Short-Term Associations between Air Pollution Concentrations and Respiratory Health—Comparing Primary Health Care Visits, Hospital Admissions, and Emergency Department Visits in a Multi-Municipality Study

Tahir Taj^{1,*}, Ebba Malmqvist¹, Emilie Stroh¹, Daniel Oudin Åström^{2,3}, Kristina Jakobsson¹ and Anna Oudin^{1,3}

- ¹ Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Lund University, SE-22100 Lund, Sweden; ebba.malmqvist@med.lu.se (E.M.); emilie.stroh@med.lu.se (E.S.); kristina.jakobsson@med.lu.se (K.J.); anna.oudin@umu.se (A.O.)
- ² Center for Primary Health Care Research, Department of Clinical Science, Malmö, Lund University, SE-205 02 Malmö, Sweden; daniel.oudin_astrom@med.lu.se
- ³ Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Umeå University, Umeå, SE-22100 Lund, Sweden
- * Correspondence: tahir.taj@med.lu.se

Academic Editor: tahir.taj@med.lu.se Received: 22 March 2017; Accepted: 27 May 2017; Published: date

Corresponding author:

Tahir Taj Lund University Laboratory Medicine Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Lund, Sweden Telephone: +46 72 588 4202 E-mail: tahir.taj@med.lu.se

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank FORMAS, The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning and the Faculty of Medicine, Lund University, Sweden for funding the research project.

Municipality			Malmö			Lund		I	Helsingbo	org	La	ndskro	na	Trell	leborg
		O ₃	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	O ₃	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	O ₃	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	O ₃	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	NO ₂	PM ₁₀
Malmö	O ₃	1													
	NO ₂	-0.53	1												
	PM ₁₀	0.06	0.26	1											
Lund	O ₃	0.84	-0.43	0.06	1										
	NO ₂	-0.35	0.65	0.19	-0.54	1									
	PM ₁₀	0.17	0.16	0.74	0.04	0.19	1								
Helsingborg	O ₃	0.84	-0.24	0.01	0.84	0.16	0.02	1							
	NO ₂	-0.37	0.65	0.31	-0.44	0.24	0.33	-0.37	1						
	PM ₁₀	0.07	0.33	0.59	0.06	0.42	0.63	0.00	0.37	1					
Landskrona	O ₃	0.91	-0.04	0.02	0.90	0.00	-0.02	0.93	-0.11	-0.10	1				
	NO ₂	-0.49	0.08	0.14	-0.63	0.12	0.26	-0.46	0.24	0.35	-0.55	1			
	PM ₁₀	-0.09	0.54	0.69	-0.05	0.49	0.84	-0.06	0.36	0.62	-0.10	0.41	1		
Trelleborg	NO ₂		0.30	0.22		0.48	0.30		0.43	0.25		0.44	0.44	1	
	PM ₁₀		0.18	0.61		0.20	0.67		0.23	0.48		0.28	0.80	0.40	1

Supplementary Material, Table 1: Spearman correlation coefficients between air pollutants within and between the five municipalities in Scania, Sweden, 2005-2010

Supplementary Material, Table 2: Pooled estimates of percent change in the number of visits to Primary Health Care Clinics (PHCs), Inpatient admissions, and Emergency Department visits with 95% Confidence Intervals (CIs) associated with a 10 µg/m3 increase in NO₂, O₃, and PM₁₀ lag 0-2 in five municipalities during 2005–2010.

	PHC % Change (95% CI)	Inpatient % Change (95%	Emergency Department
NO ₂	-1.09 (-3.81 to 1.69)	-3.08 (-6.07 to 0.01)	-0.31 (-2.47 to 1.91)
O ₃	0.28 (-0.20 to 0.76)	0.29 (-0.19 to 0.77)	-0.05 (-0.43 to 0.33)
PM ₁₀	0.25 (-0.61 to 1.13)	-0.17 (-2.08 to 1.77)	-0.10 (-1.17 to 0.99)

Supplementary Material, Table 3: Percent change in the number of visits to Primary Health Care Clinics (PHCs), Inpatient admissions, and Emergency Department visits with 95% Confidence Intervals (CIs) associated with a 10 μ g/m3 increase in PM₁₀ single-pollutant model over lag 0-2 in five municipalities during 2005–2010.

