

# Environmental Pollution and Population Disorders: A Brief Communication

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## Abstract

Most diseases in society have a complicated epidemiology including various chemical influences such as biology, diet and environmental pollution (EP). “The most dangerous contaminants included particulate matter (PMs), nitrogen oxides, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), heavy metals, pesticides, hormones, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)”. Indeed, there are countless potential contaminants and most have never been assessed as toxic and health hazards, particularly when new chemicals are constantly being developed as a result of interactions with existing chemicals. The effects of these new substances on wellbeing are almost difficult to assess. Previous reports show a wide range of pollution-related diseases. EP has been linked to an elevated prevalence of some malignancies, an increase in all-cause mortality, coronary disease progression, recurring illnesses, “disrupted intellectual and psychomotor development in infants, type 2 diabetes, breathing and immune system as well as brain-degenerative disorders.” EP is a significant reason of mortality and morbidity around the globe, initiating high expenditures in health care. Ecological, biological and toxicological testing is needed to determine the environmental toxins and at what amounts are most dangerous to animals and humans. It will only be possible to enhance environmental security by interdisciplinary collaboration and public awareness-raising programs.

**Keywords:** Environmental Pollution, Particulate Matter, Chronic Diseases, Health Hazards.

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## Introduction

The rise of the EP is a major public health sign. While about 12,6 million deaths annually are due to a complicated environmental issue, the “World Health Organization (WHO)” has given report that factors contribute to a broad range of diseases as well as mortality cannot be accurately calculated.<sup>[1,2]</sup> Today, amid improved understanding of public health risks and stronger prophylaxis and health treatment, the health impacts of pollution are noticeable not only in poor and medium income countries however in high-income countries. It is now crystal clear that exposure to toxic contaminants in one’s lifetime cannot be avoided. While the EP has a close association with wellbeing, government health programs globally have not solved or even minimized this issue adequately. The domestic tools for regulation of emissions are not commensurate with the scale of the problem. Interdisciplinary

study teams who investigate EP therefore have the moral responsibility to sensitize and improve strategies to reduce pollutants and public knowledge of this problem. This short communication discusses most frequently correlated humanity disorders with environmental chemicals exposure. “Most diseases in civilization have a diverse etiology that has genetic, lifestyle and environmental causes.”<sup>[3]</sup> The connection between EP and health is like a chain reaction of health effects from exposure to pollutant sources.<sup>[4]</sup> Chemical contaminants are mainly generated by humans by different household practices, transport, agriculture, industry, energy manufacturing, waste management as well as biological sources.<sup>[4]</sup> The pollutants derived from different sources get into the air, water, and soil, and thus, to our food. There are a thousand potentially toxic contaminants, including large toxins of particulate matter (PM), nitrogen oxides, poly-cyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) as well as heavy metals, pesticides, bisphenol A

plasticizer, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)". Human exposure to these compounds occurs principally through the gastrointestinal, digestive and skin processes. In reality, there are countless possible contaminants and most were never tested for toxicity or health,<sup>[4]</sup> especially because of interactions with existing ones, new chemicals are constantly emerging. A wide range of diseases has been found to be linked to EP. Previous findings have shown a rise in the prevalence of malignancies; developing or exacerbating major coronary complications; several brain disorders; foetal complications; infancy; cardiac, endocrine and immune disorders; and elevated all-cause death rates.<sup>[1-5]</sup>

**Allergies:** "Air pollution (AP) is among the first five significant reasons of increased susceptibility to allergies, which are now becoming an epidemic.<sup>[6]</sup> Many chemicals may be combined with neutral, allergic substances and thus mild allergens," and therefore become more active and cause harder allergic reactions.<sup>[7,8]</sup> The children of women living in big urban communities suffered from childhood and adult allergies more frequently than children born to mothers in rural areas.<sup>[9]</sup> Pollutants penetrating the human body induce inflammation by cell activation or antigens that are involved in allergic or inflammatory reactions. It also boosts bronchial reactivity and causes coughing and asthma. Many studies have shown that susceptibility to prenatal and neonatal toxins already change the immune response to allergens during these cycles.<sup>[8]</sup>

**Cardiovascular Disorders:** They remain a leading cause of death despite their advances in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases." The classic risk factors include hereditary predisposition, ageing, diabetes, high blood pressure, emotions, lipid abnormalities, smoking, and obesity. However, the interests of chemical EP have grown in recent years, which in the field of cardiology has until now been somewhat undervalued. The London Great Smog has now shown the potential for a higher risk in hospitals and death due to cardiovascular and respiratory problems from sudden exposure to AP components. In clinical trials too, this correlation was verified.<sup>[10-12]</sup> There is also investigation of the processes underlying the impact of AP on the cardiovascular system. PM<sub>2.5</sub> was suggested to infiltrate the blood from the pulmonary system and then to inner organs owing to their limited aerodynamic diameter, which leads to "systemic inflammation, oxidative stress, elevated development of pro-inflammatory cytokine, coagulation disruptions, atherosclerotic dislocation" of the plaques, and an increasing systemic vascular resistance.<sup>[10]</sup> In the other hand, there are contradictory findings from research that evaluate the effects of AP on cardiovascular deaths. Other contaminants such as chronic organic compounds, other than "PM<sub>2.5</sub> and gas components in" AP, can also damage the cardiovascular system (POPs). Dioxins, for example, can "cause endothelial cell toxicity, increase oxidative stress and cause inflammation and

atherosclerosis, are an example of POPs.<sup>[3,13,14]</sup> The accumulation of such pesticides and cardiovascular diseases in farm-workers was also positively linked in a report.<sup>[15]</sup>

**Central Nervous System Disorders:** Experimental and clinical trials have found that AP even in the foetal phase can affect the brain. During birth, PAH and PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure affects the brain of foetuses adversely, impairing the psychomotor and intellectual growth and causing deficiency of concentration or excess.<sup>[16-18]</sup> A further research has shown that neurodegenerative brain conditions such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases can correspond to "PM<sub>2.5</sub>, nanoparticles, heavy metals, PAH's and various other materials found in AP."<sup>[19]</sup> The precise processes that underlie AP's detrimental impact on the brain are currently still investigated although certain "chemical substances (e.g. nanoparticles and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) can permeate the brain where they lead to local inflammation, oxidative stress, and brain gliosis."<sup>[20-22]</sup>

**Pulmonary Disorders:** The increased prevalence of respiratory exacerbations, as well as subsequent hospitalizations, was correlated with "short-term exposure to significant air contaminants (O<sub>3</sub>, CO, NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>),<sup>[23-26]</sup> especially in patients with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The rise of 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in PM<sub>2.5</sub> levels" in short-run exposure was corresponding to a 2.5% improvement in COPD associated risk for admissions to hospitals (95% CI, 1.6%–3.4%); 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> increased in NO<sub>2</sub>, "with a 4.2% increase in hospital admits" (95% CI, 2.5%–6.0%), and an increase in 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in the level of SO<sub>2</sub> coincided with a correspondingly high increase in hospital admissions.<sup>[27]</sup> In addition, the increased risk of death in these patients by each exacerbation of COPD requiring hospitalization.<sup>[23,24]</sup> Furthermore, AP patients report higher rates of bacterial and viral respiratory infections, as well as longer infection time leading to respiratory inflammation and the degradation of the mucosal barrier by chemicals.<sup>[25]</sup>

**Type 2 Diabetes:** A growing number of evidence suggests that certain common chemical compounds may help to establish type 2 diabetes and a condition usually associated with lack of physical exercise, obesity or consumption of excessively packaged foods. Such compounds include POPs such as dioxins, PCBs and contaminants that occur in fatty tissue in humans and animals. These accumulated substances can, among other consequences, lead to resistance to insulin and thereby contribute to diabetes.<sup>[28,29]</sup> Similar trials were carried out in many food products including drinking water, fish and rice for heavy metals (especially arsenic and mercury).<sup>[28]</sup> Bisphenol is also thought to be a contributing substance to diabetes. It is widely used for plastic production, "including mineral water bottles, as well as epoxy resins that coat" within food tanks. It is also common in the atmosphere and in our bodies. Bisphenol influences insulin and glucagon, inhibiting cell development and apoptosis, and

affecting cells, muscles, and liver function, causing insulin resistance. Bisphenol impairs insulin secretion.<sup>[28,29]</sup>

**Malignant Neoplasm:** There has been a dynamic change worldwide in the occurrence of malignant neoplasm.<sup>[6]</sup> The number of cancer morbidity will soon exceed the number of deaths due to cardiovascular diseases.<sup>[6]</sup> Although there is no doubt about the environmental causes in carcinogenesis, it is also impossible to assess the degree to which toxicity involves cancer etiology. Since no person can trace or forecast any potential associations between all hazardous substances he or she has been exposed to since the foetal age. In addition, certain genetic predispositions can increase the vulnerability to the effects of environmental pollutants.<sup>[30]</sup> Another research showed a possible correlation between dietary nitrosamine contamination and the occurrence of certain GMC, with a relative risk (RR) of 2.12 consumption quartiles being the highest to the lowest (95% CI, 1.04–4.33).<sup>[31]</sup> A major study in 12 cohorts of six European countries has shown that the relationship between adult malignant brain tumors and PM2.5 absorption is positive, but insignificant. (HR = 1.67; 95% CI, 0.89–3.14 per 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>), as well as a weak positive or lack of associations with other air pollutants.<sup>[32]</sup> Radon radiation is currently thought to be a significant risk factor in lung cancer as well as hematopoietic neoplasm. Researchers from Korea found that a 10-Bq/m<sup>3</sup> the increase in the concentration of indoor radon in women less than 20 years of age was linked to a 7% increase in the prevalence of non-Hodgkin lymphoma while no combinations have been identified with leukemia.<sup>[33]</sup> Some studies concluded that an adequate diet rich in vegetables and fruit can exert some protective anticancer effects (3), which may be counterbalanced by EP.

## Conclusion

Today, we are damaging the world more quickly than will regenerate and EP contributes significantly to global morbidity and mortality, resulting in high health care costs. EP-related diseases often evolve over a long period of time and may be permanent. Global EP challenges the traditional recommendation that, while there is no ecological certification, vegetables, fruit and fish be consumed daily in the form of a balanced diet. Awareness of some possible contaminants is still lacking, since most chemical pollutants were never assessed as harmful and risk to health. Research in ecology, biotechnology and toxicology is essential to decide which environmental pollutants are and at which levels are the most dangerous to animals and people. Reducing pollution, primarily because of poverty in many nations, is difficult. Interdisciplinary coordination and public awareness-raising activities may contribute to better environmental security. In order to contribute to deforestation and to protect the environment, international collaboration with government and

non-governmental organisations is also essential.

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