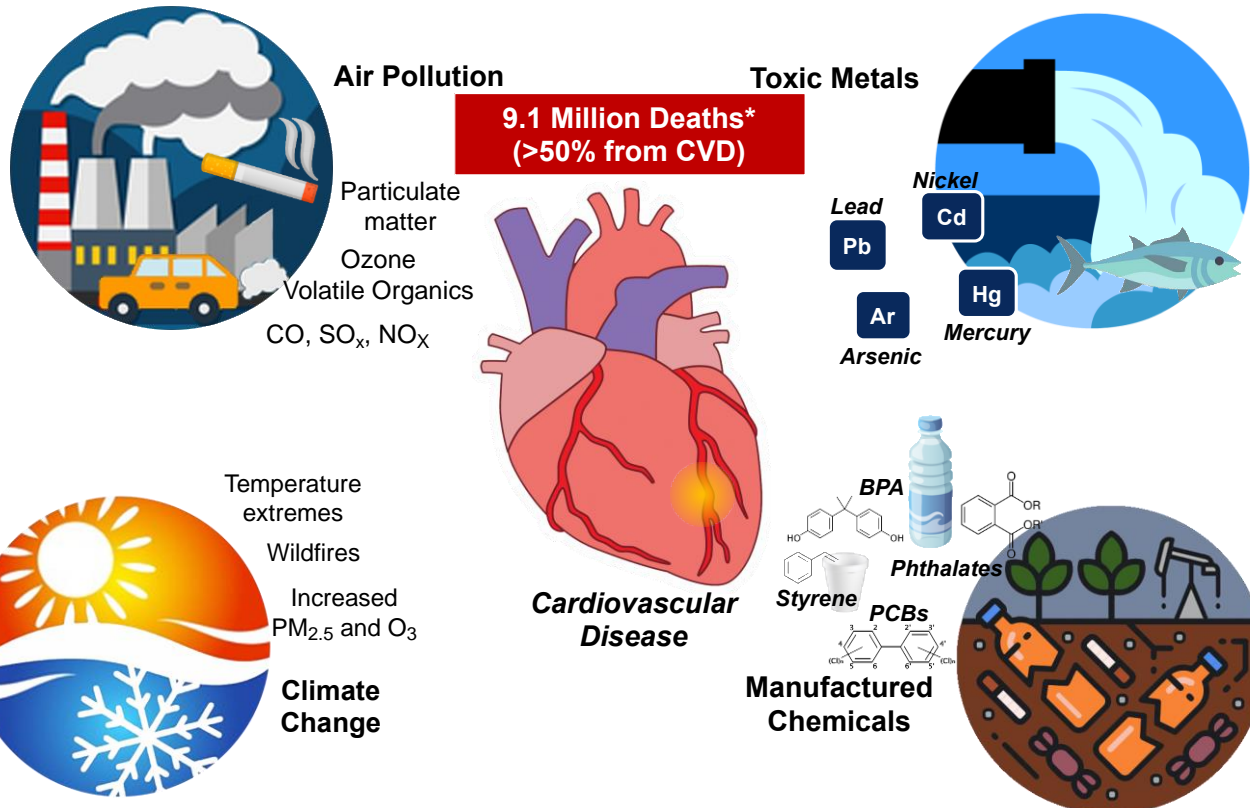


# The Mechanisms of Air Pollution Mediated Cardiovascular Disease

*Sanjay Rajagopalan  
Case Cardiovascular Research Institute  
Case Western Reserve University  
University Hospitals, Harrington Heart and Vascular Institute  
Cleveland OH*

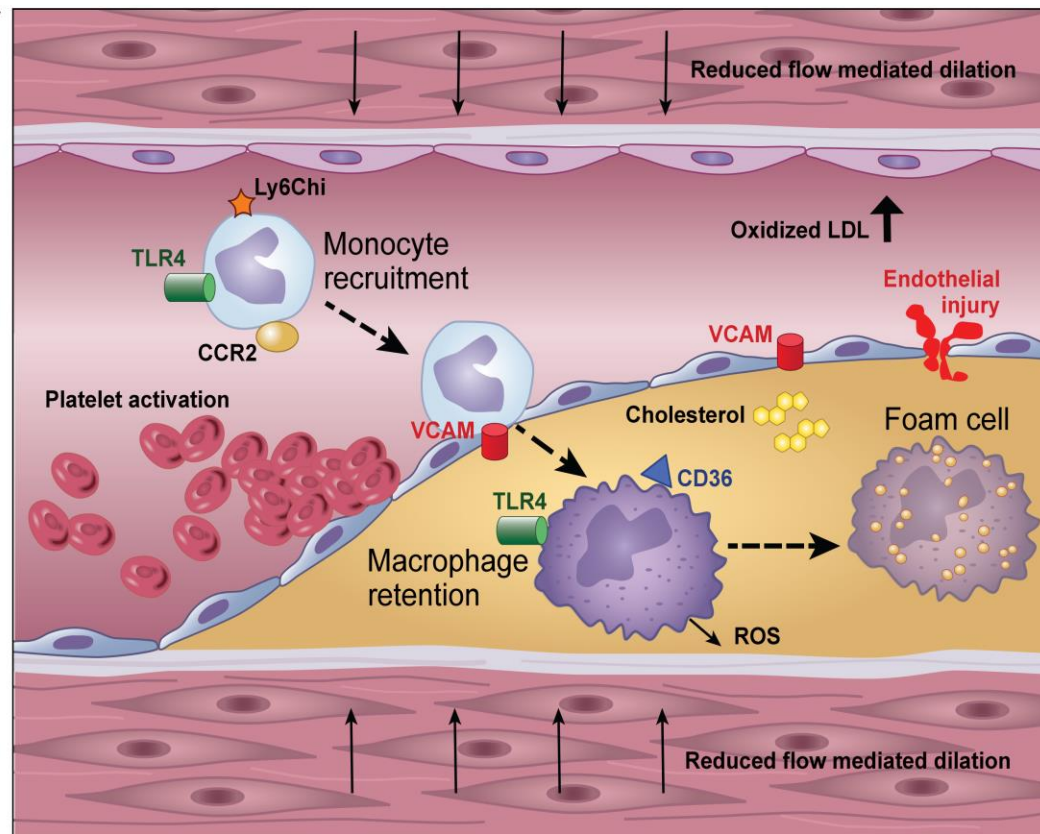
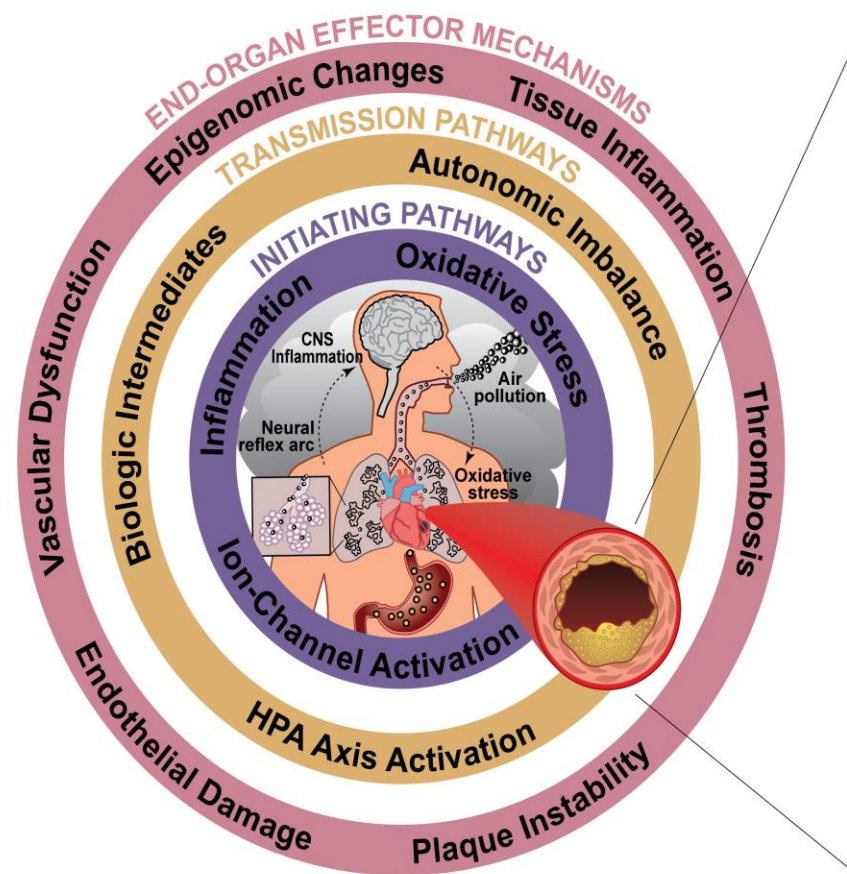
Disclosures: Grant Support from the National Institutes of Health

# The Footprint of Pollution in the Anthropocene Era

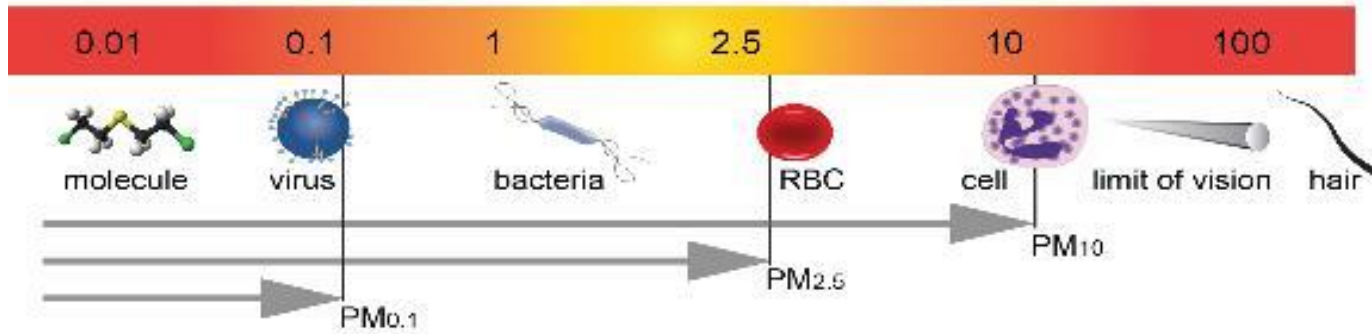


Rajagopalan S. Landrigan P. N Engl J Med 2021 Nov 11;385(20):1881-1892.

