



CSIC, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas  
National Research Council of Spain



EEZA, Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas  
Experimental Station of Arid Zones

## dust impact on health in urban areas: an overview & new directions

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Experimental Station of Arid Zones, CSIC-EEZA

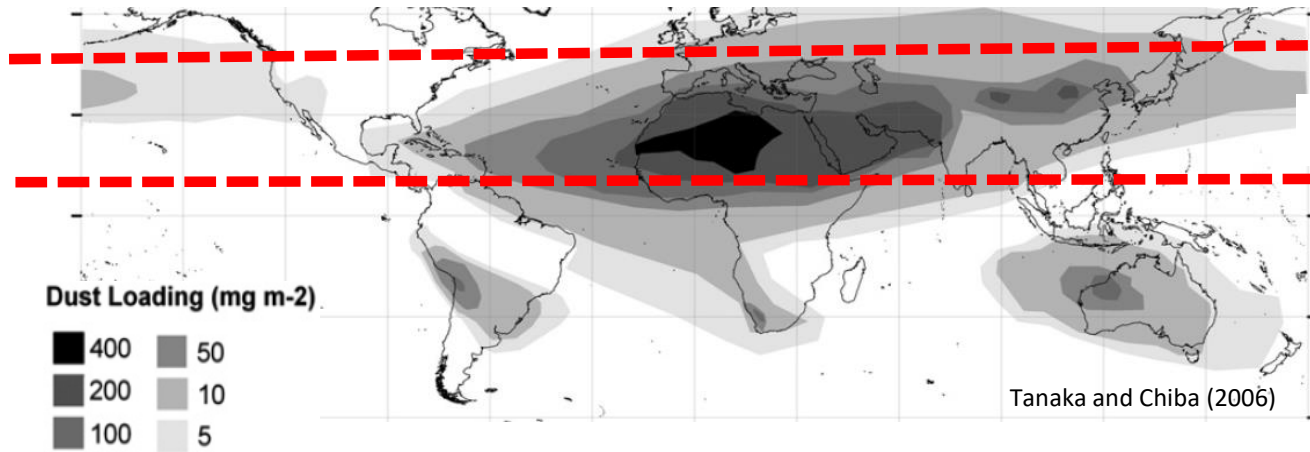
Training Course on WMO SDS-WAS products  
10-14 Nov 2018, Ahvaz

respiratory diseases

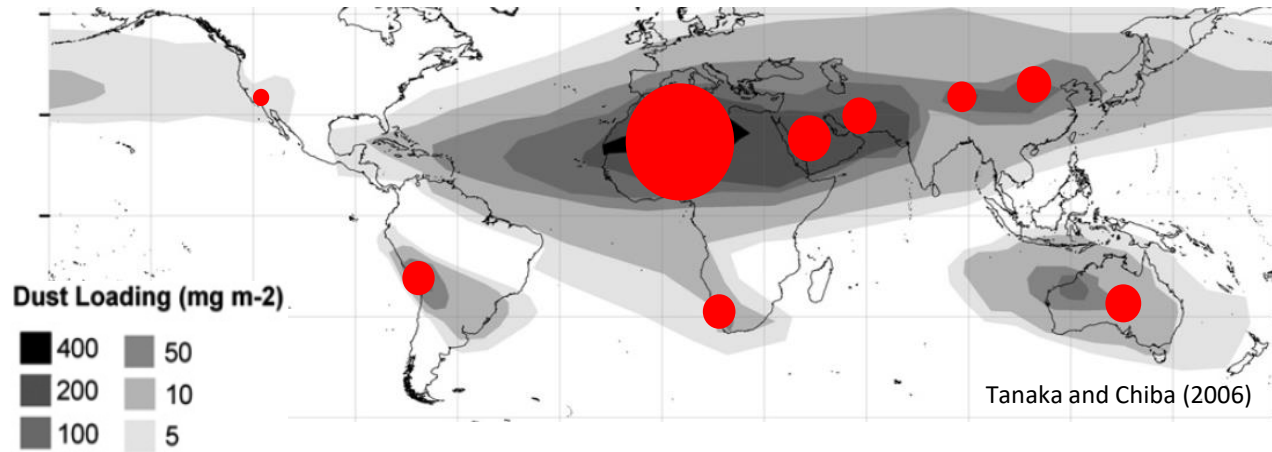
cardiovascular diseases

exposure to dust vs dust + pollutants in urban air

summary and recommendations

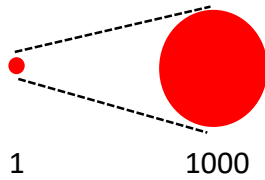


dust belt  
12°N (Sahel) to 40°N (China)



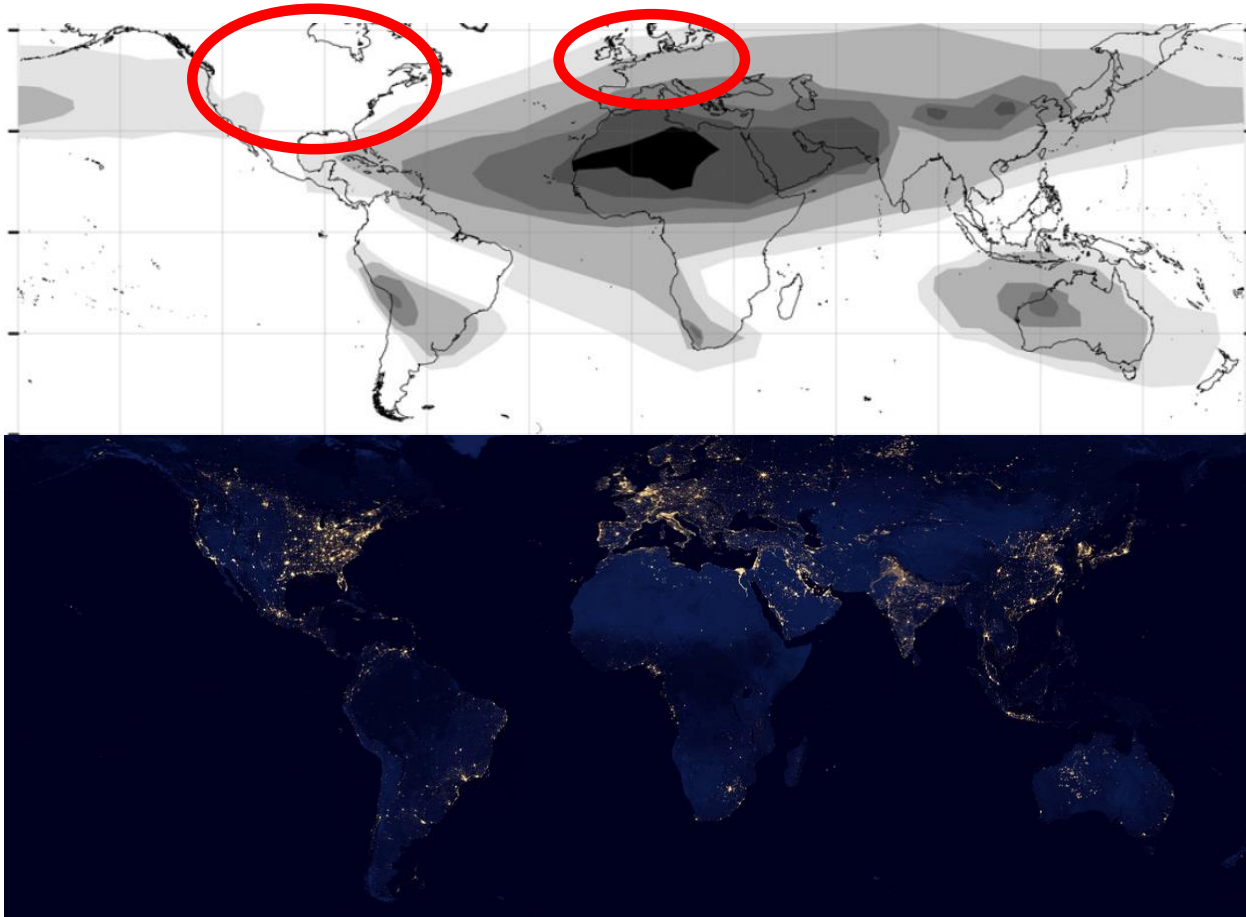
dust  
belt

Dust Emissions, Tg · y<sup>-1</sup>



Longueville et al. (2010)

Air Quality Standards  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$   
health effects studies  $\geq 1990s$





## Europe & North America

WHO (2013) review of evidences on health aspects of air pollution:

$PM_{10}$   
 $PM_{2.5}$

short & long term exposure  
morbidity  
mortality

cardiovascular effects  $PM_{2.5}$ :

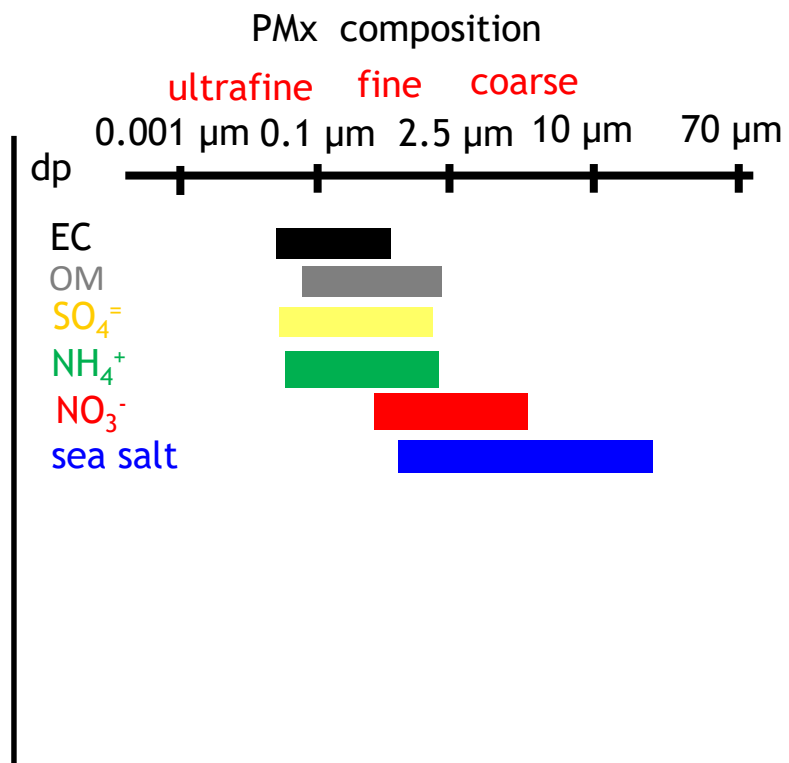
-physiological effects and  
biological mechanisms

-new health outcomes:

atherosclerosis

adverse birth outcomes

respiratory diseases children



# What we know about the impact of air pollutants and anthropogenic - PM

## Comparison to dust



### 7 million premature deaths annually linked to air pollution

#### Outdoor air pollution-caused deaths – breakdown by disease:

- 40% – ischaemic heart disease;
- 40% – stroke;
- 11% – chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
- 6% - lung cancer; and
- 3% – acute lower respiratory infections in children.

#### Indoor air pollution-caused deaths – breakdown by disease:

- 34% - stroke;
- 26% - ischaemic heart disease;
- 22% - COPD;
- 12% - acute lower respiratory infections in children; and
- 6% - lung cancer.



## Europe & North America

WHO (2013) review of evidences on health aspects of air pollution:

$PM_{10}$   
 $PM_{2.5}$

short & long term exposure  
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cardiovascular effects  $PM_{2.5}$ :

-physiological effects and  
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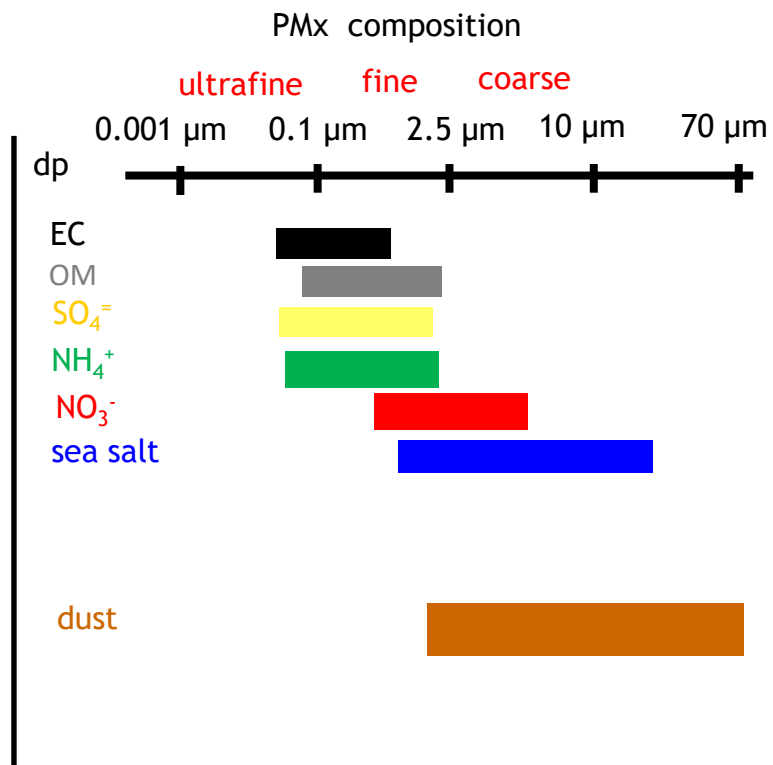
'cities in the dust  
belt'



North Africa, Middle East, Asia,

$PM_{10}$   
 $PM_{2.5}$

health effects due to  
exposure to pollutants  
+ dust mixing ?







**people live in cities and breath  
a cocktail dust + pollutants**



**respiratory diseases**

cardiovascular diseases

exposure to dust vs dust + pollutants in urban air

summary and recommendations

## **Desert Dust Exposure Is Associated with Increased Risk of Asthma Hospitalization in Children**

Kumiko T. Kanatani<sup>1,2</sup>, Isao Ito<sup>3</sup>, Wael K. Al-Delaimy<sup>4</sup>, Yuichi Adachi<sup>5</sup>, William C. Mathews<sup>6</sup>, Joe W. Ramsdell<sup>7</sup>, and the Toyama Asian Desert Dust and Asthma Study Team

*Environmental  
Research*

[www.elsevier.com/locate/envres](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/envres)

### **Increasing cardiopulmonary emergency visits by long-range transported Asian dust storms in Taiwan**

Chang-Chuan Chan<sup>a,\*</sup>, Kai-Jen Chuang<sup>a</sup>, Wen-Jone Chen<sup>b</sup>, Wei-Tien Chang<sup>b</sup>,

*Atmospheric Environment* 68 (2013) 256–264

### **Assessing exposure risk for dust storm events-associated lung function decrement in asthmatics and implications for control**

Nan-Hung Hsieh, Chung-Min Liao<sup>\*</sup>

*Science of the Total Environment* 408 (2010) 754–759

### **Asian Dust Storm and pulmonary function of school children in Seoul**

Yun-Chul Hong<sup>a</sup>, Xiao-Chuan Pan<sup>b</sup>, Su-Young Kim<sup>c</sup>, Kwangsik Park<sup>d</sup>, Eun-Jung Park<sup>d</sup>, Xiaobin Jin<sup>b</sup>, Seung-Muk Yi<sup>e</sup>, Yoon-Hee Kim<sup>f</sup>, Choong-Hee Park<sup>g</sup>, Sanghwan Song<sup>g</sup>, Ho Kim<sup>f,\*</sup>

*Environment International* 54 (2013) 35–44

### **Spatial vulnerability under extreme events: A case of Asian dust storm's effects on children's respiratory health**☆

Hwa-Lung Yu<sup>a</sup>, Chiang-Hsing Yang<sup>b</sup>, Lung-Chang Chien<sup>c,\*</sup>

*Science of the Total Environment* 410–411 (2011) 47–52

### **A case-crossover analysis of Asian dust storms and mortality in the downwind areas using 14-year data in Taipei**☆

Chang-Chuan Chan<sup>\*</sup>, Huey-Ching Ng

# respiratory diseases, Asia

Atmospheric Environment 68 (2013) 256–264

## Assessing exposure risk for dust storm events-associated lung function decrement in asthmatics and implications for control

Nan-Hung Hsieh, Chung-Min Liao\*

Air Medical Journal 30:6

## Australian Dust Storm: Impact on a Statewide Air Medical Retrieval Service

Adam L. Holyoak, MBBS, BSc, BA, Peter J. Aitken, MBBS, EMDM, FACEM, and Mark S. Elcock, MBCHb, FACEM, FCEM

Science of the Total Environment 408 (2010) 754–759

## Asian Dust Storm and pulmonary function of school children in Seoul

Yun-Chul Hong <sup>a</sup>, Xiao-Chuan Pan <sup>b</sup>, Su-Young Kim <sup>c</sup>, Kwangsik Park <sup>d</sup>, Eun-Jung Park <sup>d</sup>, Xiaobin Jin <sup>b</sup>, Seung-Muk Yi <sup>e</sup>, Yoon-Hee Kim <sup>f</sup>, Choong-Hee Park <sup>g</sup>, Sanghwan Song <sup>g</sup>, Ho Kim <sup>f,\*</sup>

Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology 258 (2012) 237–247

## Asian sand dust enhances murine lung inflammation caused by *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

Miao He <sup>a,1</sup>, Takamichi Ichinose <sup>b</sup>, Seiichi Yoshida <sup>b</sup>, Shoji Yamamoto <sup>c,2</sup>, Ken-ichiro Inoue <sup>c,3</sup>, Hirohisa Takano <sup>c,4</sup>, Rie Yanagisawa <sup>c,5</sup>, Masataka Nishikawa <sup>d</sup>, Ikuko Mori <sup>d</sup>, Guifan Sun <sup>a</sup>, Takayuki Shibamoto <sup>e,\*</sup>

Environmental Research 111 (2011) 1148–1155

Hospital admissions for asthma and acute bronchitis in El Paso, Texas:  
Do age, sex, and insurance status modify the effects of dust and  
low wind events? ☆, ☆ ☆

Sara E. Grineski <sup>a,\*</sup>, Joan G. Staniswalis <sup>b</sup>, Priyangi Bulathsinhala <sup>b</sup>, Yanlei Peng <sup>c</sup>, Thomas E. Gill <sup>d</sup>

Int J Biometeorol (2005) 49: 371–376  
DOI 10.1007/s00484-005-0257-3

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

K. Gyan · W. Henry · S. Lacaille · A. Laloo ·  
C. Lamsee-Ebanks · S. McKay · R. M. Antoine ·  
M. A. Monteil

**African dust clouds are associated with increased paediatric asthma accident and emergency admissions on the Caribbean island of Trinidad**

Int J Biometeorol (2009) 53:383–385  
DOI 10.1007/s00484-009-0254-z

**Reply to: African dust and asthma in the Caribbean—medical and statistical perspectives b** <sup>Int J Biometeorol (2009) 53:383–385</sup> **d R Antoine**

DOI 10.1007/s00484-009-0254-z

Joseph M. Prospero · Edmund Blades · Raana Naidu ·  
Marc C. Lavoie

## Environmental Health

Research

Open Access

### A 10-year time-series analysis of respiratory and cardiovascular morbidity in Nicosia, Cyprus: the effect of short-term changes in air pollution and dust storms

Nicos Middleton<sup>\*1,2</sup>, Panayiotis Yiallourous<sup>2</sup>, Savvas Kleanthous<sup>3</sup>,  
Ourania Kolokotroni<sup>2</sup>, Joel Schwartz<sup>1</sup>, Douglas W Dockery<sup>1</sup>,  
Phil Demokritou<sup>1,2</sup> and Petros Koutrakis<sup>1</sup>

Cyprus

Environmental Research 111 (2011) 418–424

### Acute effects of air pollution on pediatric asthma exacerbation: Evidence of association and effect modification

E. Samoli<sup>a,\*</sup>, P.T. Nastos<sup>b</sup>, A.G. Paliatsos<sup>c</sup>, K. Katsouyanni<sup>a</sup>, K.N. Priftis<sup>d</sup>

Air Qual Atmos Health

DOI 10.1007/s11869-014-0253-z

Greece

### The impact of desert dust exposures on hospitalizations due to exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

Alina Vodonos • Michael Friger • Itzhak Katra •  
Lone Avnon • Helena Krasnov • Petros Koutrakis •  
Joel Schwartz • Orly Lior • Victor Novack

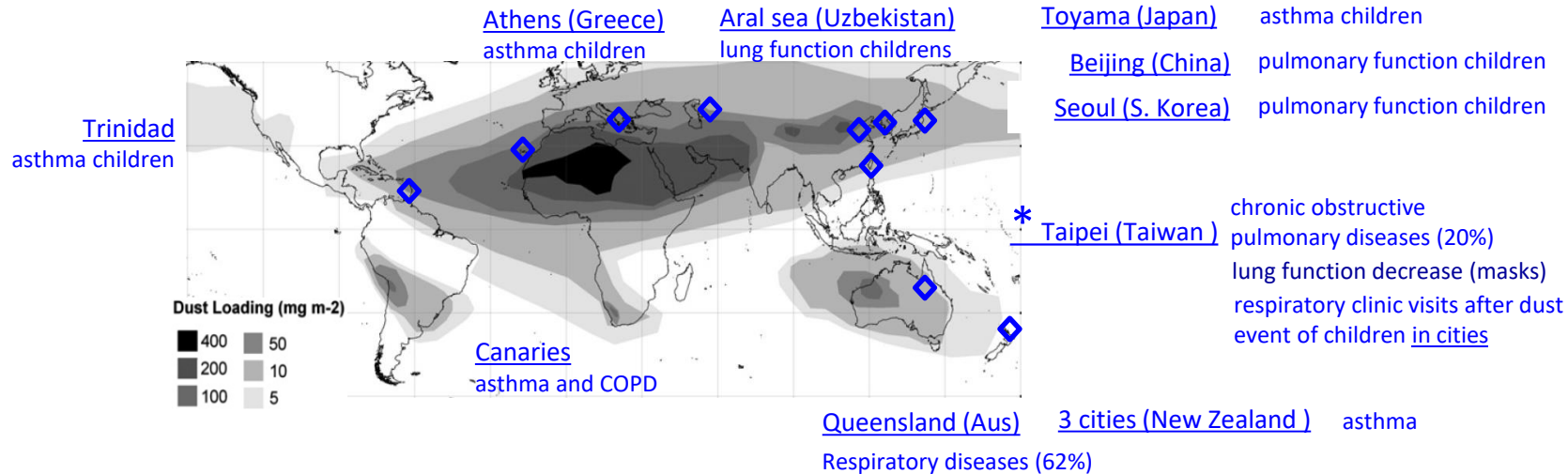
Middle East

## The impact of airborne dust on respiratory health in children living in the Aral Sea region<sup>†</sup>

Polly Bennion,<sup>1</sup> Richard Hubbard,<sup>1\*</sup> Sarah O'Hara,<sup>2</sup> Giles Wiggs,<sup>3</sup> Johannah Wegerdt,<sup>1</sup> Sarah Lewis,<sup>4</sup> Ian Small,<sup>5</sup> Joost van der Meer<sup>6</sup> and Ross Upshur<sup>7</sup> on behalf of the Médecins sans Frontières/Aral Sea Respiratory Dust and Disease project team



# Respiratory diseases



## During and a few days after dust events:

- increase in hospitalizations due to respiratory diseases  
(exacerbation)
- paediatric asthma
- COPD: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases
- reduced lung functions

Gyan et al. (2005): 1 year TRINIDAD

Bennion et al. (2007): 1y UZB

\* Chang et al. (2008): 7y TW

Cowie et al. (2010): 1 event NZ

Holyoak et al. (2010): 1 event AUS

Hong et al. (2010): 1 month CH & SK

Kanati et al. (2010)

Hsieh and Liao (2013): 9 years TW

respiratory diseases

**cardiovascular diseases**

exposure to dust vs dust + pollutants in urban air

summary and recommendations



## Coarse Particles From Saharan Dust and Daily Mortality

Laura Perez,<sup>a</sup> Aurelio Tobias,<sup>b</sup> Xavier Querol,<sup>c</sup> Nino Künzli,<sup>a</sup> Jorge Pey,<sup>c</sup> Andrés Alastuey,<sup>c</sup>  
Mar Viana,<sup>c</sup> Natalia Valero,<sup>c</sup> Manuel González-Cabré,<sup>e</sup> and Jordi Sunyer<sup>a</sup>

Environment International 48 (2012) 150–155

## Saharan dust, particulate matter and cause-specific mortality: A case–crossover study in Barcelona (Spain)

Laura Perez<sup>a,b</sup>, Aurelio Tobías<sup>c,\*</sup>, Xavier Querol<sup>c</sup>, Jorge Pey<sup>c</sup>, Andrés Alastuey<sup>c</sup>, Julio Díaz<sup>d</sup>, Jordi Sunyer<sup>e</sup>

Science of the Total Environment 408 (2010) 5729–5736

## Role of Saharan dust in the relationship between particulate matter and short-term daily mortality among the elderly in Madrid (Spain)

E. Jiménez<sup>a</sup>, C. Linares<sup>b</sup>, D. Martínez<sup>c</sup>, J. Díaz<sup>d,\*</sup>

Díaz et al. *Environmental Health* 2012, 11:11  
<http://www.ehjournal.net/content/11/1/11>



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

### RESEARCH

### Open Access

## Saharan dust and association between particulate matter and case-specific mortality: a case-crossover analysis in Madrid (Spain)

Julio Díaz<sup>1</sup>, Aurelio Tobías<sup>2\*</sup> and Cristina Linares<sup>3,4</sup>

Science of the Total Environment 412–413 (2011) 386–389

## Short-term effects of particulate matter on total mortality during Saharan dust outbreaks: A case-crossover analysis in Madrid (Spain)

Aurelio Tobías<sup>a,\*</sup>, Laura Pérez<sup>b</sup>, Julio Díaz<sup>c</sup>, Cristina Linares<sup>d</sup>, Jorge Pey<sup>a</sup>,  
Andrés Alastruey<sup>a</sup>, Xavier Querol<sup>a</sup>

# cardiovascular, mortality, Italy

*Occup Environ Med.* 2011 Jun;68(6):446-51. doi: 10.1136/oem.2010.058156. Epub 2010 Dec 16.

## Saharan dust and daily mortality in Emilia-Romagna (Italy).

Zauli Sajani S, Miglio R, Bonasoni P, Cristofanelli P, Marinoni A, Sartini C, Goldoni CA, De Girolamo G, Lauriola P.

