



Air Pollution: Occupational Exposure and Public Health

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The effects on human health due to air pollution exposure are an important global health issue: the increased occurrence of mortality and morbidity, as well as shortened life expectancy, have been related to exposure to ambient air pollution. Particulate matter also increases the risk of respiratory, allergic and oncological diseases in both exposed workers and the general population. Pathogenic pathways are likely related to some of the compounds contained in particulate matter, e.g., PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), gases (nitrogen oxides, sulphur oxides, ozone), heavy metals (chromium, arsenic, lead, manganese, mercury), asbestos and microorganisms. These pollutants are able to penetrate the lower airways due to their small sizes, where they can cause damage to the bronchial epithelium, inducing inflammation or neoplastic degeneration, or can be carried into the pulmonary blood and spread throughout the body.

This Special Issue aims to showcase the variety and relevance of recent developments in the field of exposure to air pollutants and health effects.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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