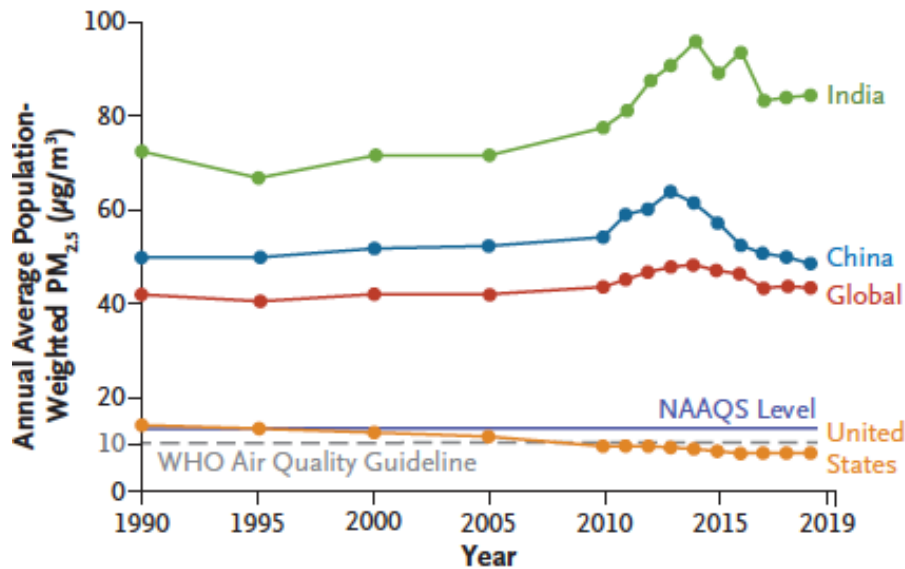
# Air Pollution Pathways Mediating Cardiovascular Risk



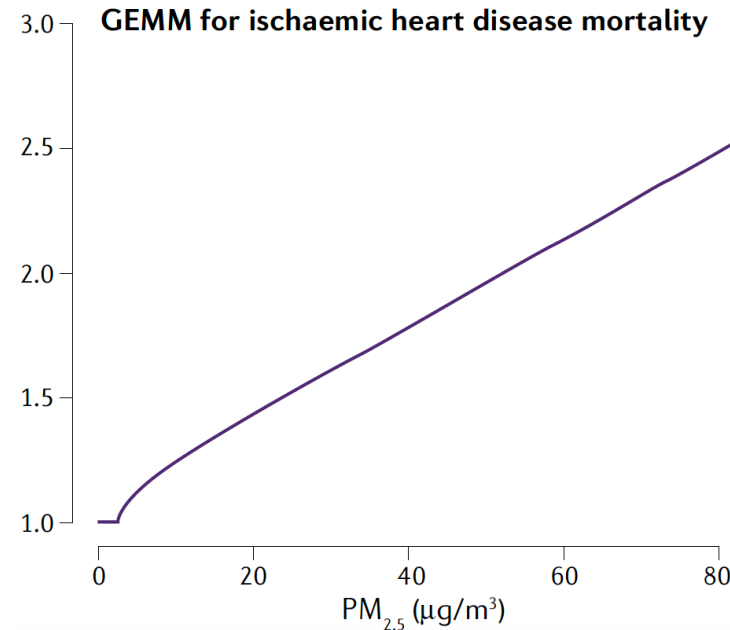
Particle size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )



**$\text{PM}_{2.5}$  Consistently Strongest Component**

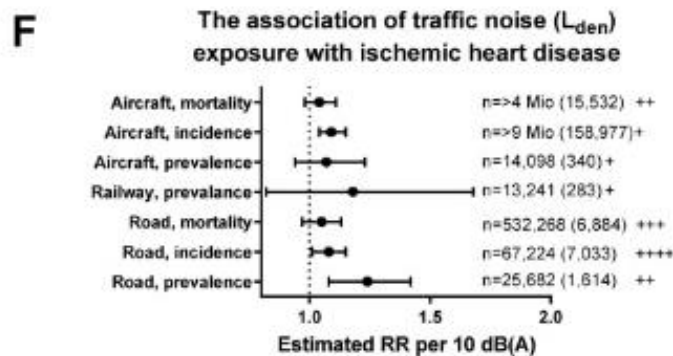
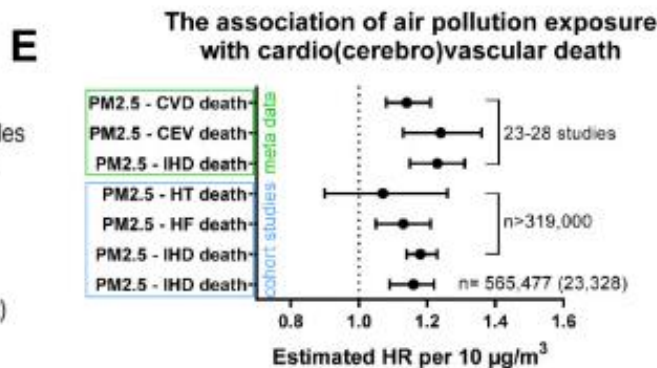
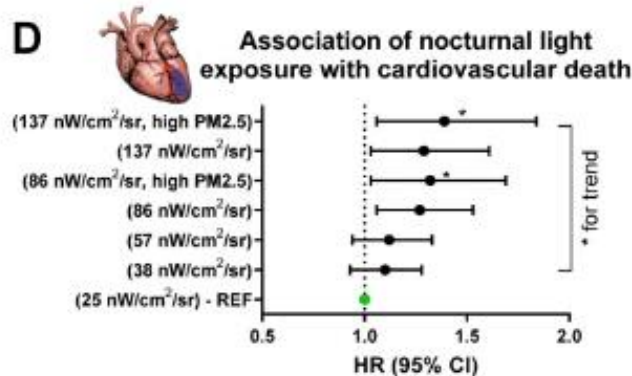
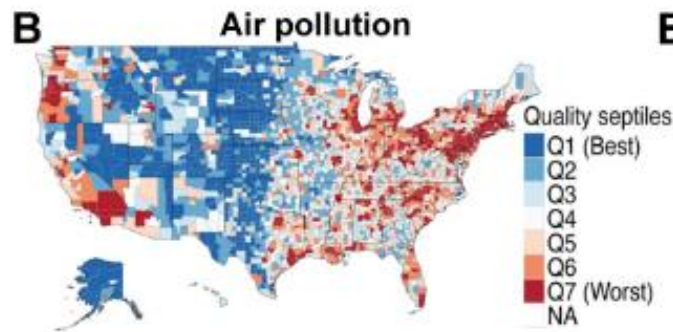
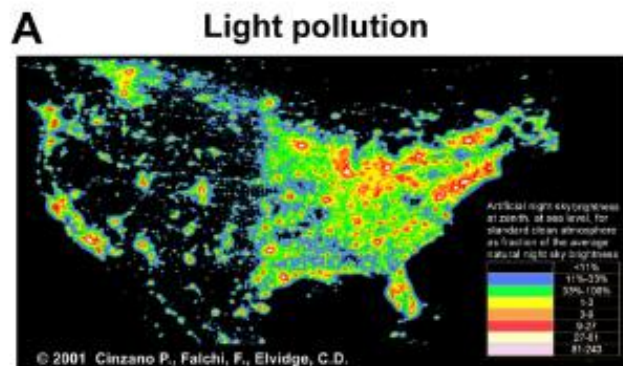


Levels in the US are mostly below NAAQS Annual Level of  $12 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



