



Analysis and Investigation of Inorganic Particles with Human Tissues

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Recently, the American Thoracic Society, in coordination with the European Respiratory Society, published a statement describing the significance of workplace inhalational hazards that add to the burden of nonmalignant lung diseases, including asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, sarcoidosis, and pulmonary alveolar proteinosis. It is thought that the incidence of nonmalignant lung diseases associated with environmental elemental exposure will be much higher than expected.

Autoimmune diseases have also been known to be associated with elemental exposure. Vasculitis, such as granulomatosis with polyangiitis or microscopic polyangiitis, is known to be associated with occupational silica exposure. Systemic sclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis are also associated with heavy metal or silica exposure. However, elemental analysis has not been intensely focused on nonmalignant lung and systemic vascular diseases, differentiating it from pneumoconiosis or malignant mesothelioma.

For this Special Issue, we encourage researchers to investigate the interaction between environmental elemental exposure and human diseases.





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