

What else is in the Air? Breathing for Two

CEED 4th Annual Environmental Health Summit - Session 6

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Air Pollution and Particulate Matter (PM) - Epidemiological Studies



- Epidemiologic evidence of cardiovascular effects of particulate air pollution. ¹
- Increased incidence of myocardial infarction within 24 hours of inhaled particulate pollution. ²
- Overall, exposure to fine and ultrafine particulate air pollution has adverse effects on cardiopulmonary health. ^{3,4}

San Francisco, Camp Fire wildfires, 2018

¹ Dockery, EHP, 2001; ² Peters, Circulation, 2001;

³ Pope, Circ Research, 2015; ⁴ Van Eeden, J Toxicol. Environ. Health A, 2002;

Particulate Matter (PM)

- Particulate Matter – term for solid particles and liquid droplets in the air

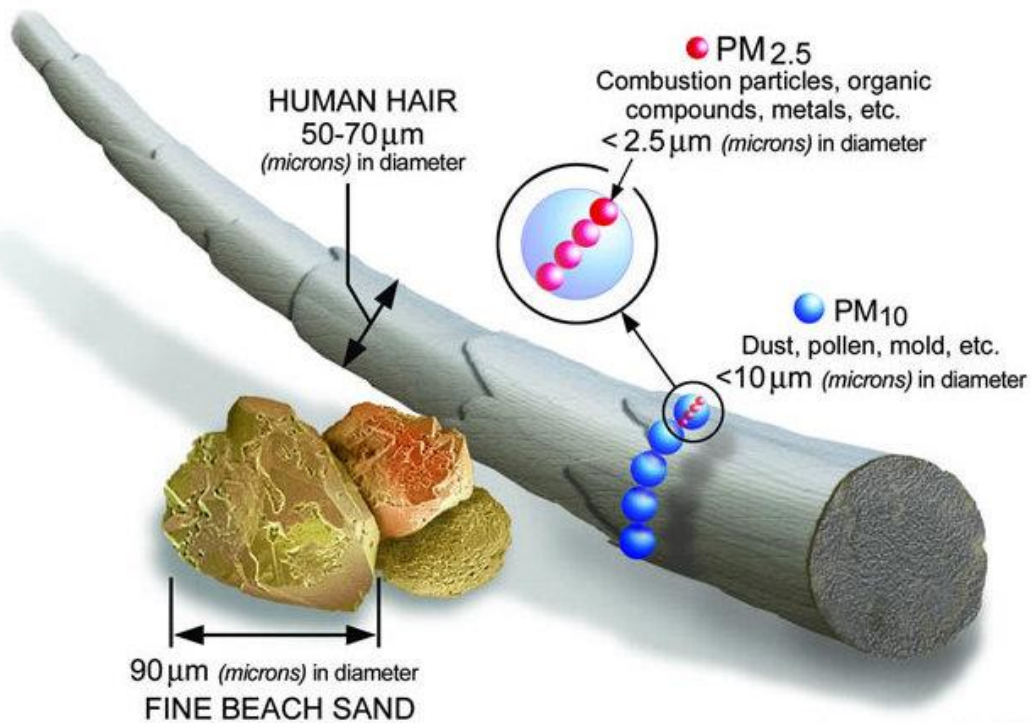
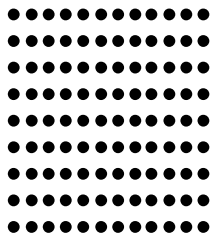


Image courtesy of the U.S. EPA



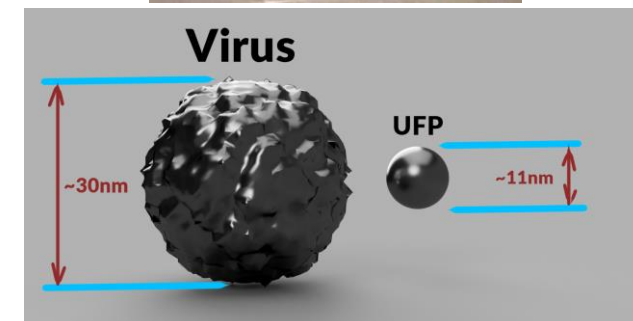
PM₁₀: <10 μm diameter
(Times New Roman 40)



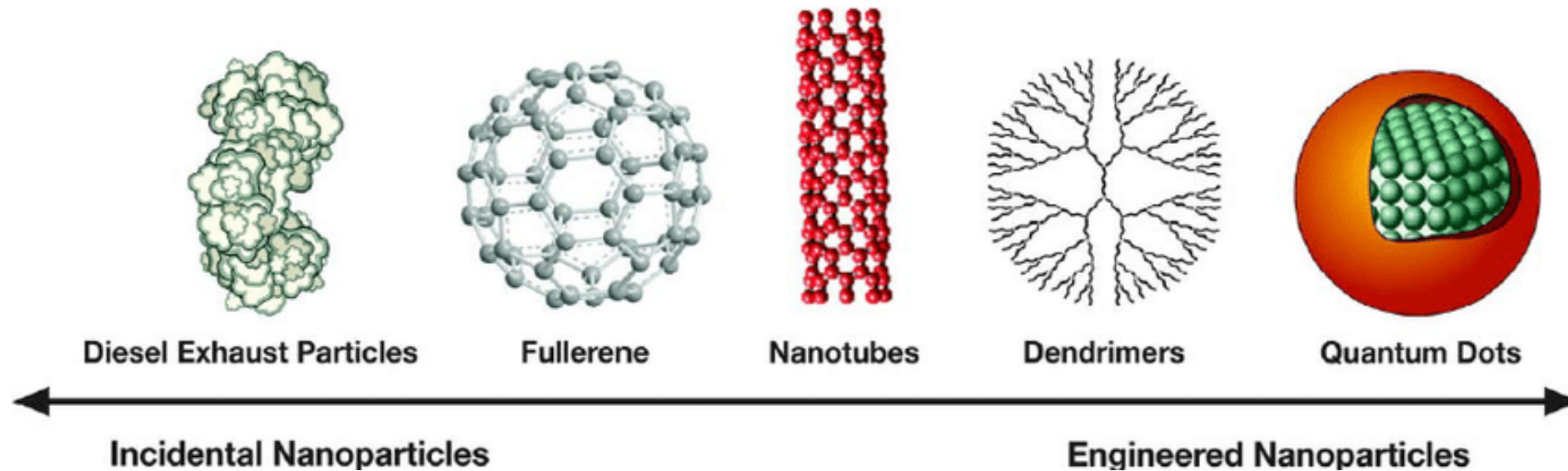
PM_{2.5}: <2.5 μm diameter
(Times New Roman 5)



PM_{0.1}: <0.1 μm diameter
(Times New Roman 2)



