Association between coarse particles air pollution and hospital admissions for respiratory and cardiovascular diseases in Busan, Korea

Okhee Yi, Department of Preventive Medicine, Dankook University College of Medicine, Cheonan, Republic of Korea
Ho Kim, Graduate School of Public Health, Seoul National University, Seoul, Republic of Korea
Seung-Hoon Lee, Inkwang Climate Change Institute, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

Background and Aims: Research on the health effects of coarse particles, greater than 2.5 μm and 10 μm or less in diameter (PM\textsubscript{10-2.5}) is limited and findings have been mixed. The chemical composition of particulate matter differs by size with more crustal materials in PM\textsubscript{10-2.5} and more combustion related constituents in PM\textsubscript{2.5}. This study aims to estimate risk of hospital admissions for respiratory and cardiovascular diseases associated with PM\textsubscript{10-2.5} and PM\textsubscript{2.5} exposure.

Methods: A dataset was collected from for Busan in Korea, which had daily hospital admission rate for respiratory and cardiovascular disease, meteorological variables (temperature, humidity and air pressure), and PM\textsubscript{10-2.5} and PM\textsubscript{2.5} concentrations for the periods 2005–2006. We employed a time-stratified case-crossover design.

Result: There were a total of 126,083 and 137,839 inpatient admissions for respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, respectively. During the study period a 10 μm/m\textsuperscript{3} increase in PM\textsubscript{10-2.5} and PM\textsubscript{2.5} were also associated with increase in respiratory disease admissions by 2.91% (95% CI: 2 to 3.82) and 0.96% (0.35 to 1.58), respectively. However, when mutually adjusted, the association of PM\textsubscript{10-2.5} and PM\textsubscript{2.5} with respiratory disease admission were 0.08% (-0.24 to 0.39) and 0.77% (0.3 to 1.25) for exposure on the previous day of hospital admission, respectively.

Conclusions: After adjusted by PM\textsubscript{2.5}, there was no statistically significant association between coarse particulates and hospital admissions for respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.

References: