

Effects of transportation-related noise in light of correlated exposures to air pollution

Co-chairs:

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Aim and short description: The aim of this symposium is to bring together experts on noise and air pollution epidemiology in order to discuss the challenge of understanding the health impact of transportation noise in light of traffic being both the source of local noise and a key contributor to local air pollution.

This symposium will show the state of the art on noise epidemiology through some major projects (RANCH and HYENA) and partners of the European Network on Noise and Health (ENNAH). In a first step, methodological aspects of noise assessment will be briefly presented and the ambient associations between air pollution and noise as well as the determinants of this association reviewed. Thereafter, the evidence of noise effects on three key health outcomes – all possibly related to air pollution as well – will be discussed. The final presentation will put the challenges of disentangling noise and air pollution effects into perspective, followed by a discussion.

Presentations:

1. Noise assessment in epidemiological studies
Speaker: Danny Houthuijs, National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), The Netherlands
2. Correlation between noise and air pollution – knowns and gaps
Speaker: Maria Foraster, Centre for Research in Environmental Epidemiology, Barcelona, Spain
3. Longitudinal studies of noise and mental health
Speaker: Stephen Stansfeld, Centre for Psychiatry, Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine, Barts and the London School of Medicine, London, UK
4. Effects of transportation noise on blood pressure
Speaker: Wolfgang Babisch, Federal Environment Agency, Germany
5. Effects of transportation noise on myocardial infarction
Speaker: Martin Röösli, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel, Switzerland
6. Discussion: Understanding the common exposure to transportation noise and air pollution and their potential common health endpoints.
Speaker: Klea Katsouyanni, University of Athens, Greece