Diesel Exhaust/Ultrafine Particles/Nanoparticles

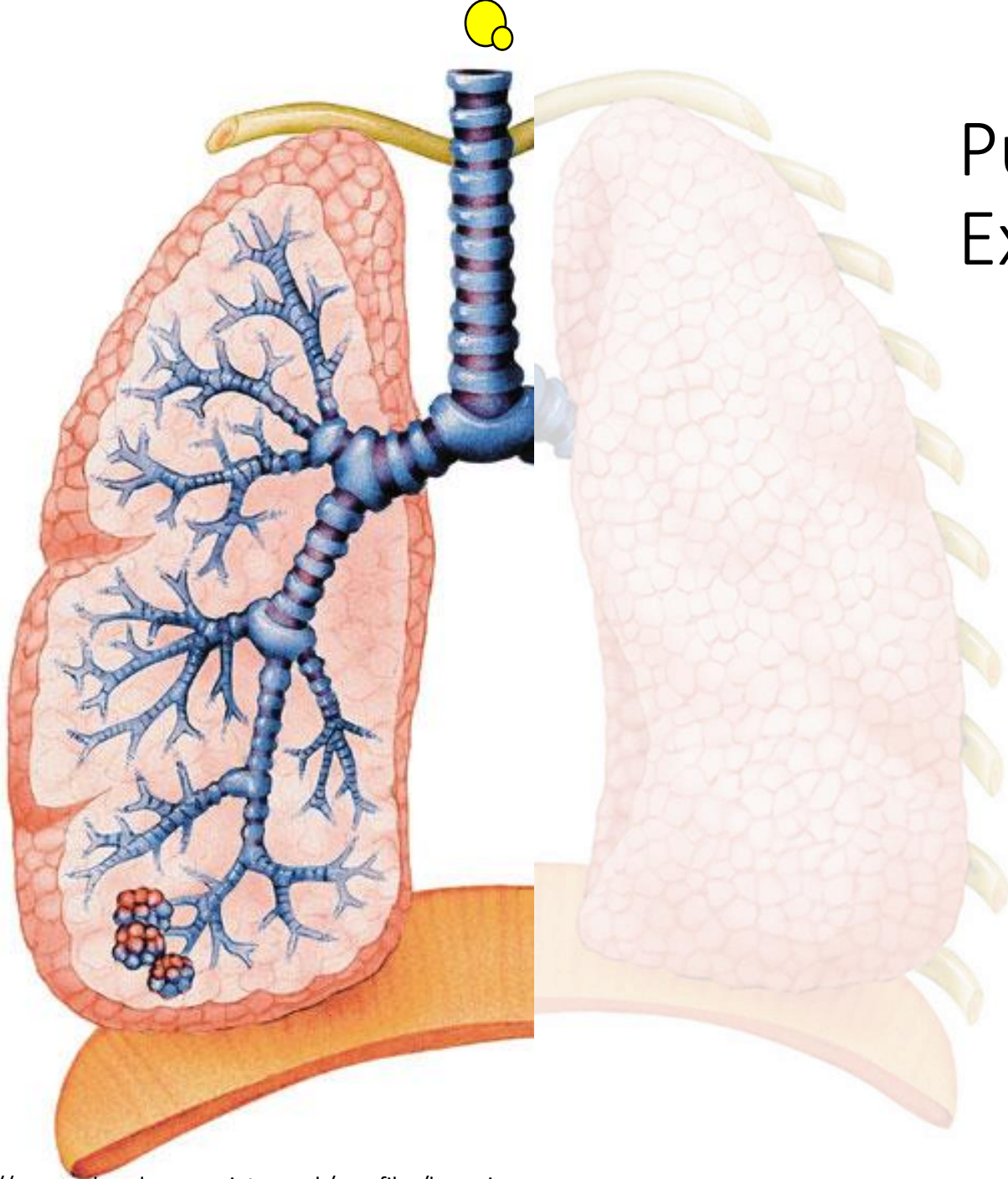


- Previously identified as “ultrafine” size, studies demonstrated higher inflammatory, reactive stress, and toxicity potential than larger counterparts. ^{1,2}

Larson, Biology of Reproduction, 2014

¹. Stone, IEEE Trans Nanobioscience, 2007

