Special Issue

Technology, Data, and the Assessment of Atmospheric Exposure on Finer Scales

Message from the Guest Editors

Epidemiological studies of weather influences upon human health have historically relied on coarse aggregations at the scale of municipalities or larger. Health outcomes were then typically associated with point data of atmospheric conditions—whether thermal, pollution, or extreme environments-from which individual-level exposure would be approximated. Technological advances in sensing equipment now allow researchers to more precisely assess environmental exposure at the scale of an individual person. These more-localized response data, geocoded and available on finer scales, have enabled more indepth responses to be assessed. The improved ability to geospatially integrate and analyze all these data has led to exciting new research, in which the variability of individuals' exposure and response is coming to light.

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Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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Editor-in-Chief

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