	РНС	Inpatient	Emergency Department		
Municipality	% Change (95% CI)	% Change (95% CI)	% Change (95% CI)		
Malmö	0.36 (-0.62 to 1.34)	0.08 (-1.27 to 1.45)	-0.04 (-1.26 to 1.21)		
Lund	0.39 (-1.02 to 1.83)	-1.63 (-4.93 to 1.81)	1.13 (-1.84 to 4.21)		
Helsingborg	1.05 (0.01 to 2.11)	-0.22 (-1.69 to1.28)	0.76 (-0.58 to 2.12)		
Landskrona	0.09 (-1.56 to 1.76)	-2.01 (-5.30 to 1.42)	-0.44 (-2.61 to 1.79)		
Trelleborg	1.95 (0.10 to 3.84)	-0.21 (-4.03 to 3.78)	-1.11 (-3.23 to 1.07)		

Supplementary Material, Table 4: Percent change in the number of visits to Primary Health Care Clinics (PHCs), Inpatient admissions, and Emergency Department visits with 95% Confidence Intervals (CIs) associated with a 10 μ g/m3 increase in O₃ single-pollutant model over lag 0-2 in five municipalities during 2005–2010.

	РНС	Inpatient	Emergency Department		
Municipality	% Change (95% CI)	% Change (95% CI)	% Change (95% CI)		
Malmö	-0.08 (-0.72 to 0.56)	0.60 (-0.03 to 1.51)	0.63 (-0.19 to 1.47)		
Lund	-0.40 (-1.36 to 0.58)	1.39 (-0.80 to 3.63)	0.31 (-1.46 to 2.10)		
Helsingborg	0.19 (-0.68 to 1.06)	0.91 (-0.30 to 2.14)	0.47 (-0.64 to 1.60)		
Landskrona	-0.10 (-1.51 to 1.34)	2.51 (-0.32 to 5.42)	1.35 (-0.60 to 3.35)		
Trelleborg*					

*Trelleborg O₃ data was missing

Supplementary Material, Table 5: Percent change in the number of visits to Primary Health Care Clinics (PHCs), Inpatient admissions, and Emergency Department visits with 95% Confidence Intervals (CIs) associated with a 10 µg/m3 increase in NO₂ single-pollutant model over lag 0-2 in five municipalities during 2005–2010.

.	PHC	Inpatient	Emergency Department		
Municipality	% Change (95% CI)	% Change (95% CI)	% Change (95% CI)		
Malmö	1.26 (0.15 to 2.39)	0.21 (-1.34 to 1.78)	0.23 (-1.18 to 1.67)		
Lund	1.77 (0.21 to 3.35)	-2.24 (-5.61 to 1.26)	-0.19 (-3.01 to 2.71)		
Helsingborg	0.56 (-0.53 to 1.67)	-1.29 (-2.79 to 0.25)	-0.77 (-2.16 to 0.64)		
Landskrona	-0.83 (-2.81 to 1.18)	-4.12 (-7.92 to -0.14)	-1.06 (-3.78 to 1.75)		
Trelleborg	0.93 (-1.40 to 3.31)	-0.99 (-5.39 to 3.64)	-0.53 (-3.09 to 2.12)		

		Population	Age		Education				Income
Municipalities		Total	Mean (Yrs)	Foreign born	Primary*	Secondary**	Post-Secondary†	Post-graduate ^{††}	SEK ^
	Men	1 46 750	37.8	4 5328 (31%)	21 719 (21%)	43 670 (41%)	38 671 (37%)	1 382 (1%)	25 100
Malmö	Women	1 52 213	40.2	4 5021 (30%)	21 126 (20%)	40 295 (38%)	44 653 (42%)	786 (1%)	24 000
	Total	2 98 963	39.0	90 349 (30%)	42 845 (20%)	83 965 (40%)	83 324 (40%)	2 168 (1%)	24 300
	Men	55 084	36.7	9 289 (17%)	5 282 (12%)	11 440 (28%)	21 790 (52%)	3 006 (7%)	24 900
Lund	Women	55 404	39.4	9 940 (18%)	4 554 (11%)	10 650 (26%)	24 267 (59%)	1 647 (4%)	23 900
	Total	1 10 488	38.1	19 229 (17%)	9 836 (12%)	22 090 (27%)	46 057 (56%)	4 653 (6%)	24 200
	Men	20 769	40.2	5 013 (24%)	3 839 (26%)	7 770 (52%)	3 131 (21%)	78 (0.5%)	24 900
Landskrona	Women	20 955	42.5	5 078 (24%)	3 637 (25%)	6 766 (47%)	4 084 (28%)	52 (0,4%)	23 500
	Total	41 724	41.4	10 091 ()24%	7 476 (26%)	14 536 (50%)	7 215 (25%)	130 (0.4%)	23 800
	Men	63 271	39.7	12 236 (19%)	11 027 (24%)	21 589 (47%)	13 223 (29%)	345 (0.7%)	26 700
Helsingborg	Women	65 906	42.3	13 017 (29%)	10 015 (21%)	20 454 (44%)	16 346 (35%)	164 (0.3%)	24 600
	Total	1 29 177	41.0	25 253 (20%)	21 042 (23%)	42 043 (45%)	29 569 (31%)	509 (0.5%)	25 100
	Men	21 049	40.9	3 027 (14%)	4 190 (28%)	7 899 (52%)	2 970 (20%)	49 (0.3%)	26 300
Trelleborg	Women	21 170	42.9	2 973 ()14%	3 453 (23%)	7 365 (49%)	4 122 (28%)	38 (0.3%)	24 000
	Total	42 219	41.9	6 000 (14%)	7 643 (25)	15 264 (51%)	7 092 (24%)	87 (0.3%)	24 500

Supplement Material Table 6: Selected Municipalities social demographic characteristics for the year 2010.