². Nurkiewicz, Part Fibre Toxicol, 2008



Pulmonary Nanoparticle Exposure

- Pulmonary particle retention¹
- Pulmonary inflammation following exposure²
- Particle translocation from the lungs to systemic organs³

Animation – Dr. Cody Nichols

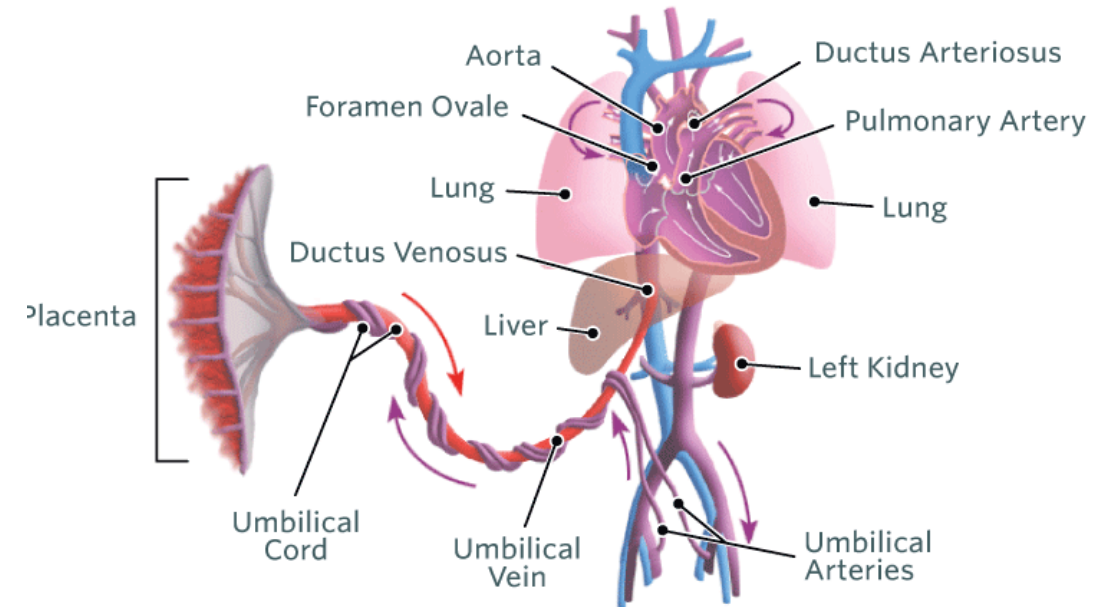
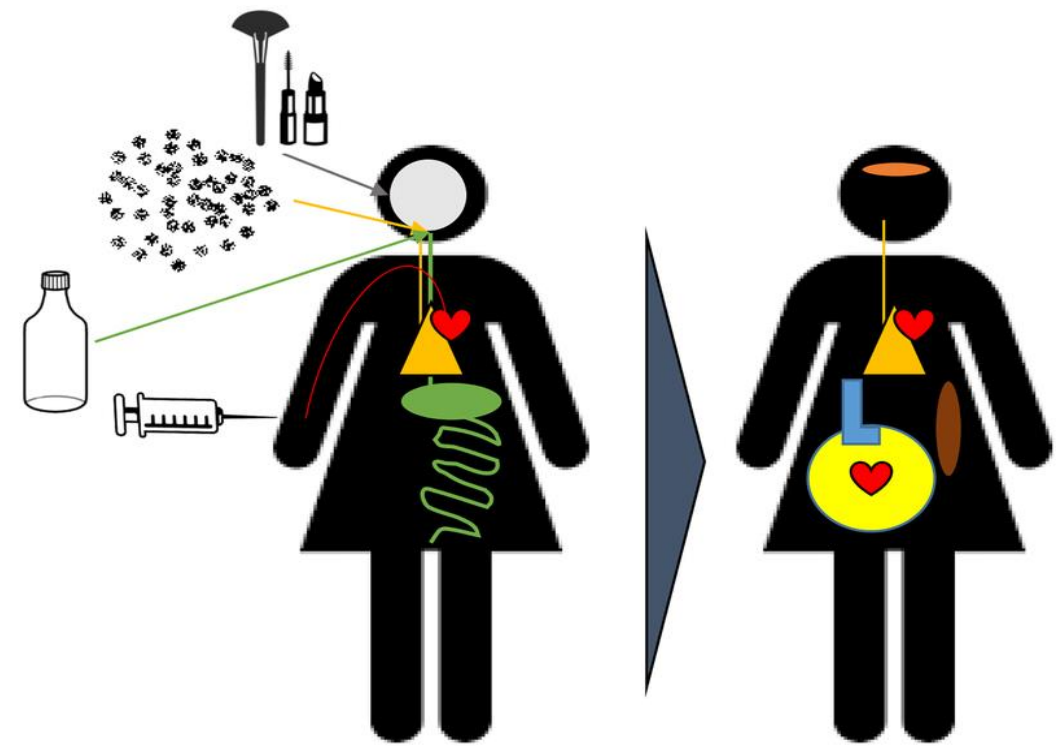
¹Husain et al. 2013