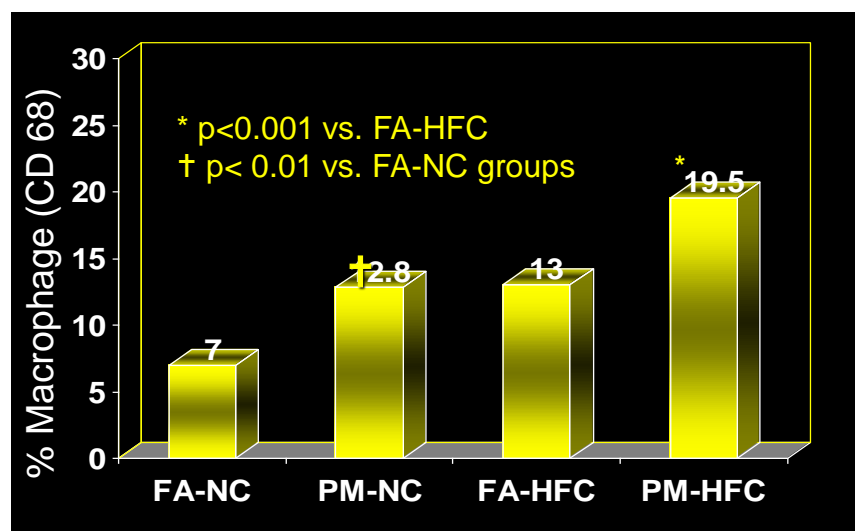
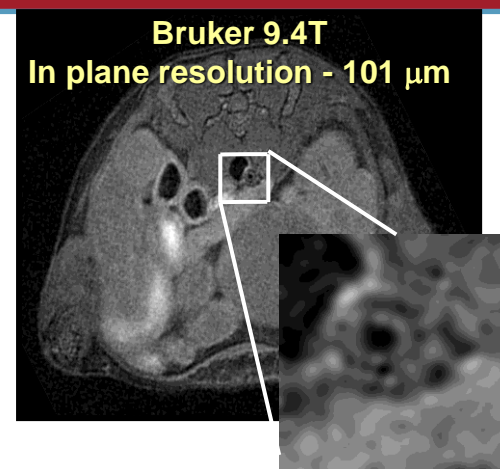
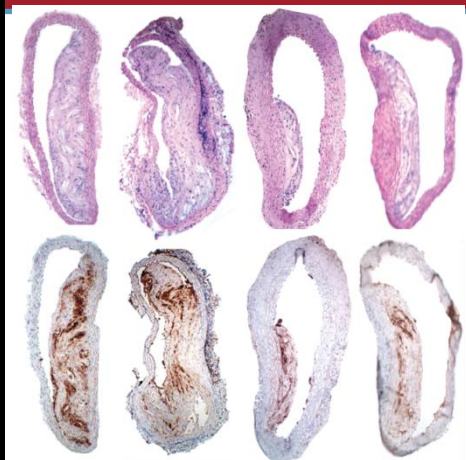
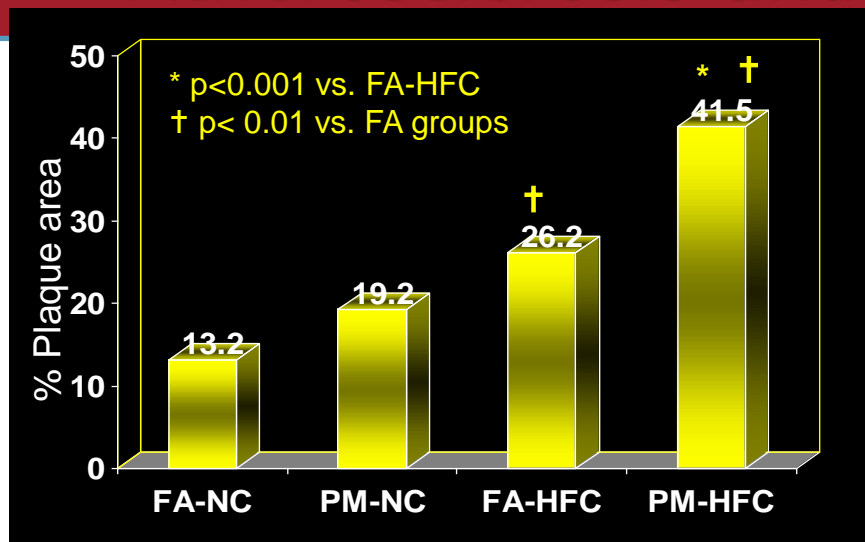
No lower threshold dose response



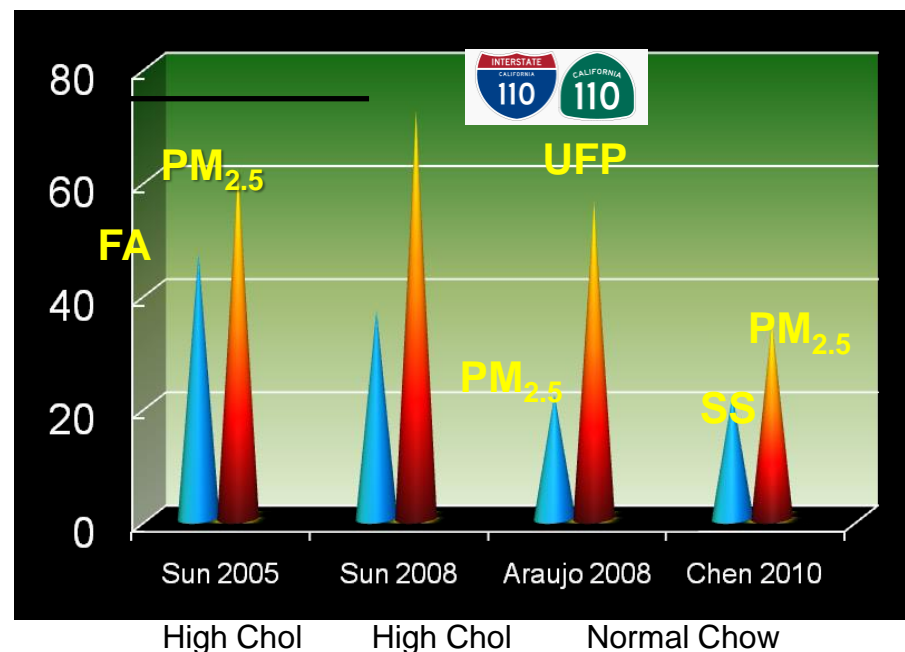


Eur Heart J. 2021  
Jul 1;42(25):2422-2438

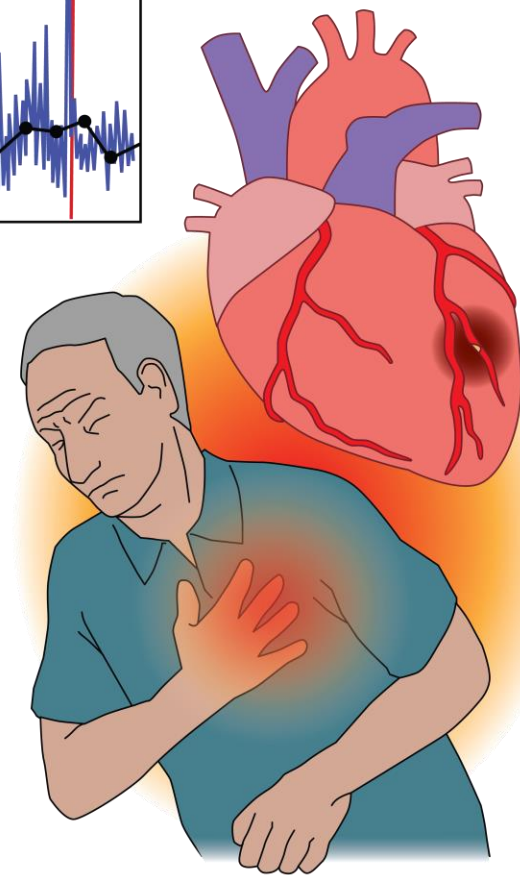
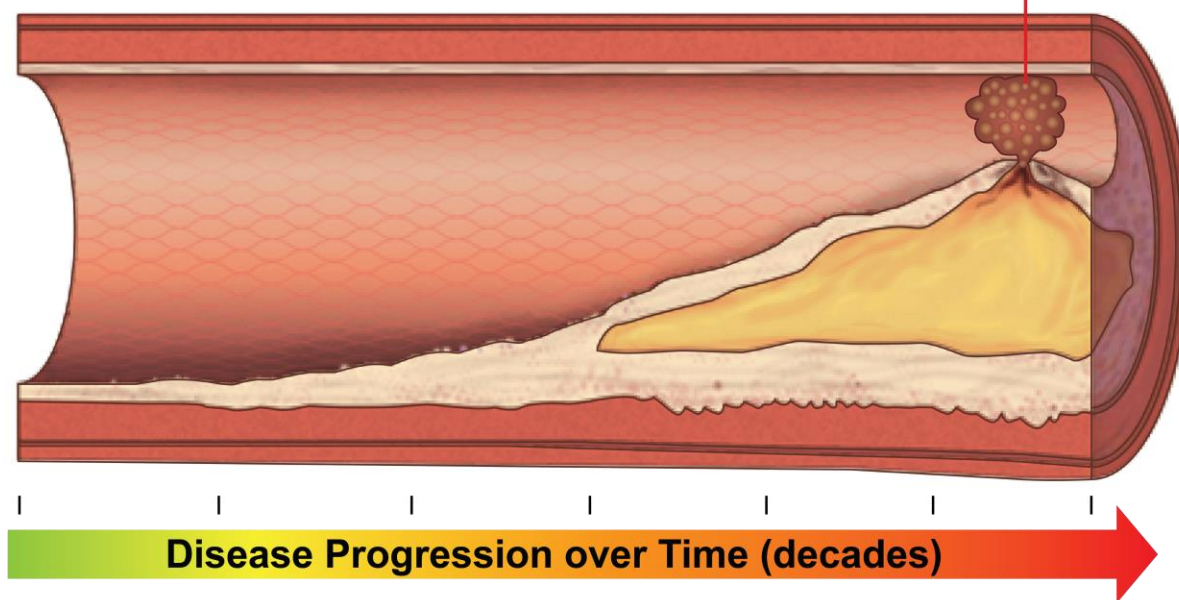
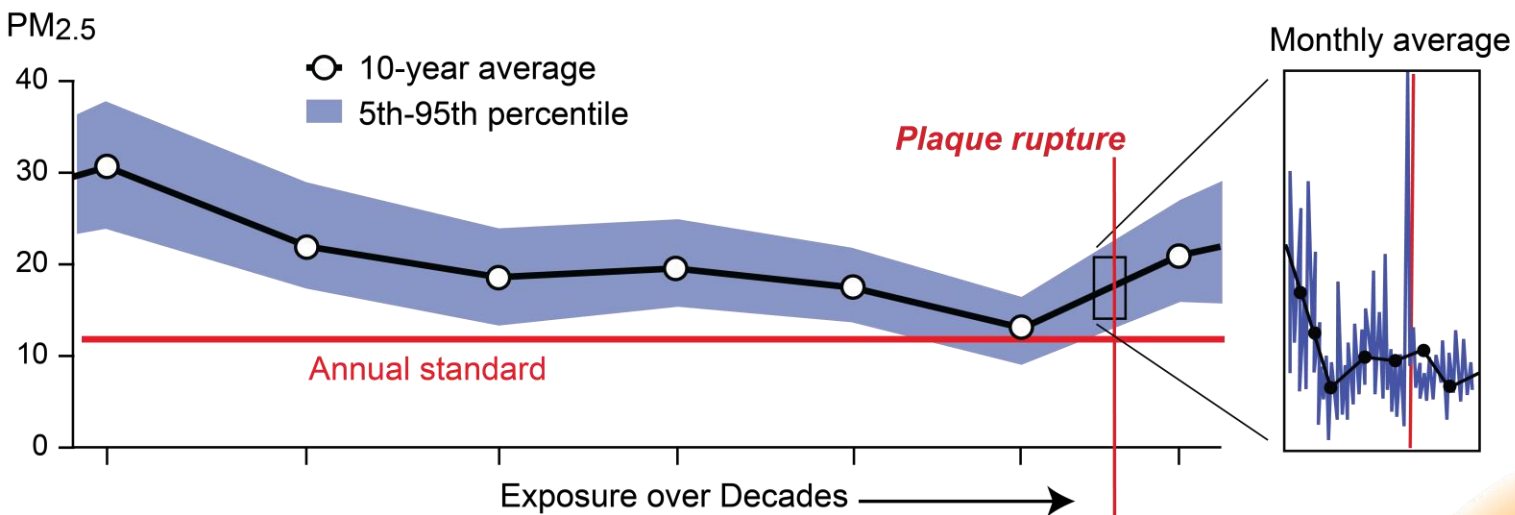
# Chronic PM Exposure Potentiates Atherosclerosis and Vascular Inflammation



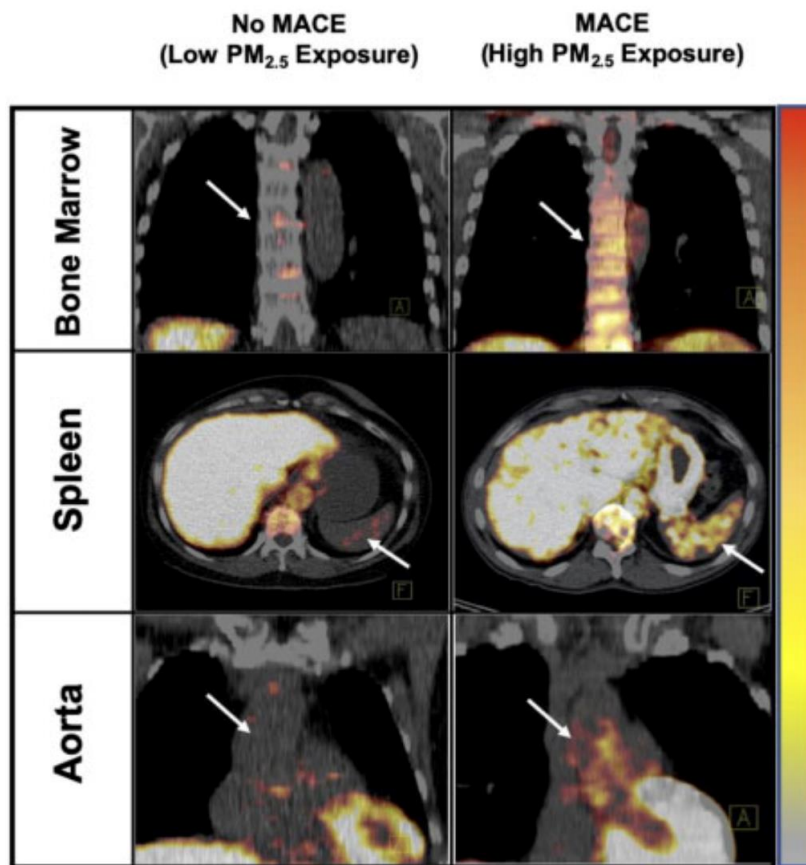
Sun et al. JAMA 2006.; 294



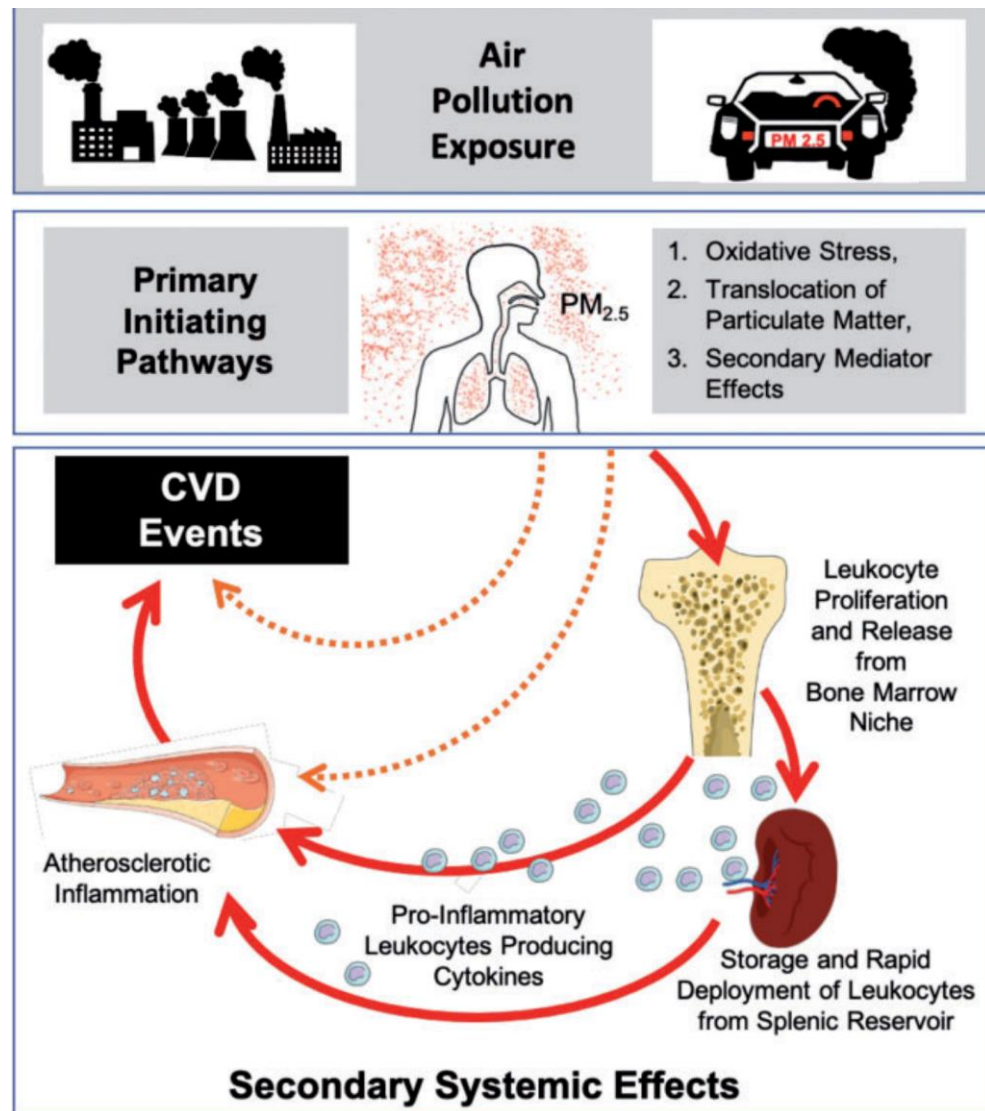
*Inhal Toxicol.* 2008;20:127–137; *Circ Res.* 2008;102:589–596;  
*Toxicol Sci.* 2009 80-88 . *Inhal Toxicol.* 2010;22:449-59.







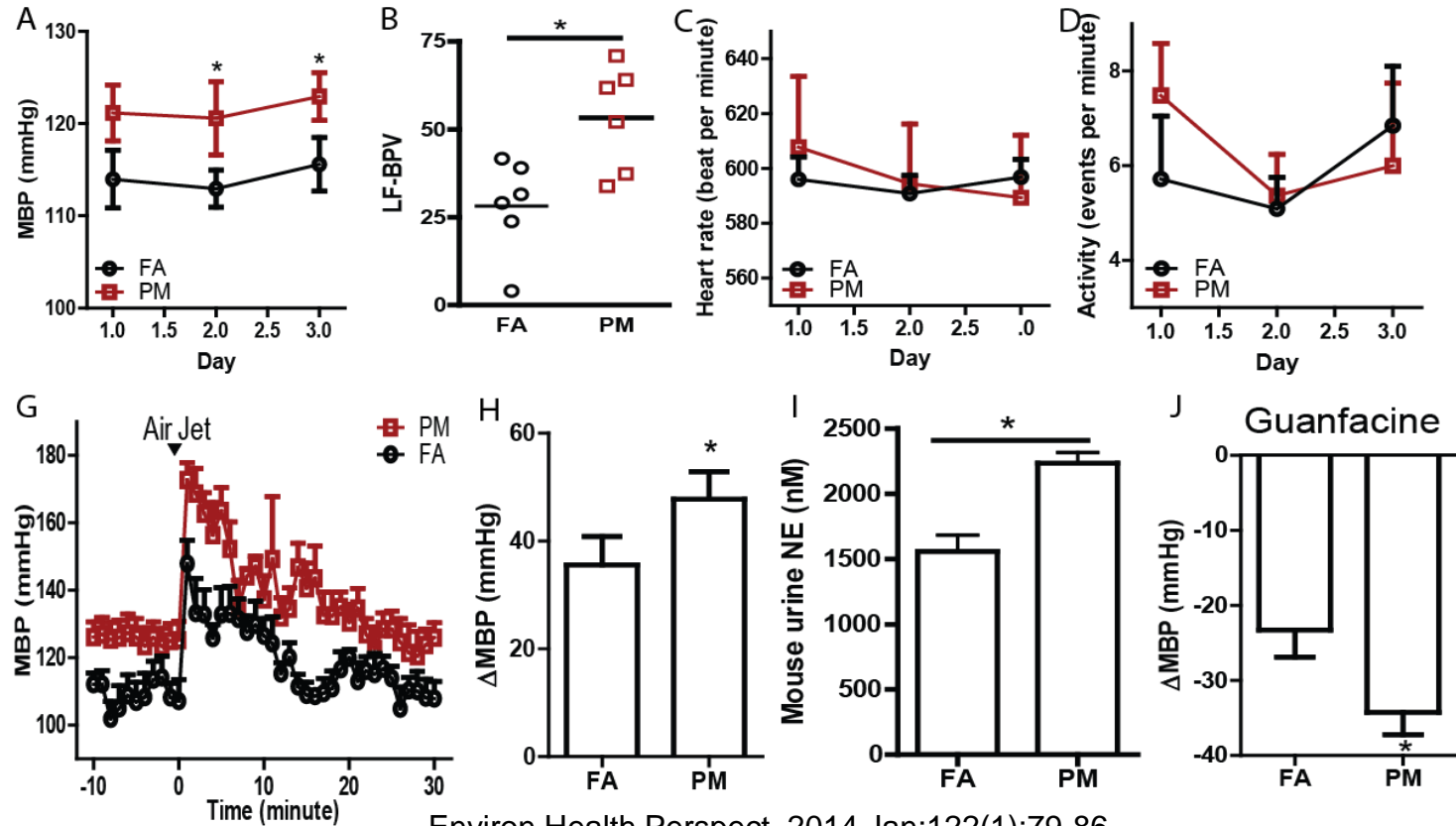
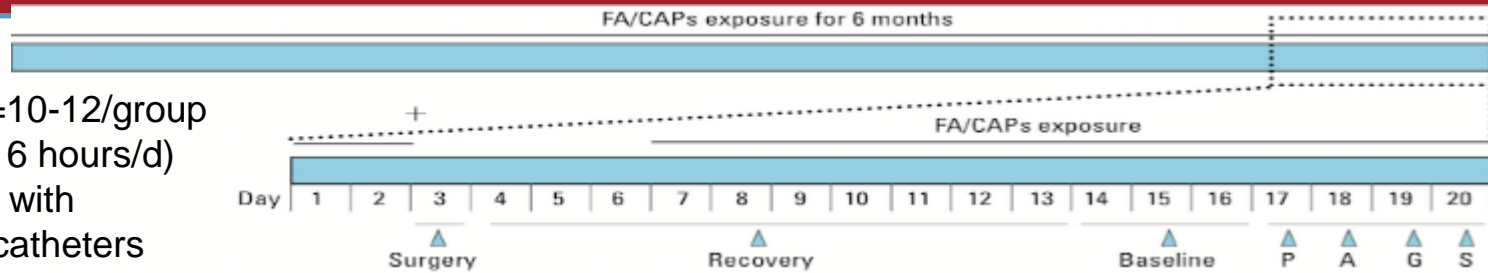
Tissue activities on <sup>18</sup>F-FDG-PET/CT by PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure. Tissue FDG increased with PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure and major adverse cardiovascular event.





# Central Sympathetic Activation with PM<sub>2.5</sub> 12 Week Exposure (C57/Bl6)

C57Bl/6 (n=10-12/group)  
(5 days/wk, 6 hours/d)  
Cannulated with  
indwelling catheters  
prior to exposure

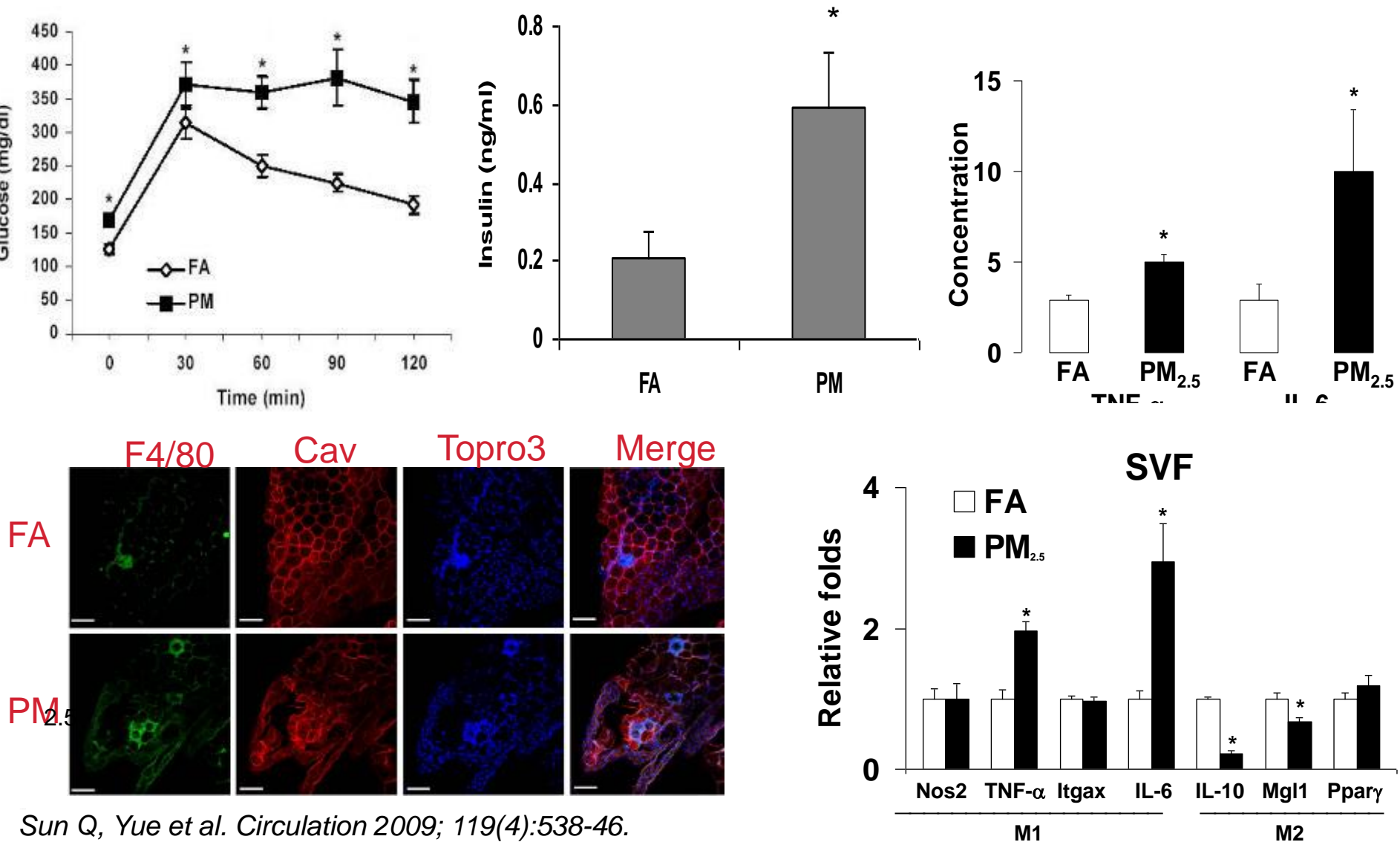


# Links Between Hypertension and Air Pollution: Summary of Evidence

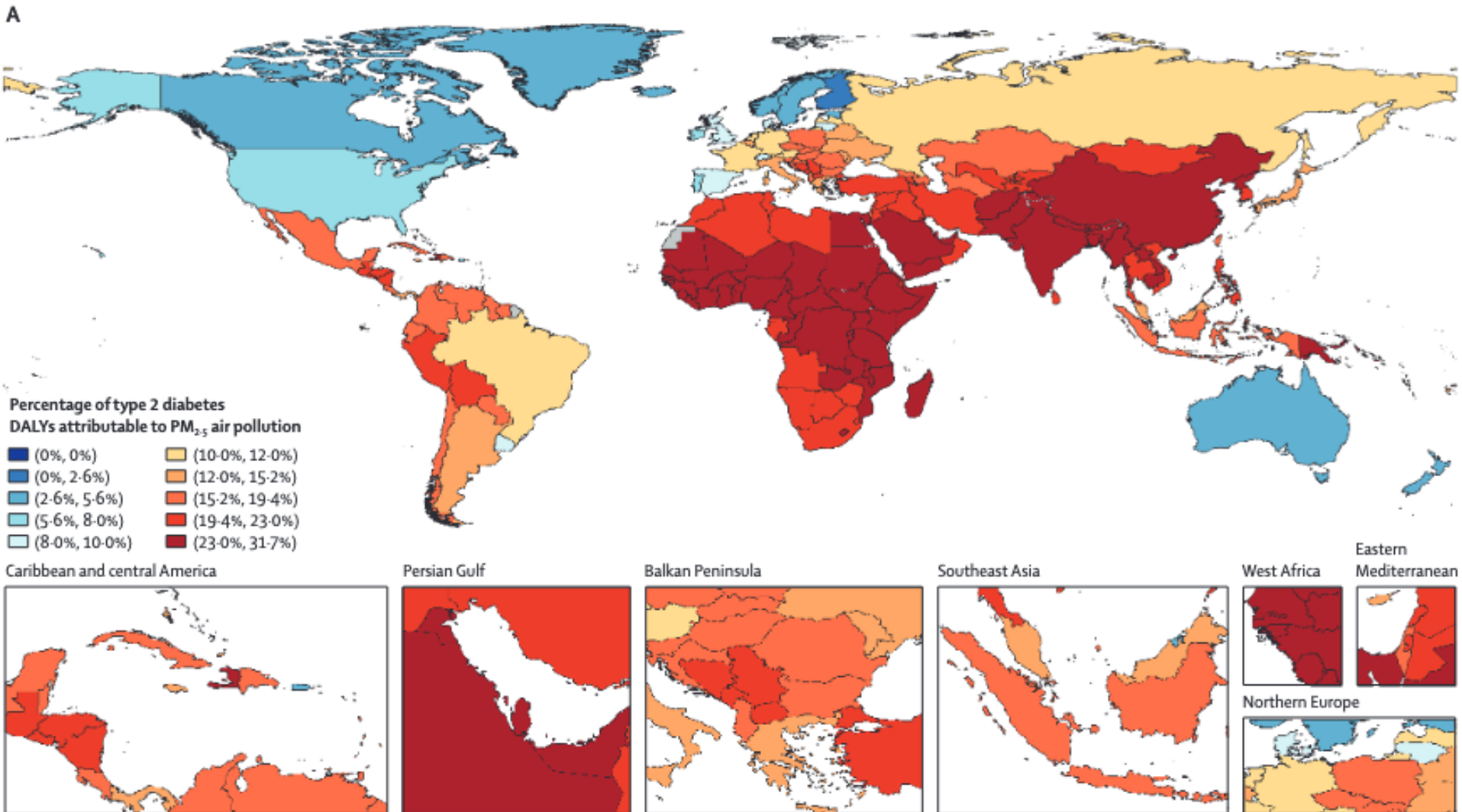
- BP positively related to PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure (↑ of 1.4 mmHg, 95% CI (0.87-1.91) and 0.89 mmHg, 95% CI (0.49-1.29) per 10mcg/m<sup>3</sup> increase for SBP and DBP respectively (1).
- Both ultrafine and course particles mediate blood pressure increase acutely (2, 3, 4, 5)
- Evidence suggests a slower effect (hours to days) with ambient air pollution compared to controlled chamber studies

1. Liang et al. J Hypertens. 2014 Nov;32(11):2130-4.
2. Zhao and Rajagopalan S et al. Hypertension. 2014 Apr;63(4):871-7
3. Cosselman K E et al. Hypertension 2012;59:943-948.
4. Brook RD and Rajagopalan S et al. Environ Health Perspect. 2014 Jun;122(6):624-30.
5. Byrd JB and Brook RD et al .J Am Soc Hypertens. 2016 Feb;10(2):133-139.e4

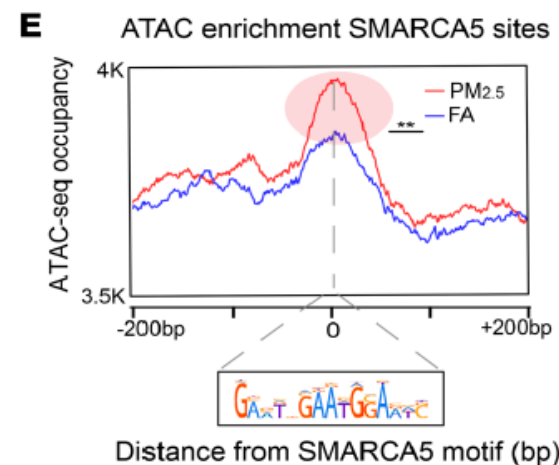
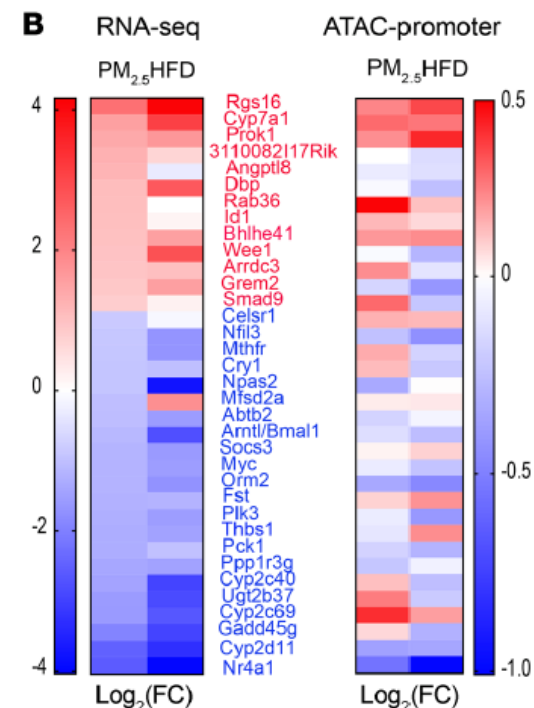
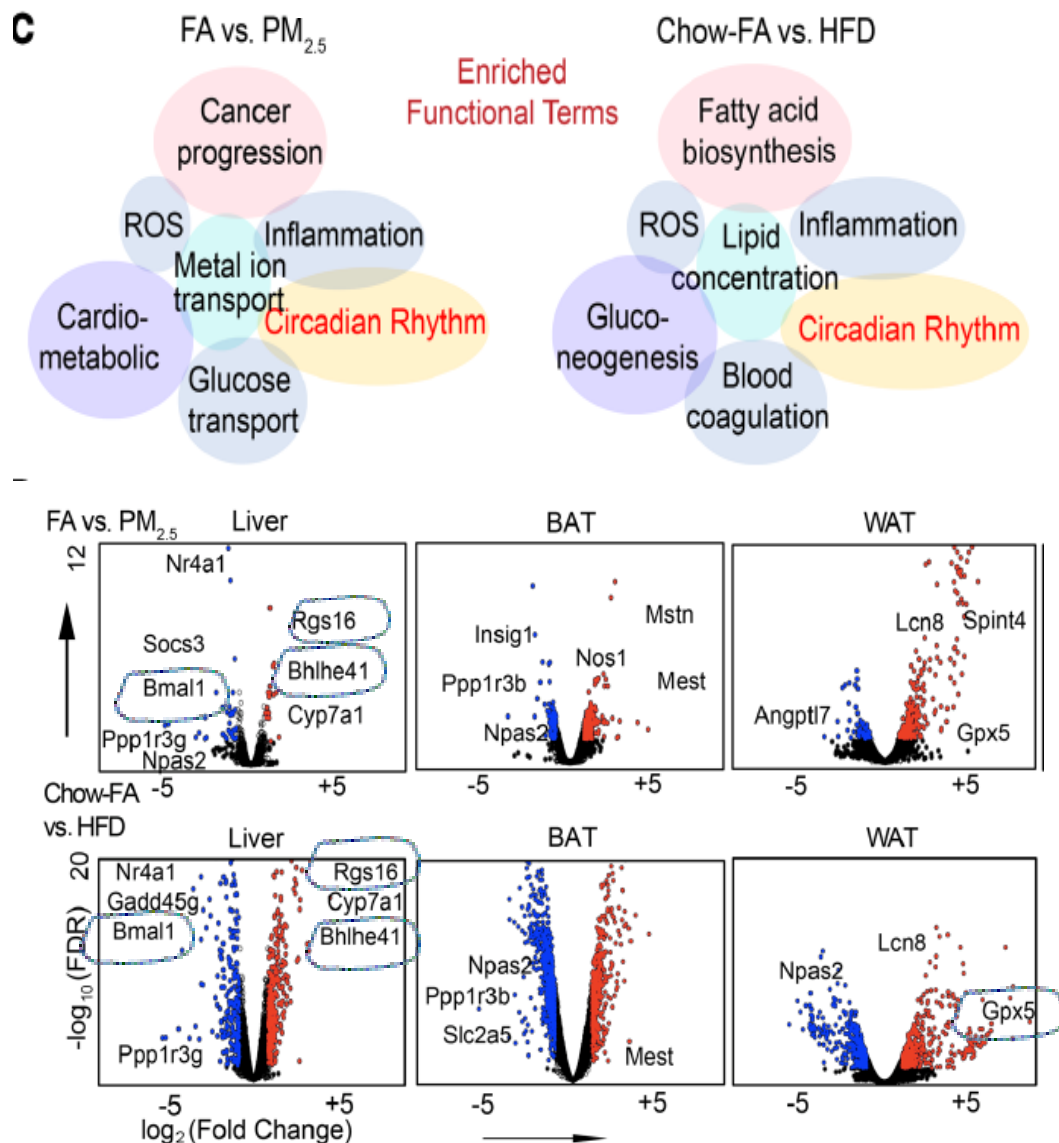
# Chronic PM<sub>2.5</sub> Ambient Exposures (20 wk) Potentiates Inflammation/Insulin Resistance



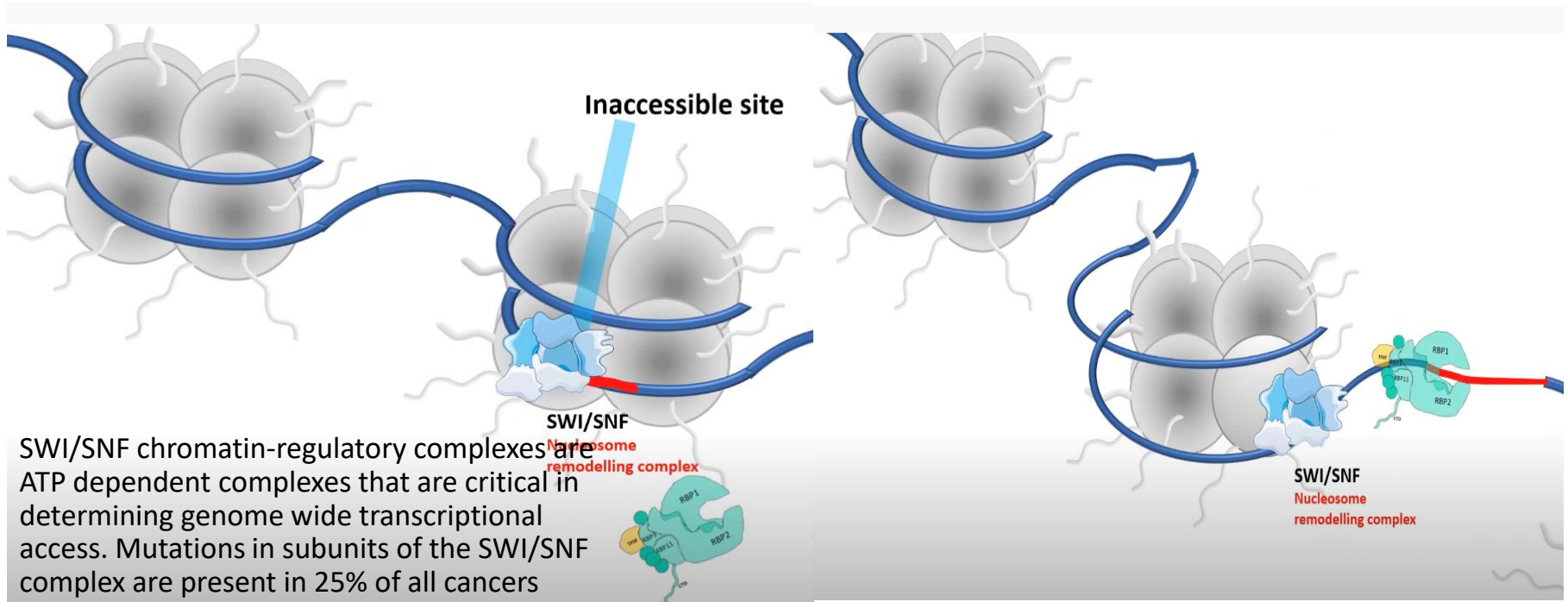
# In 2019, 20% of the Global Burden of Type 2 Diabetes is Attributable to PM<sub>2.5</sub> Exposure

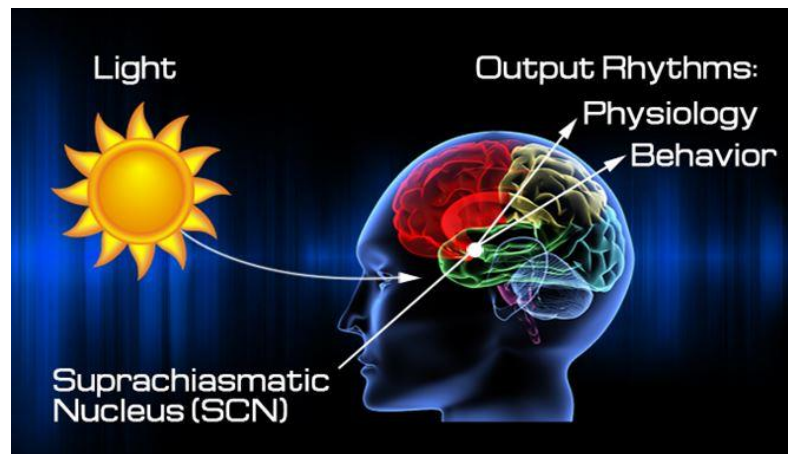




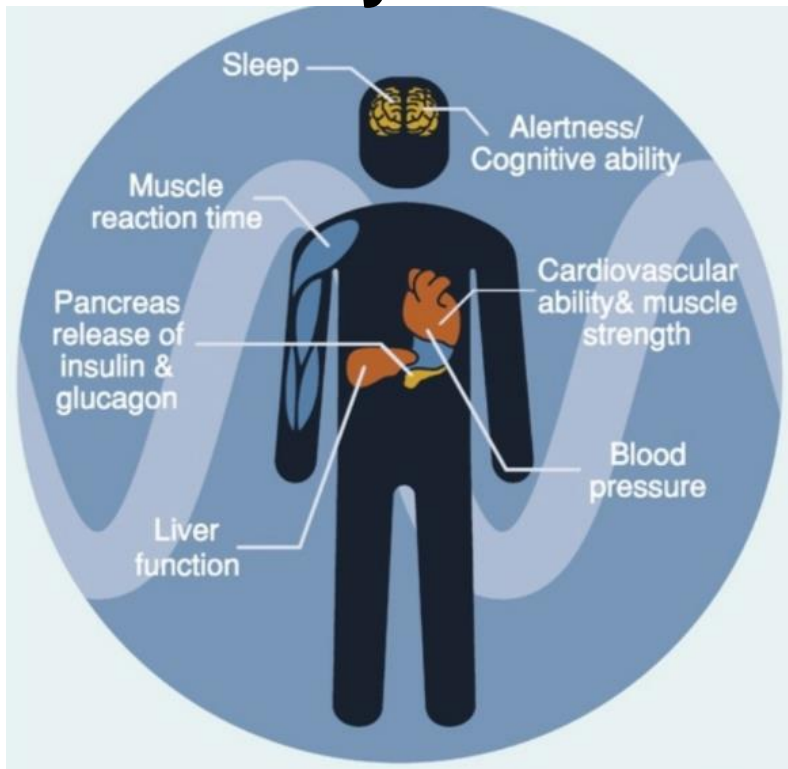


# SWItch-Sucrose Non-Fermentable (SWI-SNF) Nucleosomal Remodeling Complex

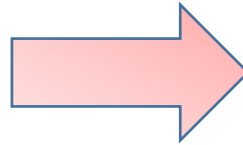




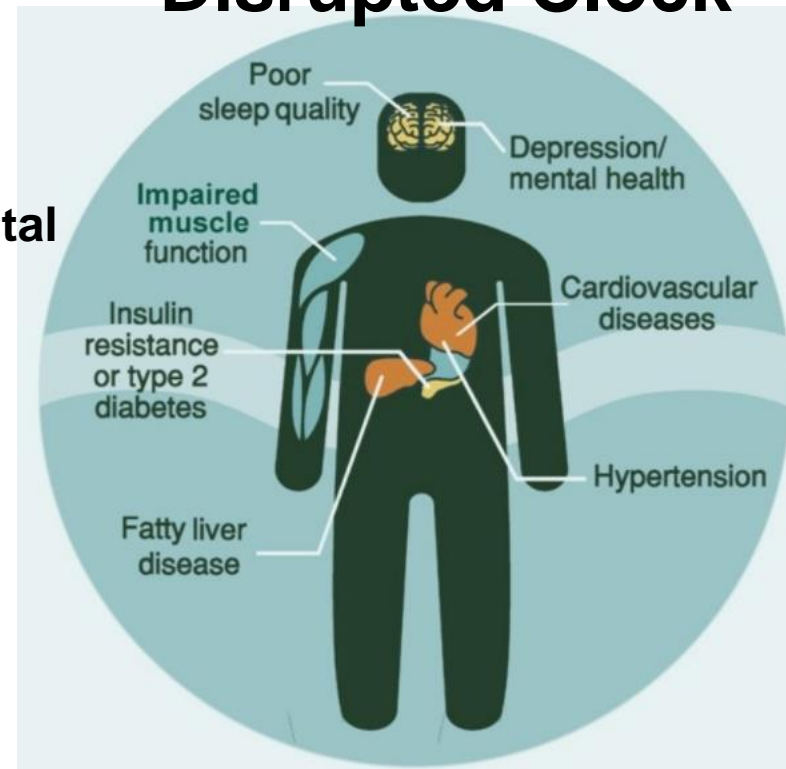
## Healthy Clock



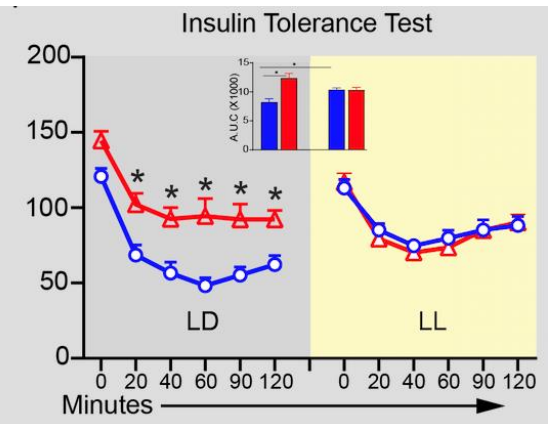
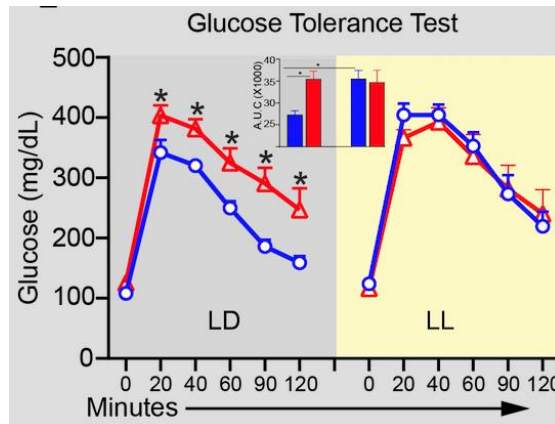
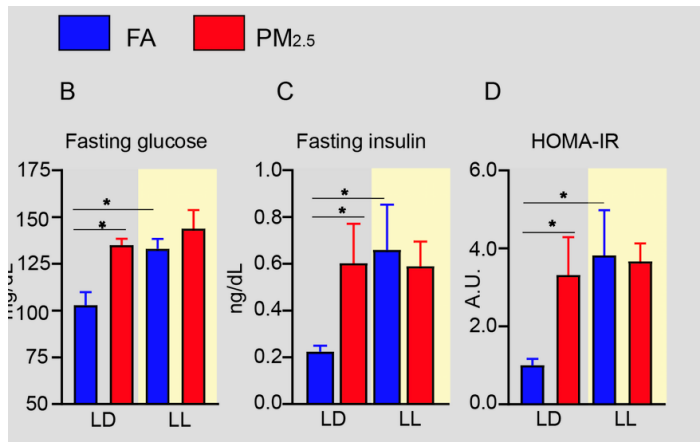
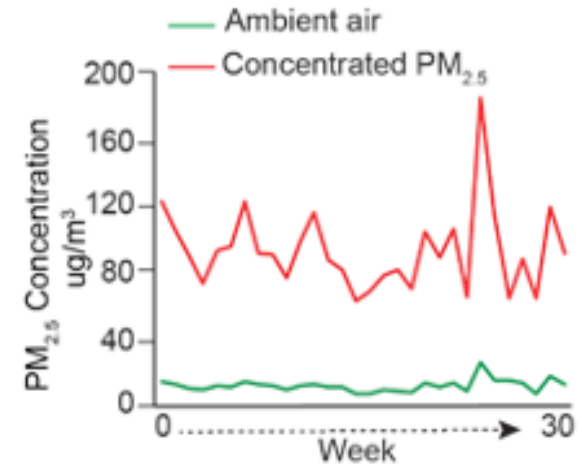
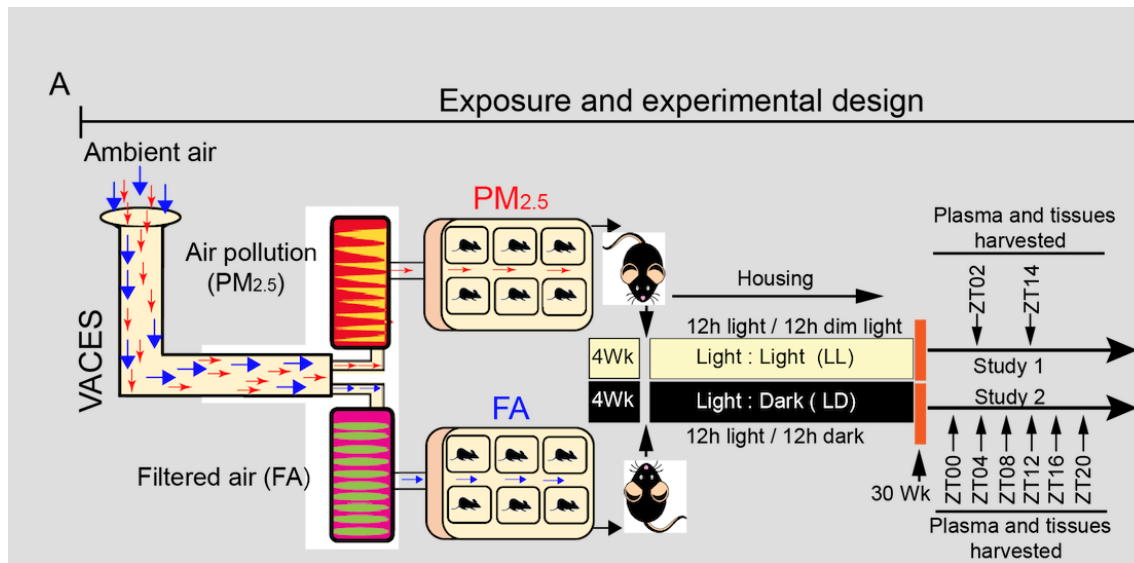
Light  
Environmental  
Triggers?



## Disrupted Clock

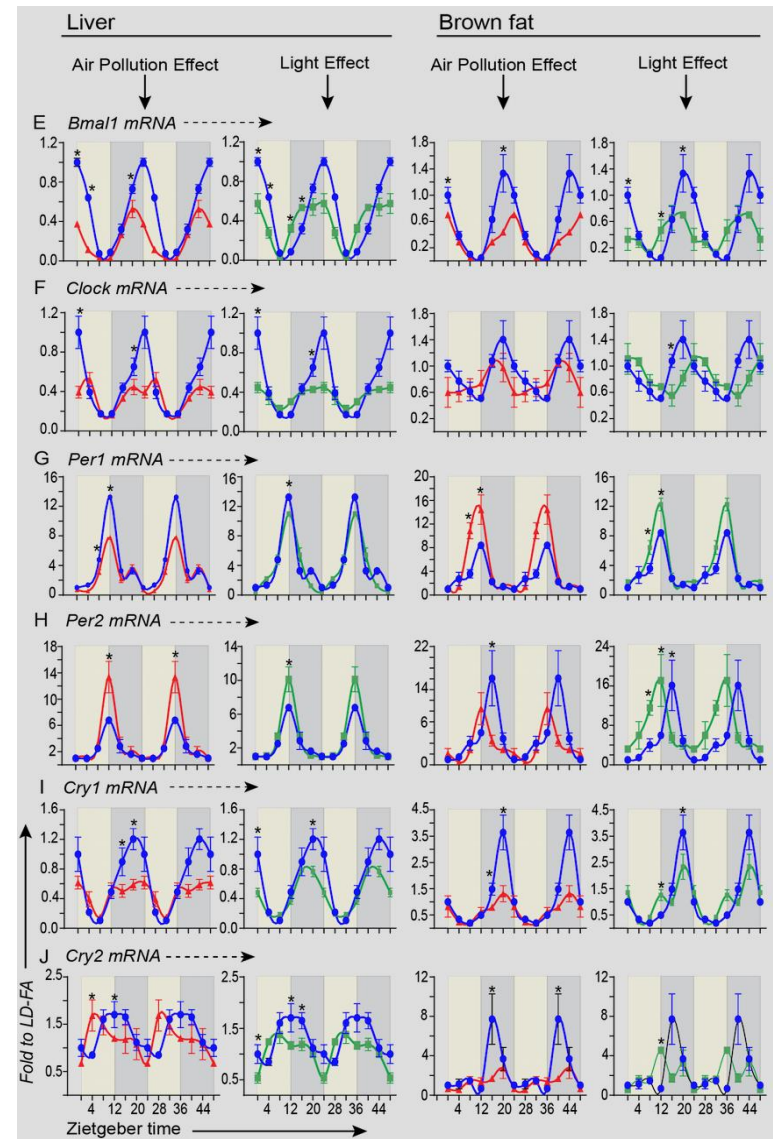
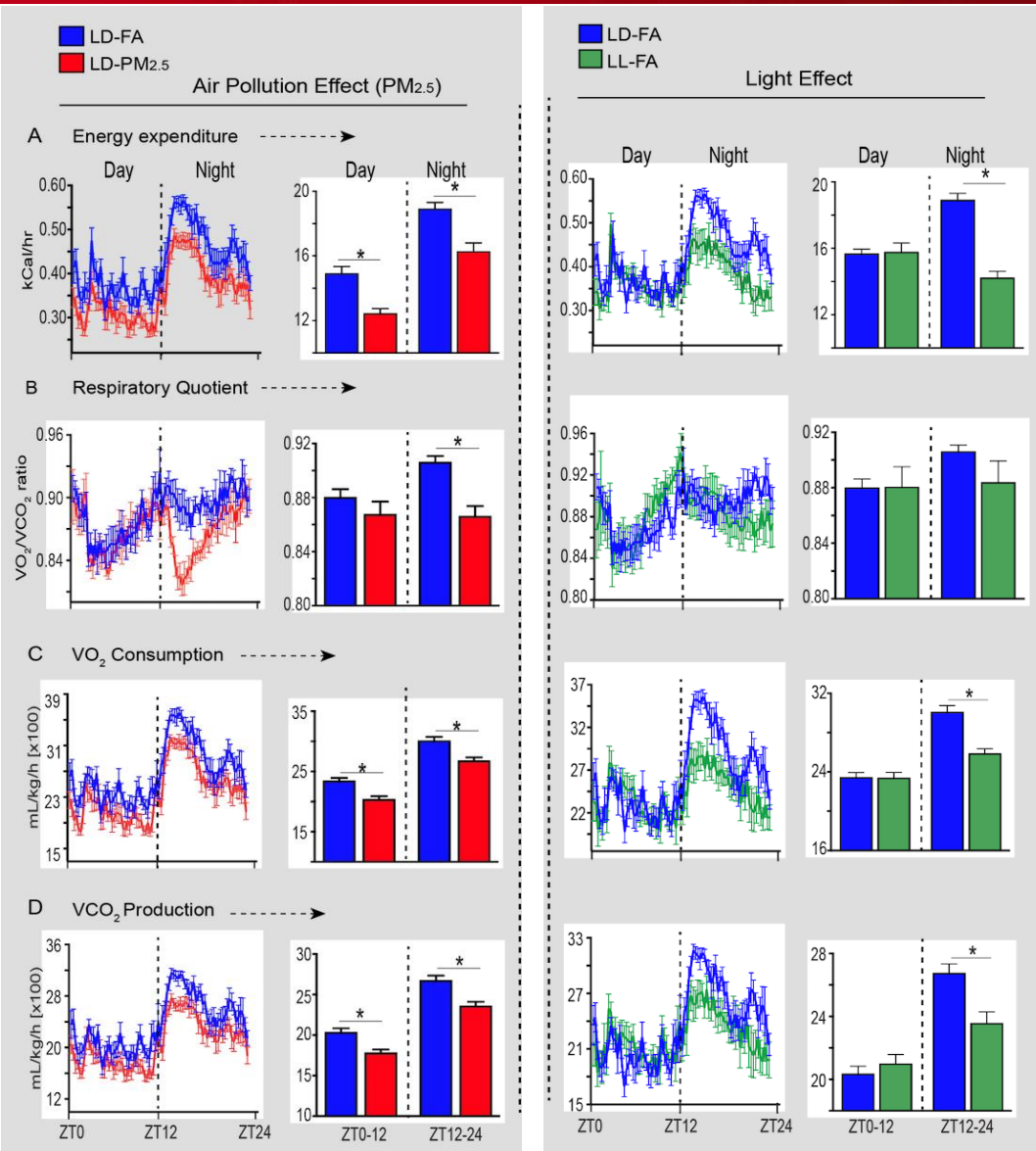


# PM<sub>2.5</sub> Induces Insulin Resistance and Causes Circadian Disruption Similar to Light at Night Exposure





## PM<sub>2.5</sub> Disrupts Metabolism and Circadian Function



# Conclusions

- PM<sub>2.5</sub> is the leading environmental cause of death and disability and the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of global mortality
- Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) dominates the mode of death due to PM<sub>2.5</sub>.
- Compelling epidemiologic and mechanistic data implicates PM<sub>2.5</sub> in ASCVD initiation, progression and complications
- Coarse, fine and ultrafine PM<sub>2.5</sub> potentiates blood pressure through alterations in vascular autonomic tone. These changes occur acutely in response to exposure.
- PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure induces hyperinsulinemia, adipose inflammation and altered metabolism (including impaired O<sub>2</sub> consumption and energy expenditure)
- Air Pollution may induce circadian disruption akin to light at night exposure.

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