Regional Center for Environment and Health, ARPA Emilia-Romagna, Via Begarelli 13, 41121 Modena, Italy. [szauli@arpa.emr.it](mailto:szauli@arpa.emr.it)

Environmental Health Perspectives • VOLUME 119 | NUMBER 10 | October 2011

## Saharan Dust and Associations between Particulate Matter and Daily Mortality in Rome, Italy

*Sandra Mallone,<sup>1</sup> Massimo Stafoggia,<sup>2</sup> Annunziata Faustini,<sup>2</sup> Gian Paolo Gobbi,<sup>3</sup> Achille Marconi,<sup>4</sup> and Francesco Forastiere<sup>2</sup>*

## Environmental Health

Research

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*Science of the Total Environment* 409 (2011) 2049–2054

### Does the presence of desert dust modify the effect of PM<sub>10</sub> on mortality in Athens, Greece?

Evangelia Samoli<sup>a,\*</sup>, Evgenia Kougea<sup>a</sup>, Pavlos Kassomenos<sup>b</sup>, Antonis Analitis<sup>a</sup>, Klea Katsouyanni<sup>a</sup>

*Environment International* 47 (2012) 107–114

## Health effects from Sahara dust episodes in Europe: Literature review and research gaps

A. Karanasiou<sup>a,\*</sup>, N. Moreno<sup>a</sup>, T. Moreno<sup>a</sup>, M. Viana<sup>a</sup>, F. de Leeuw<sup>b</sup>, X. Querol<sup>a</sup>

cardiovascular, mortality, **Asia**

*Occup Environ Med* 2012;**69**:908–915. doi:10.1136/oemed-2012-100797

## Asian dust and daily all-cause or cause-specific mortality in western Japan

Saori Kashima,<sup>1</sup> Takashi Yorifuji,<sup>2</sup> Toshihide Tsuda,<sup>2</sup> Akira Eboshida<sup>1</sup>

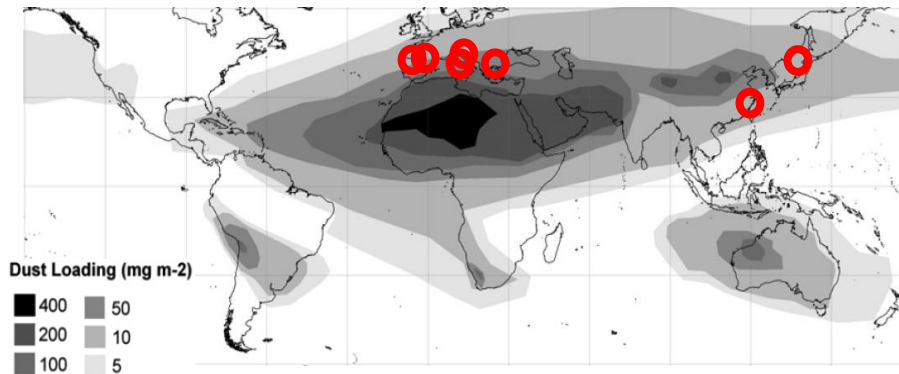
## **EFFECT OF ASIAN DUST STORMS ON MORTALITY IN KOREA DURING 2001-2009**

Hyewon Lee<sup>1)</sup>, Ho Kim<sup>1)</sup>, Youn-Hee Lim<sup>2)</sup>, Seungmuk Yi<sup>1)</sup>

...there more studies

# Mortality & cardiovascular diseases

Increase (↑)



## Barcelona

↑ 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of PM<sub>10-2.5</sub>  
 ↑ mortality by:  
 8.4% Saharan dust days  
 1.4% non-Saharan dust days

cardiovascular mortality:

-associated with PM<sub>2.5-10</sub>  
*-no associated with PM<sub>2.5</sub>*

~25000 deaths  
 Pérez et al. (2008)  
 Pérez et al. (2012)

## Madrid

↑ 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of PM<sub>10-2.5</sub>  
 ↑ mortality by:  
 2.8% in Saharan dust days  
 0.6% non-dust days

respiratory & cardiovascular  
 mortality is associated with:

-PM<sub>10</sub> Saharan dust days,  
 -PM<sub>2.5</sub> not Saharan dust  
 days,

Jiménez et al. (2010)  
 Jiménez et al. (2012)  
 Tobias et al. (2011a)

## Rome

↑ 10.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> PM<sub>2.5-10</sub>  
 ↑ cardiovascular mortality:  
 9.73% Saharan dust days  
 0.86% no dust days

↑ 19.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> PM<sub>10</sub>  
 ↑ cardiac mortality:  
 9.55% Saharan dust days  
 3.50% no dust days

4 years  
 Mallone et al. (2011)

## Emilia Romagna

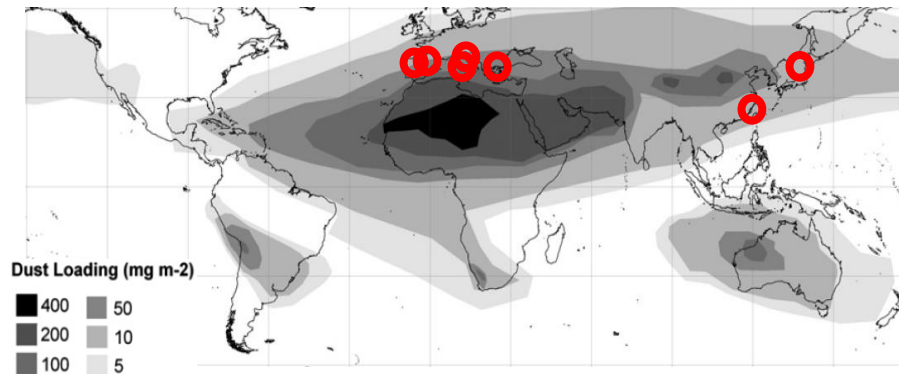
↑ respiratory mortality  
 for elderly people (≥75y)  
 during Saharan dust events  
 with respect no dust events.

22% in the whole year  
 34% in summer

no modification of dust events  
 on the concentration-response  
 relationship between PM<sub>10</sub> and  
 daily deaths

4 years  
 Sajani et al. (2011)

# Mortality & cardiovascular diseases



## Cyprus

Compared to no dust events, hospitalizations during Saharan dust events were:  
 -4.8% higher for all-causes  
 -10.4% higher for cardiovascular diseases

bulk  $PM_{10}$   
 10 years

Middleton et al. (2008)

## Athens

association between  $PM_{10}$  and mortality is higher during no - Saharan dust days

Traffic related particles have more toxic effects than Saharan dust.

bulk  $PM_{10}$   
 6 years

Samoli et al. (2011)

47 cities (Japan) Asian dust did not modify the response of mortality to PM.  
 > 65y

10  $\mu g/m^3$   $PM_{10}$  increase:  
 0.6% heart disease  
 0.8 % ischemia hearth diseases  
 2.1% arrhythmia

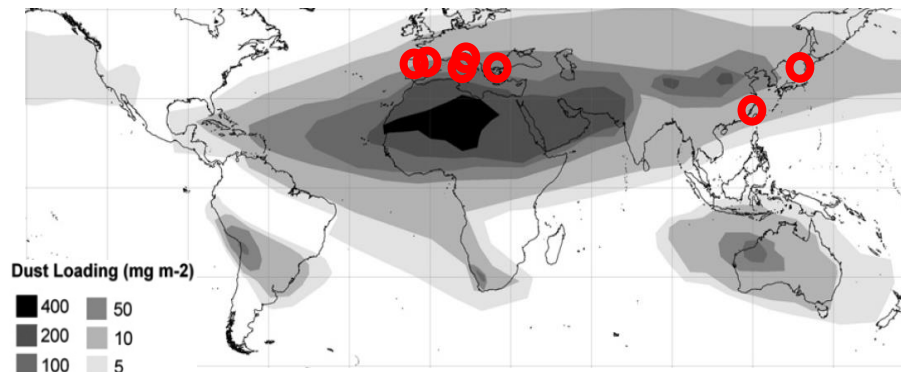
Kashima et al. (2012): 5y  
 1.4 million targeting people

Taipei (Taiwan) Asian dust increased cardiovascular effects when  $PM_{10} > 90 \mu g/m^3$

compared to pre-dust conditions, observed increases in hospital visits:

35 % for ischemic heart diseases  
 20% for cerebrovascular diseases  
 67% for cardiovascular diseases

Chang et al. (2008): 7y  
 Chang and Ng (2011): 14y



Mortality & cardiovascular:

During dust events in urban areas:

short term exposure

$PM_{10}$  ,  $PM_{2.5-10}$  → association with cardiovascular mortality

$PM_{2.5}$  → no association with mortality

response of mortality to increases in  $PM_{10}$  and/or  $PM_{2.5-10}$  during dust changes city to city

-What is the origin of the relationship between dust and cardiovascular mortality ?  
(disease, mechanism)

respiratory diseases

cardiovascular diseases

**exposure to dust vs dust + pollutants in urban air**

Summary and recommendations



people live in cities and breath  
a cocktail **dust + pollutants**

### Some considerations:




1. In cities, people is exposed to a permanent high background of pollution ( $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{SO}_2$ , soot black carbon, organics, etc..), this may be masking actual health effects of dust in the studies performed in Southern Europe. Increases in mortality during dust events may be prompted by the already damaged health of people because of permanent exposure to high background levels of pollutants.
2. Levels of local urban & industrial pollutants may be higher during dust-days than during none-dust-days
3. Exposure to **dust+pollutants** may be worse than simple exposure to **dust**

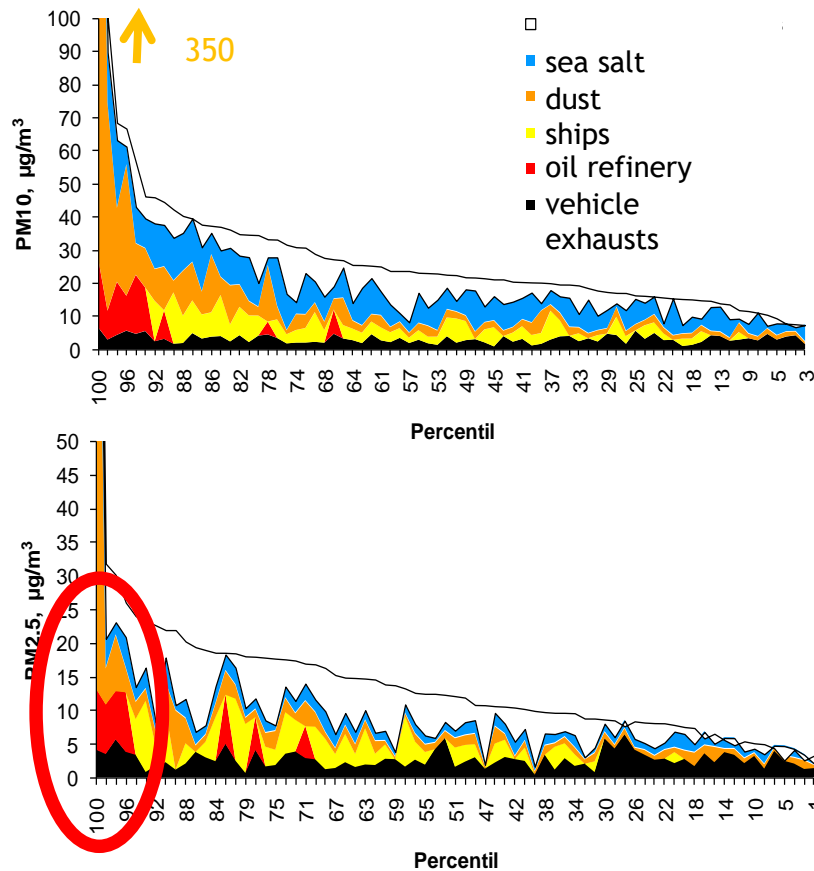




people live in cities and breath  
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### Some considerations:

1. In cities, people is exposed to a permanent high background of pollution (NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, soot black carbon, organics, etc..), this may be masking actual health effects of dust in the studies performed in Southern Europe. Increases in mortality during dust events may be prompted by the already damaged health of people because of permanent exposure to high background levels of pollutants.
-  2. Levels of local urban & industrial pollutants may be higher during dust-days than during none-dust-days
3. Exposure to **dust+pollutants** may be worse than simple exposure to **dust**



$$PM_x = \text{pollutants} + \text{dust}$$

there is more pollution when there is dust due to:

- Adverse meteorological conditions for dispersion of pollutants during dust events (observed in Mediterranean and Atlantic cities)
- Reaction of local urban/industrial pollutants with dust, resulting in dust coating by pollutants (sulphate, nitrate, etc.)

Science of the Total Environment 494–495 (2014) 283–289

Effect of atmospheric mixing layer depth variations on urban air quality and daily mortality during Saharan dust outbreaks

M. Pandolfi <sup>a,\*</sup>, A. Tobias <sup>a</sup>, A. Alastuey <sup>a</sup>, J. Sunyer <sup>b,c</sup>, J. Schwartz <sup>d</sup>, J. Lorente <sup>e</sup>, J. Pey <sup>a,f</sup>, X. Querol

heterogeneous reactions between dust and pollutants




coating of fine and coarse dust particles by pollutants  
reactivity of the surface of dust particles



people live in cities and breath  
a cocktail **dust + pollutants**

### Some considerations:

1. In cities, people is exposed to a permanent high background of pollution ( $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{SO}_2$ , soot black carbon, organics, etc..), this may be masking actual health effects of dust in the studies performed in Southern Europe. Increases in mortality during dust events may be prompted by the already damaged health of people because of permanent exposure to high background levels of pollutants.
2. Levels of local urban & industrial pollutants may be higher during dust-days than during none-dust-days
-  3. Exposure to **dust+pollutants** may be worse than simple exposure to **dust**

## example-1

a 7y study:

In Taiwan, an increase in children respiratory clinic visits is observed just after Asian dust events. However, the relative increase is higher in urban than in rural areas.

*Yu et al. (2013). Environ. Int (54), 35-44.*

Does the presence of pollutants increase the sensitivity to dust exposure ?

Then, emissions of urban and industrial pollutants should be reduced during dust days

respiratory diseases

cardiovascular diseases

exposure to dust vs dust + pollutants in urban air

**Summary and recommendations**

# Health effects

## 1. health effects in the context of air quality

Europe, North America and Asia →  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  = pollutants

dust belt (North Africa, Middle East, West Asia to Asia )

→  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  = dust + pollutants

## 2. Respiratory diseases. Short time effects

- increase in hospitalizations due to respiratory diseases (exacerbation)
- paediatric asthma
- COPD: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases
- reduced lung functions

## 3. Heart diseases observed in urban areas of European-Mediterranean and Asia.

- increase in hospitalizations due to cardiovascular diseases

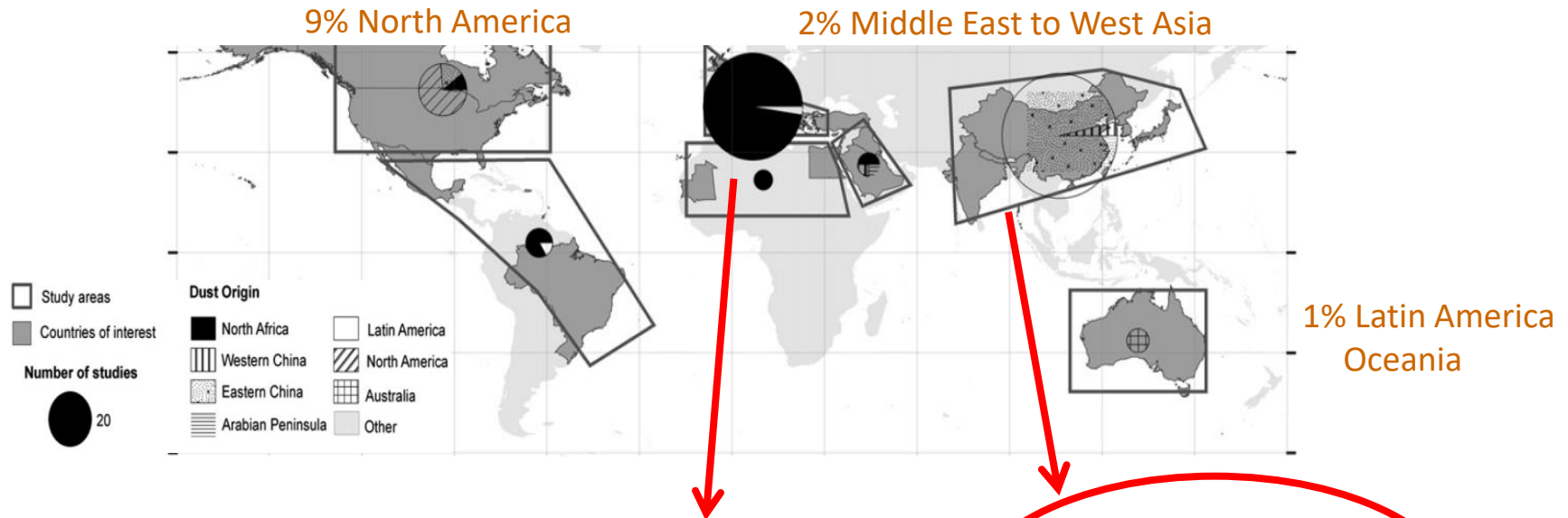
$PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5-10}$ : association with cardiovascular mortality

- response of mortality to increases in  $PM_{10}$  and/or  $PM_{2.5-10}$  during dust changes city to city

**-mechanisms by which dust exposure increase cardiovascular mortality is still unknown.**

**More Research is needed → countries of the dust belt plays a key role**

## number of scientific papers on the impact of dust on air quality 1999-2009



- 2) 39% North African dust
- 37% Europe
- 23% Spain
- 1% North African countries

- 1) 49% Asian dust
- China, Taiwan,  
Southern Korea
- Gobi desert

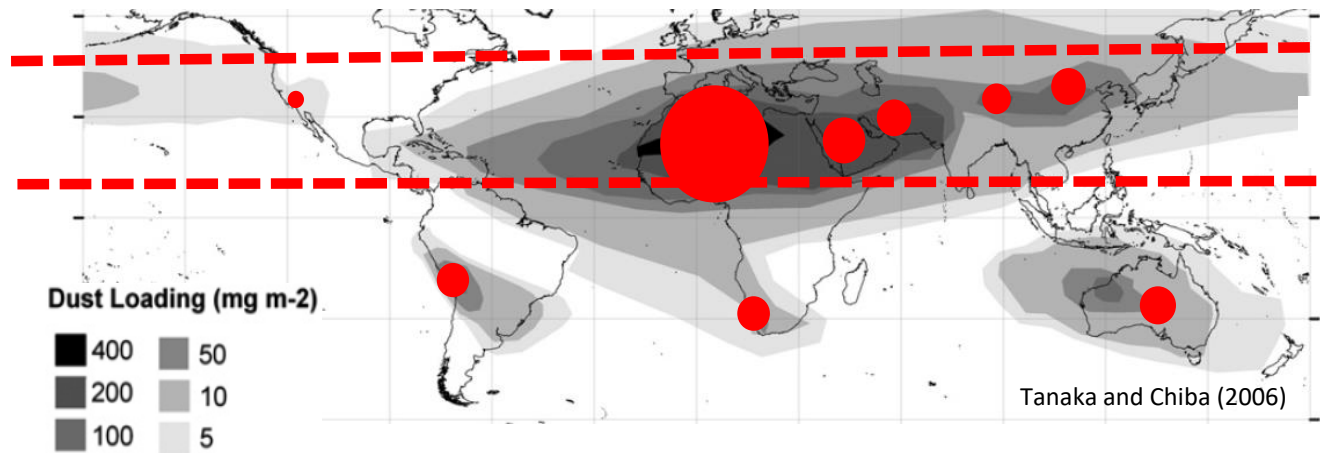
More studies on dust and health effect are needed in the dust belt

Longueville et al. (2010)

Review [Science of the Total Environment 409 \(2010\) 1-8](#)

What do we know about effects of desert dust on air quality and human health in West Africa compared to other regions?

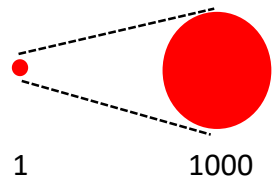
Florence De Longueville <sup>a,\*</sup>, Yvon-Carmen Hountondji <sup>b</sup>, Sabine Henry <sup>a</sup>, Pierre Ozer <sup>c</sup>



dust belt

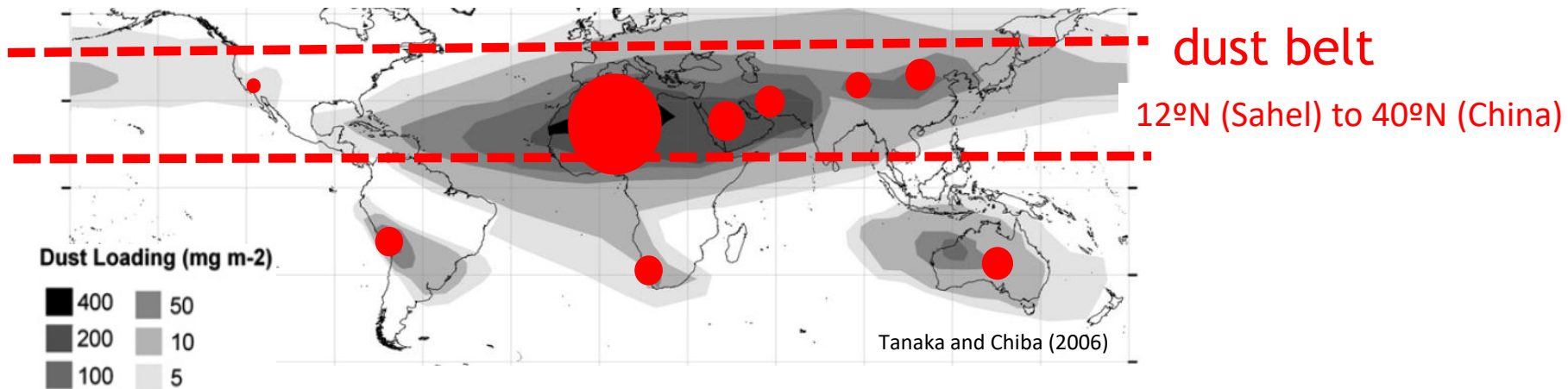
12°N (Sahel) to 40°N (China)

Dust Emissions, Tg · y<sup>-1</sup>



Longueville et al. (2010)





Longueville et al. (2010)

- European part of the Mediterranean: pollutants + dust ( $20 - 30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )
- Asia: pollutants + dust ( $80 - 100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )
- North Africa + Middle East + West Asia: pollutants + dust (  $10^3 - 10^4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  )

**Dust concentrations are much higher in North Africa, Middle East and Western Asian cities**

- ➔ Implication to health effects, differentiated with respect to Europe
- ➔ More research and measurements needed in the dust belt

# What we know about the impact of air pollutants and anthropogenic - PM

## Comparison to dust



### 7 million premature deaths annually linked to air pollution

#### Outdoor air pollution-caused deaths – breakdown by disease:

- 40% – ischaemic heart disease;
- 40% – stroke;
- 11% – chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
- 6% - lung cancer; and
- 3% – acute lower respiratory infections in children.

#### Indoor air pollution-caused deaths – breakdown by disease:

- 34% - stroke;
- 26% - ischaemic heart disease;
- 22% - COPD;
- 12% - acute lower respiratory infections in children; and
- 6% - lung cancer.

# What we know about the impact of air pollutants and anthropogenic - PM

## Comparison to dust

### 1. Studies focused on understanding the mechanisms by which PM-pollution cause hearth diseases:

Circulation  
Research  
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

American Heart  
Association  
Learn and Live™

#### Ambient Particulate Pollutants in the Ultrafine Range Promote Early Atherosclerosis and Systemic Oxidative Stress

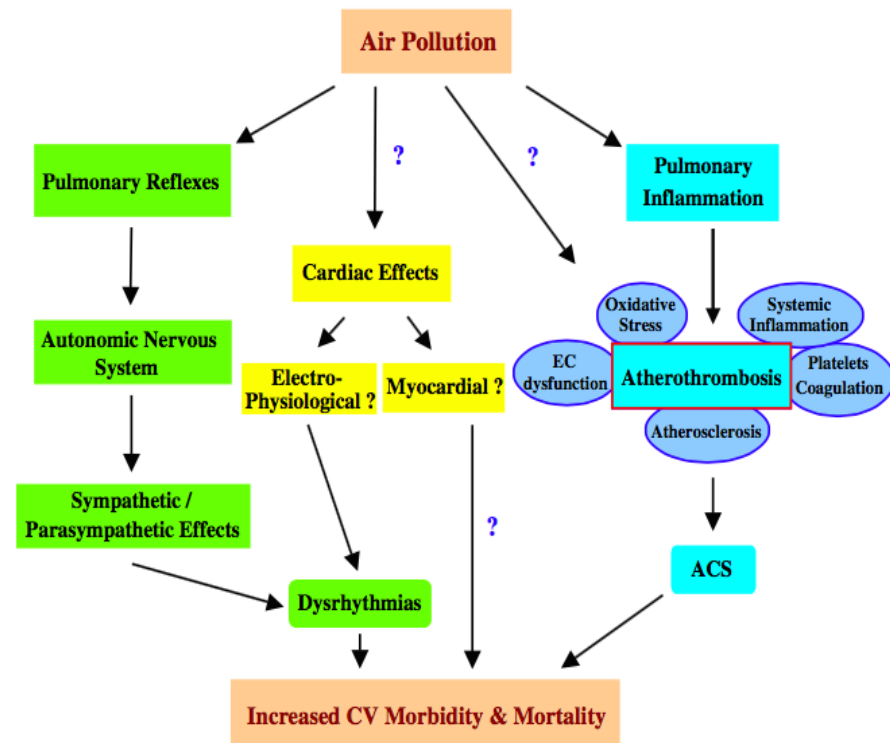
Jesus A. Araujo, Berenice Barajas, Michael Kleinman, Xuping Wang, Brian Bennett, Ke Wei Gong, Mohamad Navab, Jack Harkema, Constantinos Siou, Aldons J. Lusis and Andre E. Nel

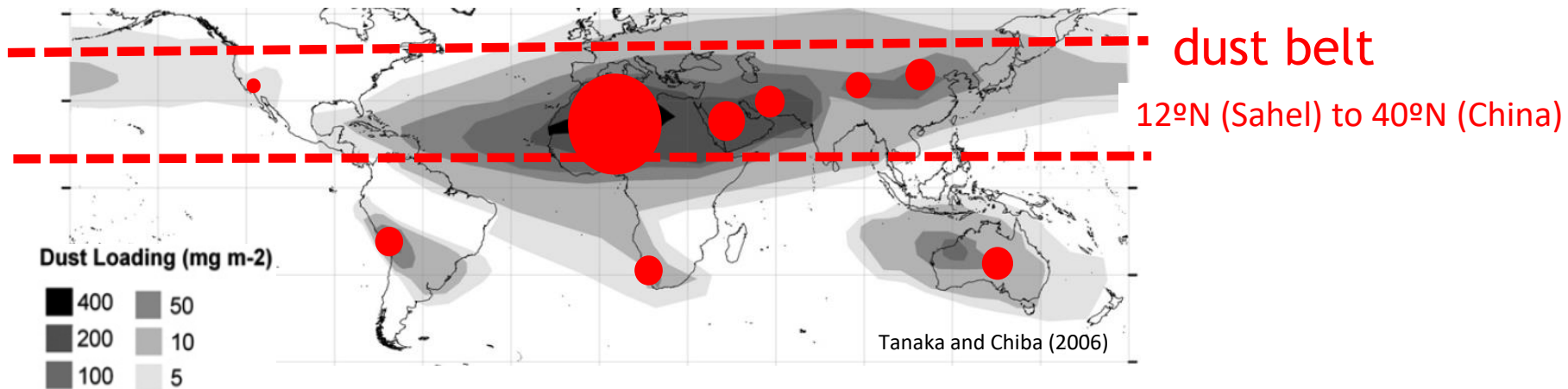
## Particle and Fibre Toxicology

Particulate matter and atherosclerosis: role of particle size, composition and oxidative stress

