

## Supplemental information

### Ambient PM<sub>2.5</sub> human health effects – Findings in China and Research Directions

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Table S1. Major sources of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Beijing by receptor modeling. Source contrition (%) in parentheses (columns 4-10) when available.

| Authors                 | Study Period                            | Methods                             | Sources  |                                |  |   |                        |                           |        |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|------------------------|---------------------------|--------|
|                         |   |                                     | Secondary  | Coal burning                   | Dust                                     | Vehicle                                     | Biomass                | Industry                  | Others |
| Zheng et al., 2005 [36] | January, April, July, and October, 2000 | Chemical Mass Balance               | · Secondary sulfate (17)<br>· Secondary nitrate (10)<br>· Secondary ammonium (6) | Coal combustions (7)           | Dust (20)                                | Diesel and gasoline exhaust (7)             | Biomass aerosol (6)    |                           |        |
| Song et al., 2006 [39]  | January, April, July, and October, 2000 | Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) | · Secondary sulfate (17)<br>· Secondary nitrate (14)                             | Coal combustions (19)          | Road dust (9)                            | Motor vehicles (6)                          | Biomass burning (11)   | Industry (6)              |        |
| Zhang et al., 2013 [22] | April 2009 to January 2010              | PMF                                 | Secondary inorganic aerosol (26)   | Coal combustions (14)          | Soil dust (16)                           | Traffic and waste incineration emission (3) | Biomass burning (13)   | Industrial pollution (28) |        |
| Yu et al., 2013 [40]    | January to December, 2010               | PMF                                 | Secondary sulphur (26.5)   | Fossil fuel combustions (15.6) | · Soil dust (10.4)<br>· Road dust (12.7) | Vehicle exhaust (17.1)                      | Biomass burning (11.2) | Metal processing (6)      |        |

|                       |                                |                 |           |                     |                  |   |  |   |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------------|------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                       |                                |                 |           |                     |                  |   |  |   |  |
| Jin et al., 2015 [24] | 2007 to 2013                   | PMF             |           | Coal burning (29.2) | Soil (15.4)      | Vehicle exhaust and waste incineration (26.3) |  | Industrial with chlorine (5.9)                          | Construction industry (23.3)   |
| Cao et al., 2002 [41] | December 1998 to February 2000 | Factor Analysis |           |                     | Soil and fly ash | Motor vehicle exhaust and coal burning        |  | Nonferrous metal research institutes or factories       | · Refuse incineration sites and construction working stations<br>· Sea spray origin<br>· Paint pigment |
| Sun et al., 2004 [23] | June, July, and December, 2002 | Factor Analysis | Secondary | Coal burning        | Road dust        | Motor vehicles                                |  | · Metallurgical emissions<br>· Nonferrous metal smelter |  |

Table S2. Summary of health effects studies, including PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations measured, health outcomes investigated, approaches, and major findings.

| Authors                 | Study Period | Study Location  | Measured PM <sub>2.5</sub> Concentrations             | Health Outcome  | Approach                         | Major findings  |
|-------------------------|--------------|---|---|---|----------------------------------|---|
| Guo et al., 2009 [25]   | 2004 - 2006  | Peking University site  | Average over study period was 121.6 µg/m <sup>3</sup> | Daily hospital visits for cardiovascular disease (CVD)  | Case-crossover                   | 1.005% increase in emergency room visits for CVD per 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> increase in PM <sub>2.5</sub> .   |
| Guo et al., 2010 [44]   | 2007         | Peking University site  | Average over study period was 102.4 µg/m <sup>3</sup> | Emergency hospital visits (EHV) for hypertension  | Time-stratified case-crossover   | An increase of 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> in PM <sub>2.5</sub> concentration was associated with increased EHVs for hypertension with an odds ratio of 1.084. |
| Chen et al., 2011 [26]  | 2007-2008    | Urban areas in Beijing  | 82 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (24 hr average)                  | Cardiovascular and respiratory mortality  | Time-series                      | Average elevation in daily cardiovascular and respiratory mortality of 0.58% and 0.66% per 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> increase in PM <sub>2.5</sub> .         |
| Li et al., 2013 [6]     | 2004-2009    | Stations operated by the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing | Average over study period was 76 µg/m <sup>3</sup>    | Respiratory mortality and morbidity   | Poisson regression               | Average elevation of 0.69% and 1.32% in respiratory mortality and morbidity respectively with a 10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> increase in PM <sub>2.5</sub> .    |
| Zheng et al., 2015 [30] | 2001 - 2012  | Beijing central area  | Average over study period was 100 µg/m <sup>3</sup>   | Mortality attributable to PM <sub>2.5</sub> by ischemic heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and lung cancer among the population older than 30 years and due to acute lower respiratory infection among the population less than 5 years old | Concentration-response functions | Total mortality due to PM <sub>2.5</sub> of 6,382 deaths per year in Beijing central area.  |
| Liang et al., 2014 [29] | 2008-2013    | US Embassy site in Beijing  | Annual means ranging from 85 to 105 µg/m <sup>3</sup> | Influenza   | Wavelet analysis                 | Ambient PM <sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were significantly associated with human influenza cases in Beijing.   |

|                           |                                      |  |  |   |   |   |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| Du and Li, 2016 [45]      | January 2013                         | All 16 districts in Beijing (data obtained from the Beijing Municipal Environmental Monitoring Center) | Mean daily concentrations ranging from 98 to 228 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  | All cause mortality   | Concentration-response                      | 479 acute deaths from the continuous haze event in January 2013   |
| Ferreri et al., 2018 [46] | January 11-13 2013 (extreme episode) | US Embassy site in Beijing   | Daily $\text{PM}_{2.5} \geq 350$ $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ with peak daily average = 569 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ | All cause, cardiovascular, and respiratory emergency medical visits and respiratory outpatient visits | Several models including case-crossover     | Risk increased during the episode for all-cause (relative risk 1.29), cardiovascular (1.55) and respiratory (1.33) emergency medical visits and respiratory outpatient visits (1.16). |
| Feng et al., 2016 [47]    | 2008 - 2014                          | US Embassy site in Beijing   | Daily mean concentration = 101 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  | Influenza-like illness (ILI)  | Inverse Gaussian generalized additive model | Strong positive correlation between $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ and ILI risk.   |