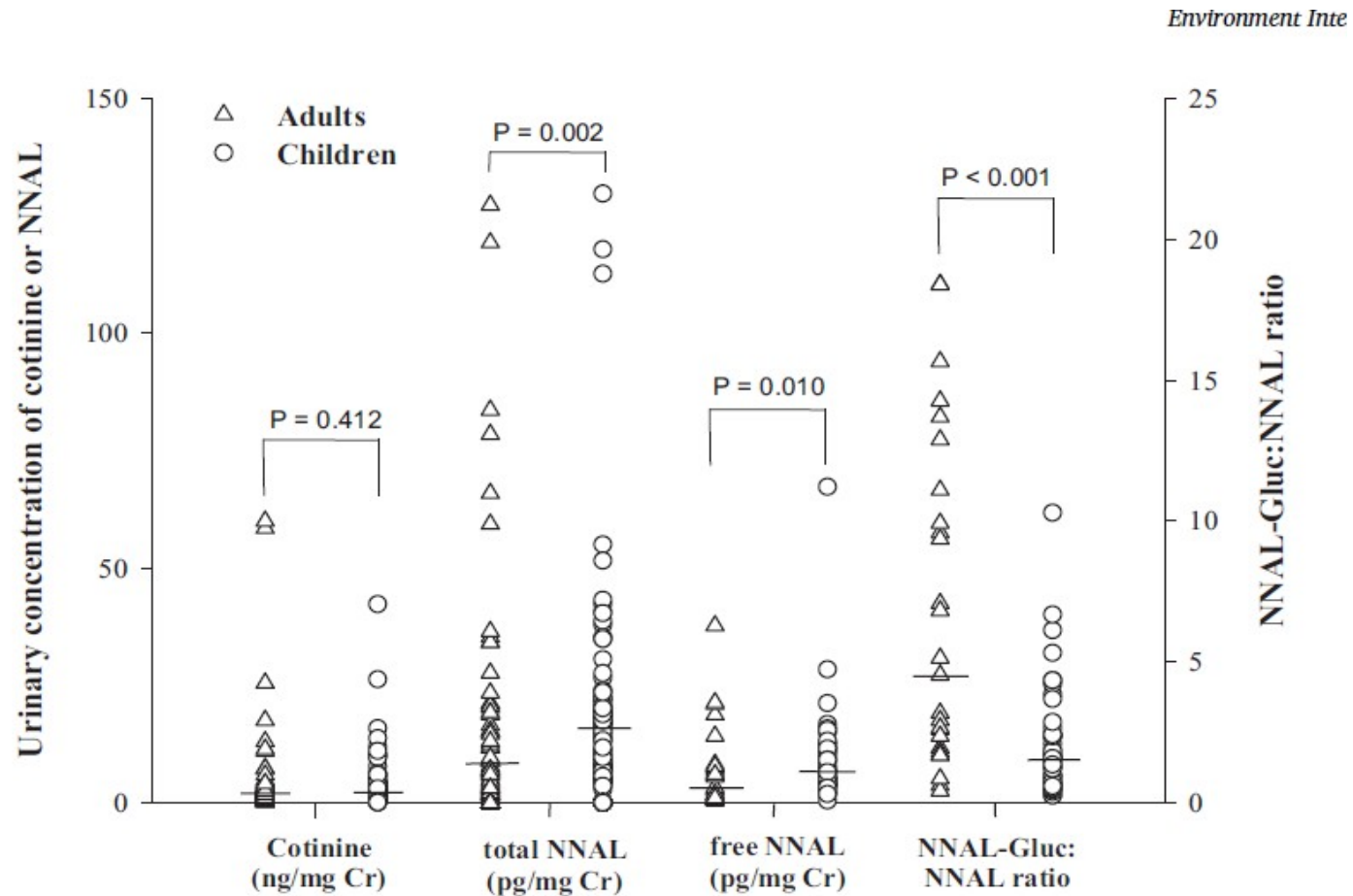


@StatistaCharts Source: numbeo.com

statista



Cotinine and nitrosamines after ETS exposure



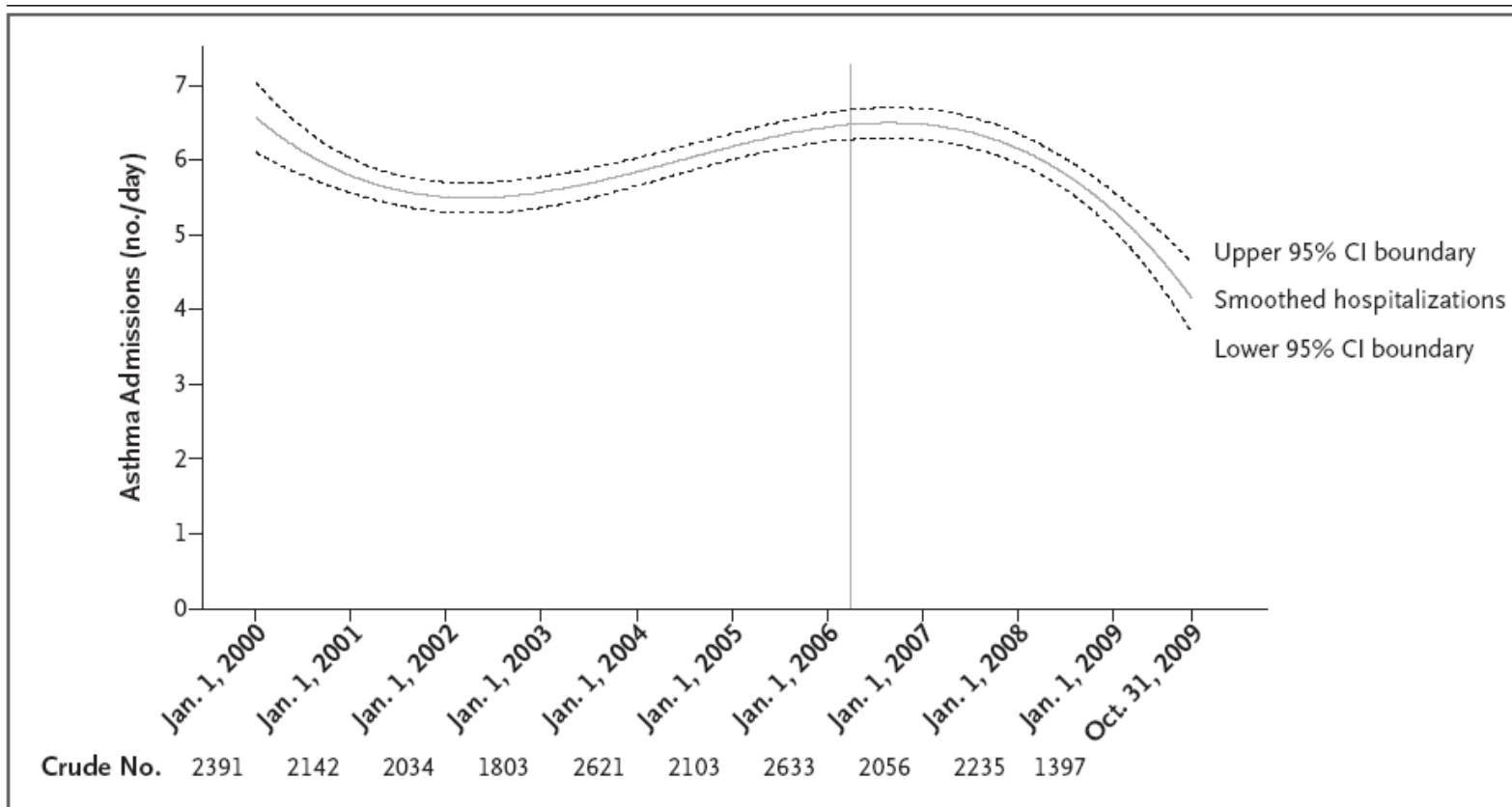


Figure 1. Daily Hospital Admissions for Asthma among Children between January 2000 and October 2009.

Mackay et al, *NEJM* 2010

Table 3. Association between smoke-free legislation and changes in child health outcomes

<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Effect size (95% CI)</i>	<i>Study type</i>	<i>Location(s)</i>	<i>Legislation comprehensive?</i>
<i>Perinatal outcomes</i>				
Stillbirth	-7.8% (-11.8 to -3.5); ref. 45	ITS	England	Yes
Low birthweight	-1% (-9 to 8)/-3% (-12 to 6); ref. 24	ITS	Netherlands	No
	-1.7% (-5.1 to 1.6); ref. 58	MA	Belgium, Norway, Scotland, USA	Mixed
Very low birthweight	-35.4% (-111.1 to 40.3); ref. 58	MA	Norway, USA	No
Preterm birth	-10.4% (-18.8 to -2.0); ref. 58	MA	Belgium, Norway, Scotland, USA	Mixed
Very preterm birth	-17.4% (-26.9 to -6.7); ref. 42	ITS	Scotland	Yes
	-2.3% ^a (-3.7 to -0.9); ref. 59	ITS	Quebec, Canada	Yes
SGA	-6% (-14 to 3)/-11% (-19 to -3); ref. 24	ITS	Netherlands	No
	-1.4% (-3.2 to 0.4); ref. 58	MA	Belgium, Ireland, Scotland	Mixed