Jesus A Araujo\*<sup>1</sup> and Andre E Nel\*<sup>2</sup>

BioMed Central





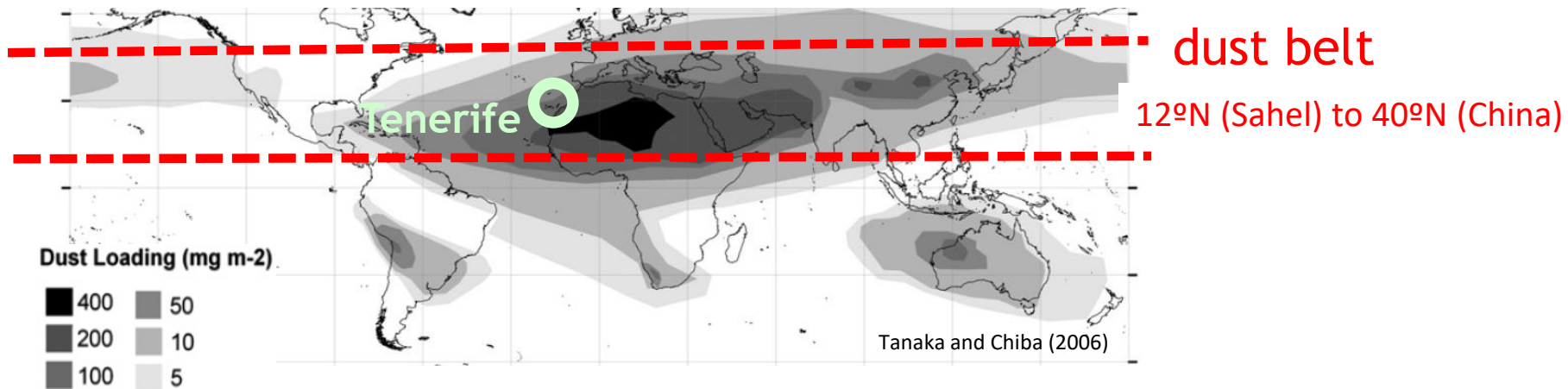
Longueville et al. (2010)

- European part of the Mediterranean: pollutants + dust ( $20 - 30 \mu\text{g/m}^3$ )
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**Dust concentrations are much higher in North Africa, Middle East and Western Asian cities**

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➔ **Researches on course in Tenerife (the Canary Islands)**



**Study – 01: Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on cardiovascular diseases**

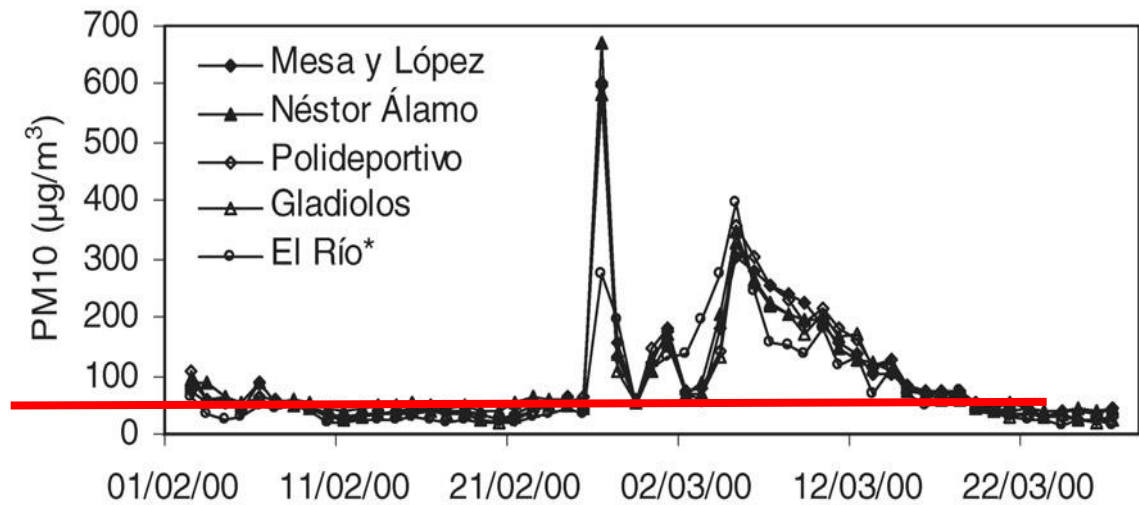
**Study – 02: Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on respiratory diseases**

➔ **Researches on course in Tenerife (the Canary Islands)**  
high dust  
low pollution

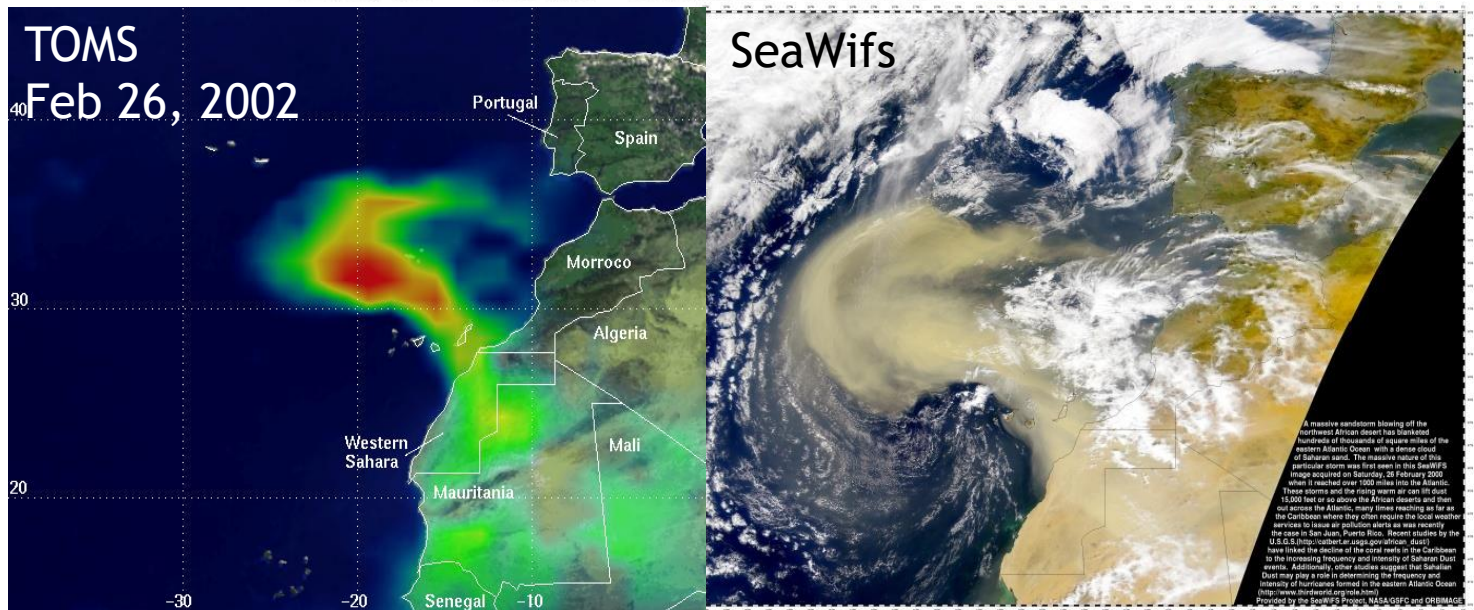




# Air quality stations at Tenerife Island



The WHO  
recommend  $PM_{10}$   
(24-h) do not  
exceed  
 $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



Viana et al., Atmospheric Environment , 2002

## **Study – 01:**

# **Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on cardiovascular diseases**

Alberto Dominguez-Rodriguez, Nestor Baez-Ferrer, Sergio Rodríguez,  
Pablo Avanzas, Pedro Abreu-Gonzalez, Emilio Cuevas

- Hospital University of Canary Islands
- CSIC, Research Council of Spain
- AEMET, Meteorological State Agency of Spain

### **objective:**

#### **HEART DISEASES:**

- acute coronary syndrome
- arrhythmia
- heart failure
- stroke
- ischemic heart disease

....

- what is the profile of the people affected by dust ?



## Study – 01:

### Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on cardiovascular diseases

#### objective:

#### HEART DISEASES:

- acute coronary syndrome
- arrhythmia
- heart failure
- stroke
- ischemic heart disease

....

- what is the profile of the people affected by dust ?



the heart doesn't pump enough

the question to address:

why some people affected by heart failure  
die some days after the hospital admission ?

## **Study – 01:**

### **Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on cardiovascular diseases**

#### **methods:**

- 1. data of each patient admitted in urgency service. 2012 – 2017: 829 patients**  
(diagnoses, age, blood analysis, risks, factors, medicine, previous diseases, .....)