²Baisch et al. 2014

³Elder et al. 2006

Maternal-Fetal Model

- Complex and widely understudied model
 - Maternal Health
 - Placental Barrier
 - Fetal/Progeny Health
- Hormonal variation
- Physiological disparities (normal)
- Developmental Onset of Health and Disease (DOHAD)
 - Progeny Health



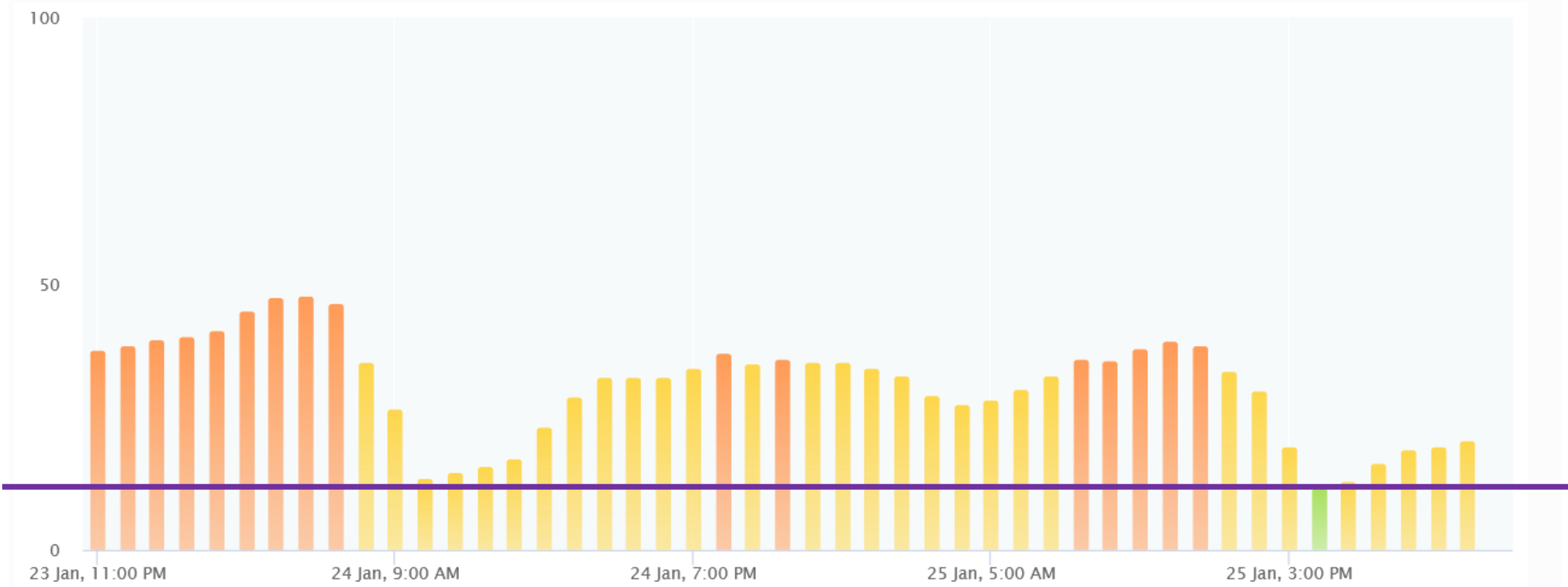
Epidemiological Evidence

- In Ohio, exposure to high levels of PM_{2.5} in the 3rd trimester increased risk of stillbirth by 42%. “High” is identified as approximately 16.5 µg/m³ or 135% of US EPA air quality standard of 12 µg/m³. (DeFranco, 2015)
- Exposure to PM during pregnancy has been associated with increased risk of small for gestational age. (Tapia, 2020)
- Increased risk of asthma and respiratory infections in infants and children. (Jung, 2019; Goshen, 2020)

HISTORICAL

Historic air quality graph: East Jersey Street, Elizabeth

HOURLY DAILY



AQI PM2.5

Chat or C...
We're Online

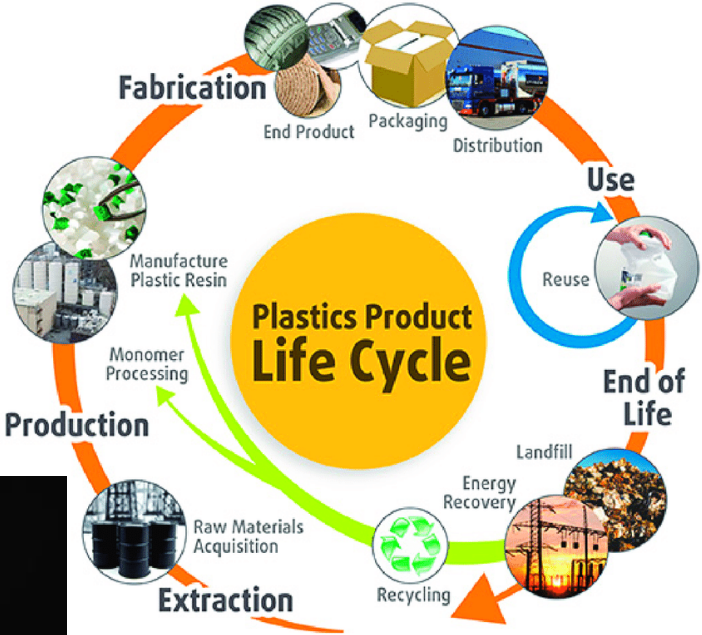
Our Studies in Laboratory Models

Nanosized Metals – Titanium Dioxide

Low reactivity surrogate for the particles in diesel exhaust.



Nanosized Plastics

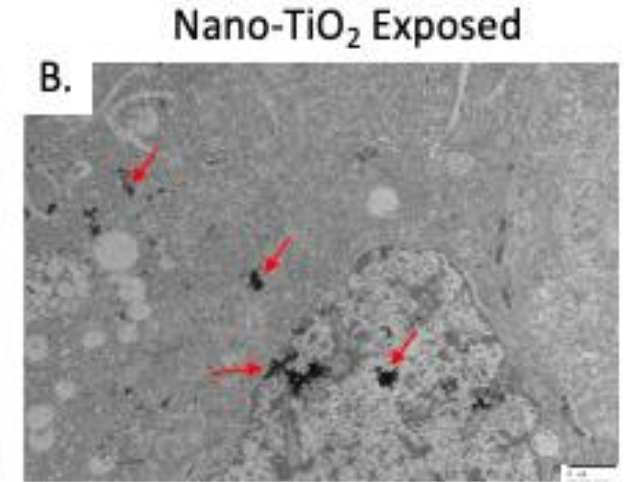
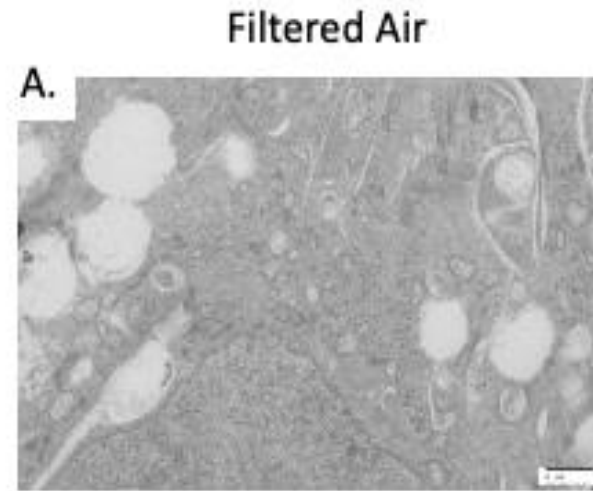