Very SGA	-5.3% (-5.4 to -5.2); ref. 58	MA	Ireland, Scotland	Yes
Congenital anomalies	1% (-6 to 8)/-2% (-9 to 6); ref. 24	ITS	Netherlands	No
	-0.03% ^a (-4.0 to 3.9); ref. 41	CITS	Norway	No
Neonatal mortality	-7.6% (-11.7 to -3.4); ref. 45	ITS	England	Yes
	-3% (-16 to 12)/-12% (-24 to 2); ref. 24	ITS	Netherlands	No
<i>Childhood outcomes</i>				
Infant mortality	-6.3% (-9.6 to -2.9); ref. 45	ITS	England	Yes
Sudden infant death syndrome	1.8% (-8.4 to 13.2); ref. 45	ITS	England	Yes
Asthma hospital attendance	-10.1% (-15.2 to -5.0); ref. 58	MA	Canada, England, USA	Mixed
RTI hospital admissions	-3.5% (-4.5 to -2.3); ref. 60	ITS	England	Yes
Lower RTI hospital admissions	-13.8% (-15.6 to -12.0); ref. 60	ITS	England	Yes
	-33.5% (-36.4 to -30.5); ref. 61	ITS	Hong Kong	Yes
Lower RTI emergency department visits	-8% (-13 to -4%); ref. 62	CITS	USA	Mixed

Conclusion

- Exposure to air pollution results in short and long term deleterious effects on lung health in children

Critical roles of health professionals

- Do research and publish
 - Detect sentinel cases
 - Inspire community-based interventions
- Educate patients, families, colleagues and students
- Advocate
- Provide good role model