## Study – 01:

### Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on cardiovascular diseases

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2. **data of Air Quality network: PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, meteorology and pollutants**  
PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>: **calibrated to gravimetric equivalent**

## Study – 01:

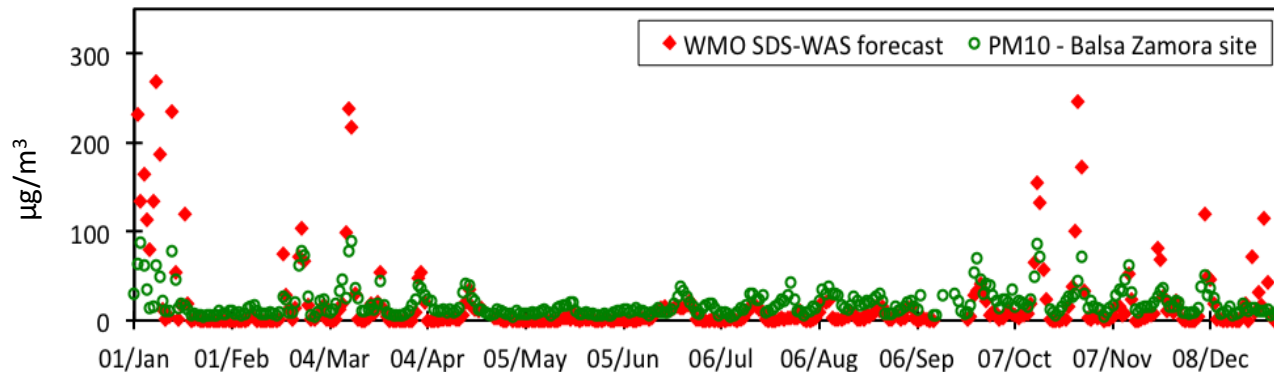
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PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>: calibrated to gravimetric equivalent

#### 3. WMO SDS-WAS dust forecast



dust events:

type -1: dust (SDSWAS) > 10 µg/m³

type -2: dust & PM<sub>10</sub> > 50 µg/m³

type -3: dust & PM<sub>10</sub> > 80 µg/m³

## Study – 01:

### Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on cardiovascular diseases

#### methods:

1. data of each patient admitted in urgency service. **2012 – 2017: 829 patients**  
(diagnoses, age, blood analysis, risks, factors, medicine, previous diseases, .....)
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 $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ : calibrated to gravimetric equivalent
3. **WMO SDS-WAS dust forecast**

#### data analysis:

SPSS statistical package

- test: (i) U de Mann-Whitney, (ii) test t – Student and (iii)  $\chi^2$  or -Fischer
- association with (intra-hospital) mortality: multi-variable logic regression

# Results:

**P < 0.01 → statistically significant**

	Mortality <b>YES</b> (n=49)	Mortality <b>NO</b> (n=780)	P
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<u>age. years</u>	73.5 ± 2	73.8 ± 1.5	0.25
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<u>gender. females. n (%)</u>	13 (26.5%)	220 (28.2%)	0.80
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<b><u>cardiovascular risk factors</u></b>			
<u>arterial hypertension. n (%)</u>	25 (51%)	500 (64.1%)	0.06
<u>smokers. n (%)</u>	24 (49%)	413 (52.9%)	0.58
<u>diabetes mellitus. n (%)</u>	20 (40.8%)	339 (43.5%)	0.71
<u>cholesterol. n (%)</u>	30 (61.2%)	454 (58.2%)	0.67



<b><u>medical antecedent</u></b>			
<u>previously affected by Heart Failure. n (%)</u>	33 (67.3%)	462 (59.2%)	0.26
<u>chronic ischemic cardiovascular disease. n (%)</u>	8 (16.3%)	179 (22.9%)	0.28
<u>fibrillation auricular. n (%)</u>	10 (20.4%)	242 (31%)	0.11
<u>chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. n (%)</u>	12 (24.5%)	126 (16.2%)	0.12



# Results:

**P < 0.01 → statistically significant**

	Mortality <b>YES</b> ( <u>n</u> =49)	Mortality <b>NO</b> ( <u>n</u> =780)	P
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<u>age. years</u>	73.5 ± 2	73.8 ± 1.5	0.25
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<b><u>medical treatment. n(%)</u></b>			
<u>diuretic</u>	49 (100%)	780 (100%)	-
<u>spiro lactone</u> / eplerenone	31 (63.3%)	499 (64%)	0.92
<u>blockers</u> beta	32 (65.3%)	462 (59.5%)	0.41
<u>angiotensin</u> conversion enzyme inhibitor	36 (73.5%)	540 (69.2%)	0.53
<u>angiotensin</u> receptor antagonist	13 (26.5%)	240 (30.8%)	0.53



<b><u>Atmospheric data PM<sub>x</sub></u></b>			
Number of patients exposed to Saharan dust with PM <sub>10</sub> ≥ 50 µg/m <sup>3</sup> . n (%)	42 (85.7%)	318 (40.8%)	<0.0001
PM <sub>10</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	84.7 [71.5 - 95.8]	15.3 [9.7 – 26.4]	<0.0001
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	29.9 [23.3 - 36.1]	6.9 [5.6 – 12.5]	<0.0001
PM <sub>2.5-10</sub> (µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	57.6 [37.5 – 68.8]	8.3 [5.6 - 13.9]	<0.0001



## Results:

**P < 0.01 → statistically significant**

	Mortality <b>YES</b> ( <u>n</u> =49)	Mortality <b>NO</b> ( <u>n</u> =780)	P
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## Conclusion:

### Profile 01:

**Elderly people (70 years old) increased risk of mortality during intense dust events (> 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>)**

## What to do now:

**Use the dust forecasts of SDSWAS to alert this people (profile 01) when a dust event > 50 µg/m<sup>3</sup> will occur.**

**understand the mechanism by which dust promote heart failure and develop preventive medical treatment**



## **Study – 02:**

### **Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on respiratory diseases**

#### **objective:**

#### **RESPIRATORY DISEASES:**

**-asthma**

**-COPD: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease**

**....**

**-what is the specific impact / damages ?**

## **Study – 02:**

### **Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on respiratory diseases**

#### **methods:**

#### **1. data of 50 patient that participated in the study. Sep- Oct 2018**

(diagnoses, age, blood analysis, risks, factors, medicine, previous diseases, .....)

Maximum breathing outflow, test control asthma, questionnaires' asthma, accomplish of the medical treatment, exacerbation e hospital admission

**data collected in the morning and in the evening and transmitted with an app in the  
cellphone**

## **Study – 02:**

### **Study on the influence of Saharan dust exposure on respiratory diseases**

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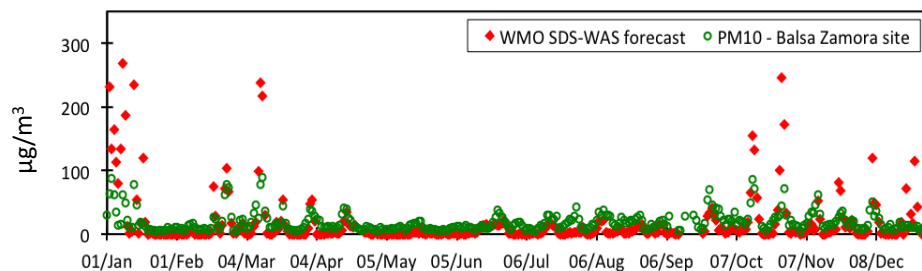
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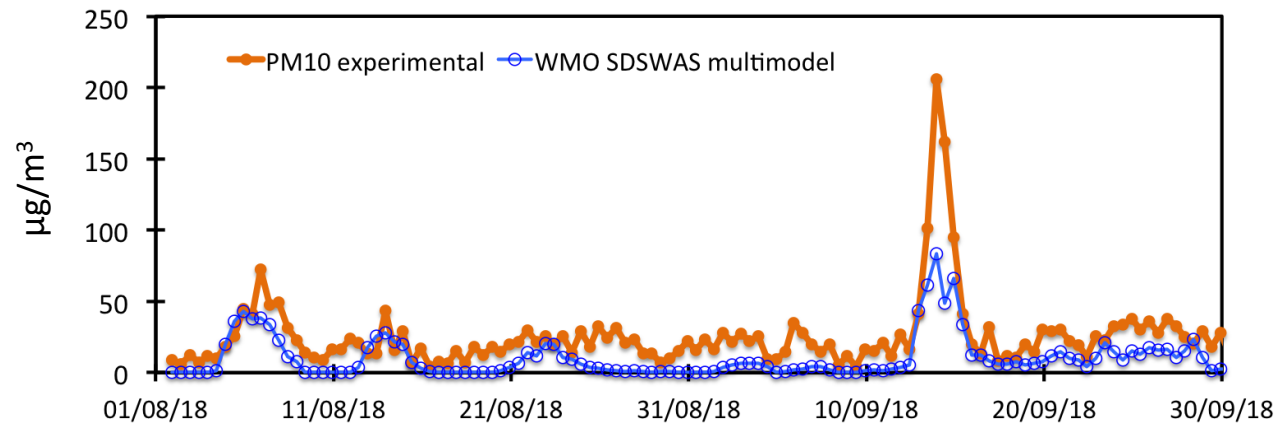


dust events:

type -1: dust (SDSWAS) > 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

type -2: dust & PM<sub>10</sub> > 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

type -3: dust & PM<sub>10</sub> > 80  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



## Dust events:

- 6 dust events occurred
- 1 intense dust event ( $\approx 200 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

## Results:

- a decrease 28 ml in the maximum expiratory flow was registered
- recovery to regular condition 72h after the event
- during the dust event, the number of patients suffering asthma – wheezing, dyspnoea, thoracic oppression and of need of medication, multiplied by 2, compared to regular conditions

## What to do now:

Use the dust forecasts of SDSWAS to alert this people (profile 01) when a dust event  $> 50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  will occur.

understand the mechanism by which dust promote heart failure and develop preventive medical treatment



thank you