* Primary and secondary education up to 10 years

******Upper secondary education, 2 years or less

†Upper secondary education 3 years

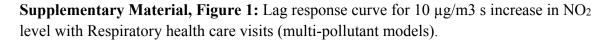
†Post-secondary education, less than 3 years

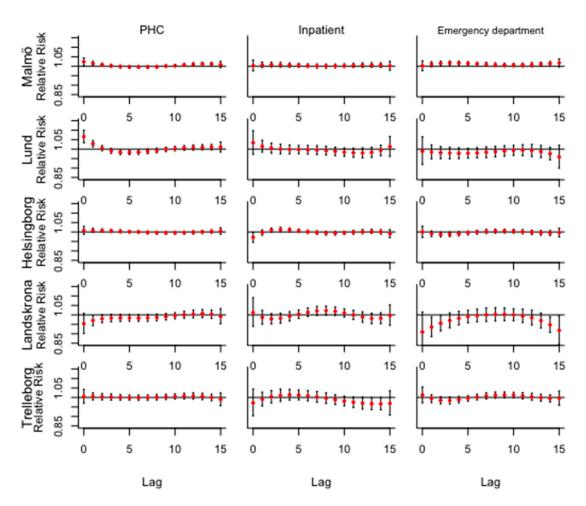
^^Average monthly salary in Swedish Krona 1 USD \approx 9 SEK

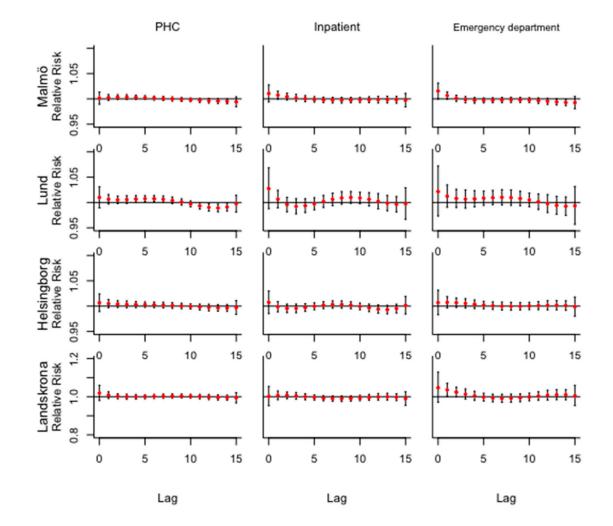
Data obtained from Statistics Sweden [1]

	Min	1st quantile	Median	Mean (Sd)	3rd quantile	Max
Temperature °C	9.8	4.1	9.4	9.5 (7.1)	15.5	26.4
Humidity	37.4	67.3	76.2	74.6 (11.3)	83.2	95.9
Rain Fall	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.8 (4.4)	1.6	78.5

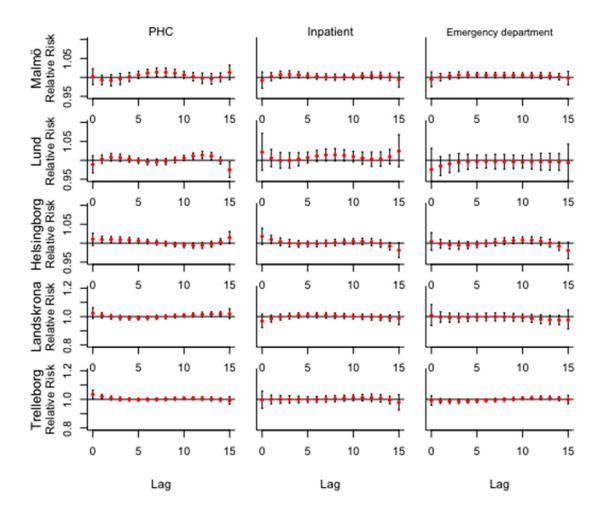
Supplement Table 7 Weather Condition in Malmö Municipality from year 2005 till 2010







Supplementary Material, Figure 2: Lag response curve for $10 \mu g/m3$ s increase in O₃ level with Respiratory health care visits (multi-pollutant models).



Supplementary Material, Figure 3: Lag response curve for $10 \mu g/m3$ s increase in PM₁₀ level with Respiratory health care visits (multi-pollutant models).

Reference:

1. Sweden, S. *Statistical database*. 2017 12 May 2017]; Available from: http://www.scb.se/en/.