Particle Translocation – Metals

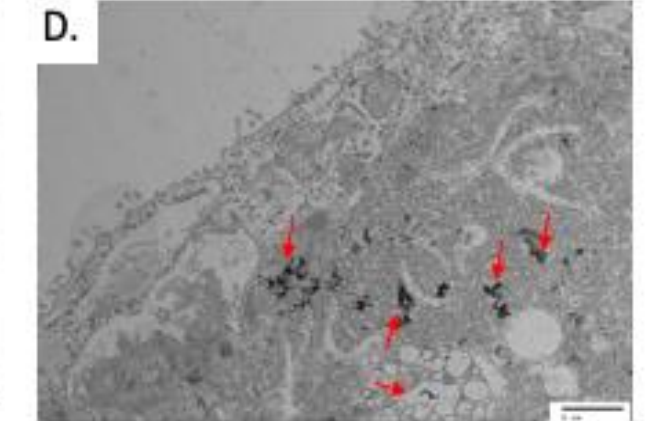
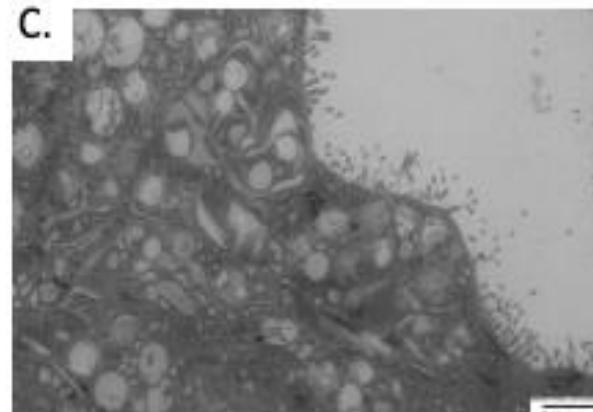
Organ	Expected exposure order (highest to lowest Ti concentration)	Actual exposure order (highest to lowest Ti concentration)	Actual % of Nano-TiO ₂	Corresponding Ti (ppb)
Maternal Liver	1	1	19.24	104.39
Maternal Kidney	2	15	2.33	12.67
Uterus	3	9	5.02	27.25
Placenta Decidua	4	4	6.87	37.27
Placenta Labyrinth	5	8	5.03	27.27
Maternal Spleen	6	10	4.95	26.83
Maternal Aorta	7	6	6.39	34.66
Maternal Whole Blood	8	13	3.84	20.83
Maternal Heart	9	7	5.87	31.84
Maternal Pancreas	10	12	3.90	21.14
Ovaries	11	11	4.69	25.44
Umbilical	12	5	6.65	36.10
Fetal Liver	13	14	3.02	16.36
Fetal Whole Blood	14	2	12.93	70.14
Fetal Heart	15	3	9.28	50.38
Total Ti (ppb)				542.59

Particle Translocation – Metals

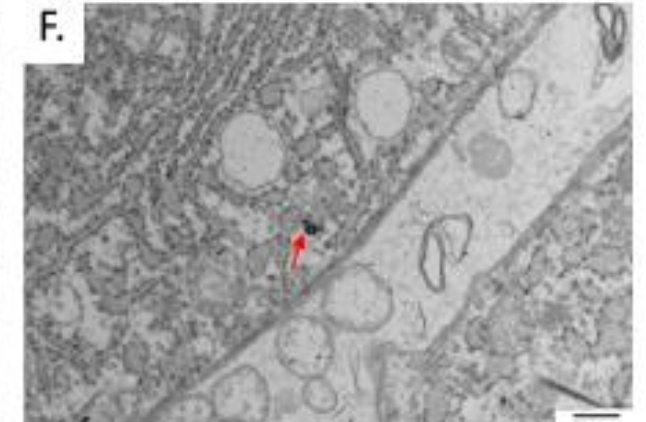
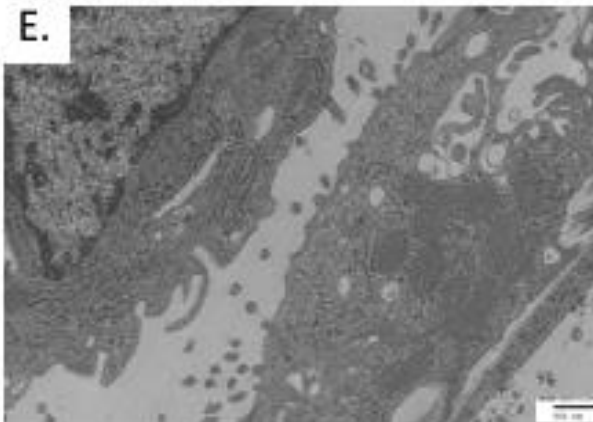
3000x



