



Effects of Airborne Particulate Matter on Human Health in Urban Environments

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Message from the Guest Editor

One of the most important health stressors related to air quality is particulate matter (PM), resulting mainly from industrial, traffic and domestic heating emissions. The human health effects associated with airborne PM pollution can include nausea, difficulty breathing, skin irritation, cancer, birth defects, significant developmental delays in children, and reduced activity of the immune system, which may lead to a number of acute or chronic diseases. The Special Issue seeks to condense knowledge of these health effects (symptoms and diseases) and to summarize the recent data on effect strength (research articles and topical systematic reviews). It may support the identification of knowledge gaps and help to take research in a new direction for better quality of life in urban environments. There is evidence that a long-term reduced level of PM results both in health benefits and in reduced national health costs (e.g. improving life expectancy, and diminished hospitalizations and associated treatment).





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Continued developments in instrumentation and modeling have driven atmospheric science to become increasingly more complex with a deeper understanding of concepts, mechanisms, and interactions. This is the field that innovation built and it has led to a better appreciation for the complexity with atmosphere. Human life is intertwined in this complexity as we strive to better understand our atmosphere. Climate change is constantly stretching the limits of our thinking and forcing new ideas and concepts to be played out. Welcome to the Anthropocene!

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