



Atmospheric Pollution Effect on Human Health: Analysis on Occupational Risks, Aeroallergens and Allergic Asthma

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Message from the Guest Editor

The prevalence of allergic, and non-allergic, asthma has been increasing, with serious implications for sufferers' health, quality-of-life and employment. Workplace allergen exposures, presentation of allergic symptoms and the development of allergic asthma have been identified through clinical and workplace studies, and occupational health surveillance schemes. The spread of aeroallergens outside of the workplace has also caused outbreaks of allergic asthma within the nearby general population. Controlling aeroallergen levels reduces the asthma risk, but requires the capability to quantify exposure and thus understand those activities producing significant airborne allergen. A better understanding of the journey from allergen exposure, sensitisation, respiratory inflammatory responses, to the development and diagnosis of work-related allergic asthma is also crucial, as is the identification of risks from "new allergens" in the changing world of work in both developed and developing countries.