3800x

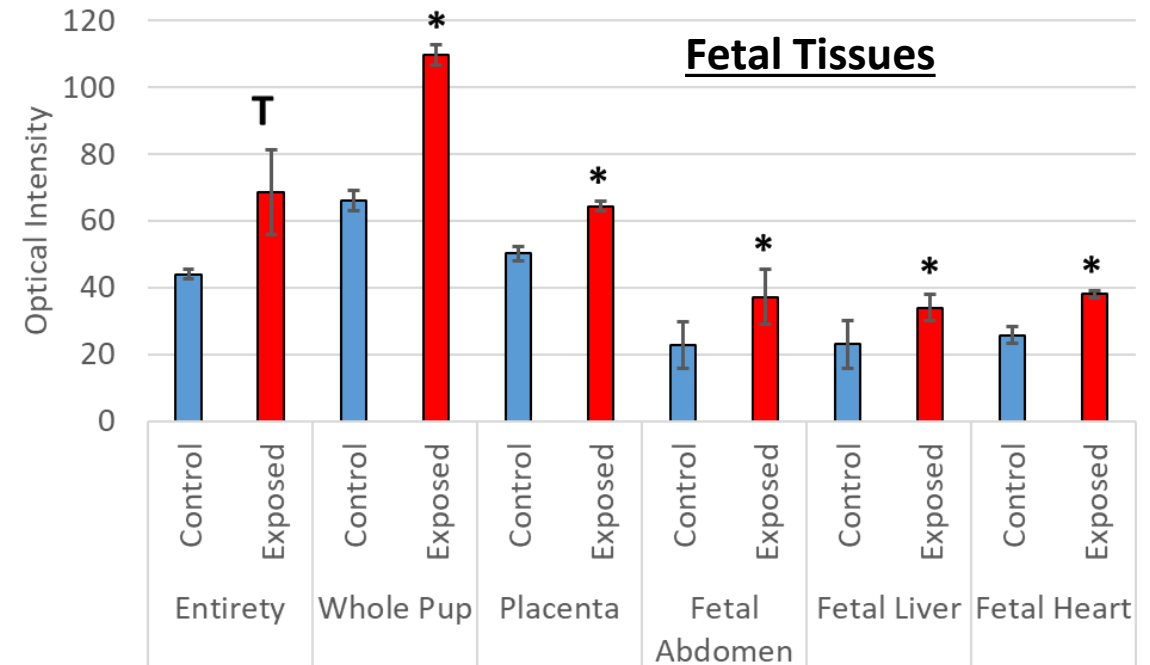
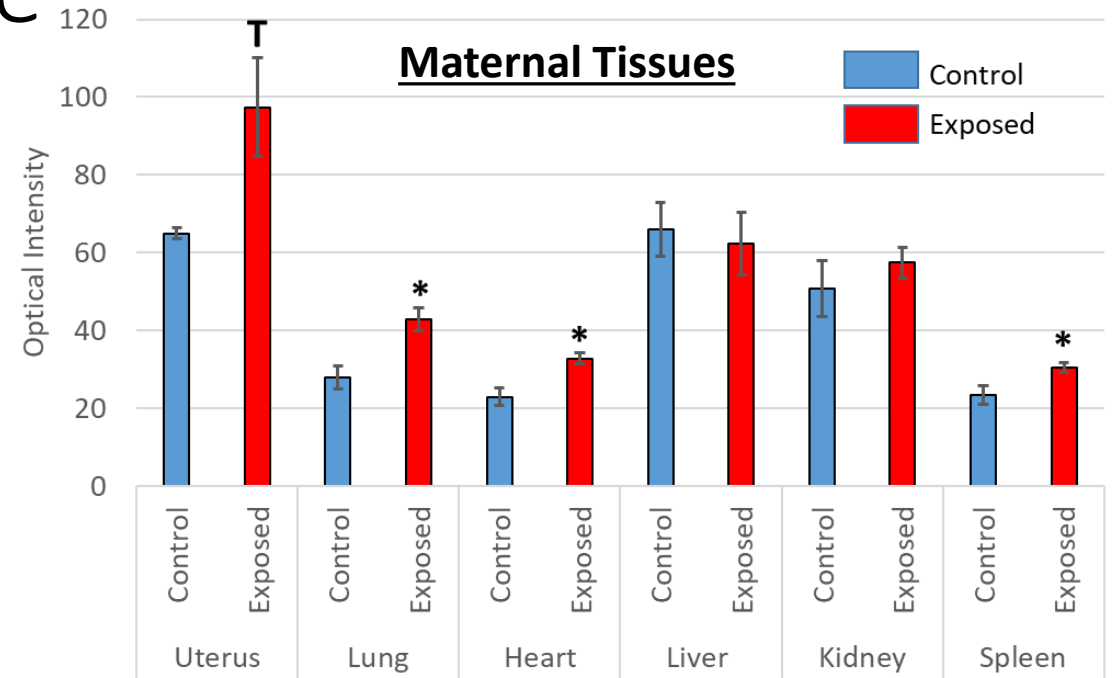
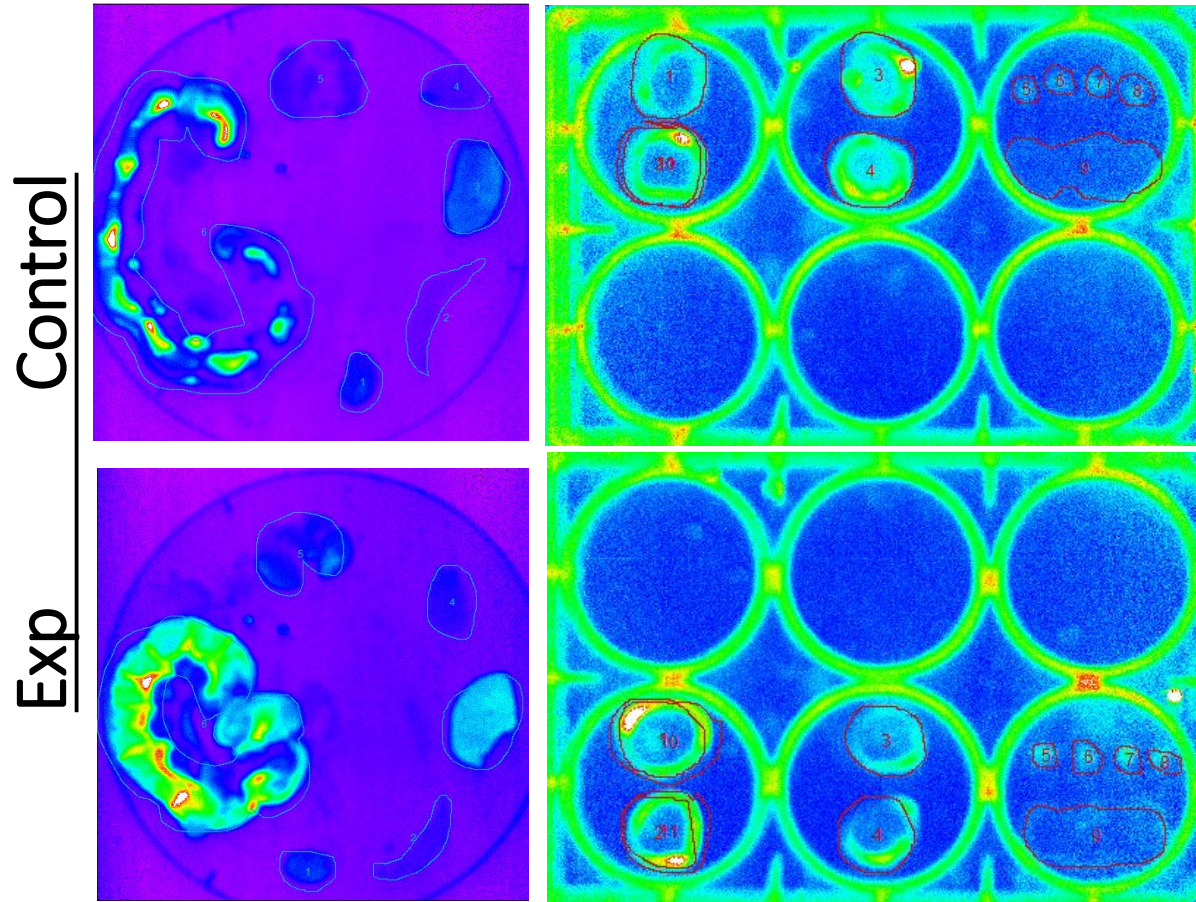


10000x



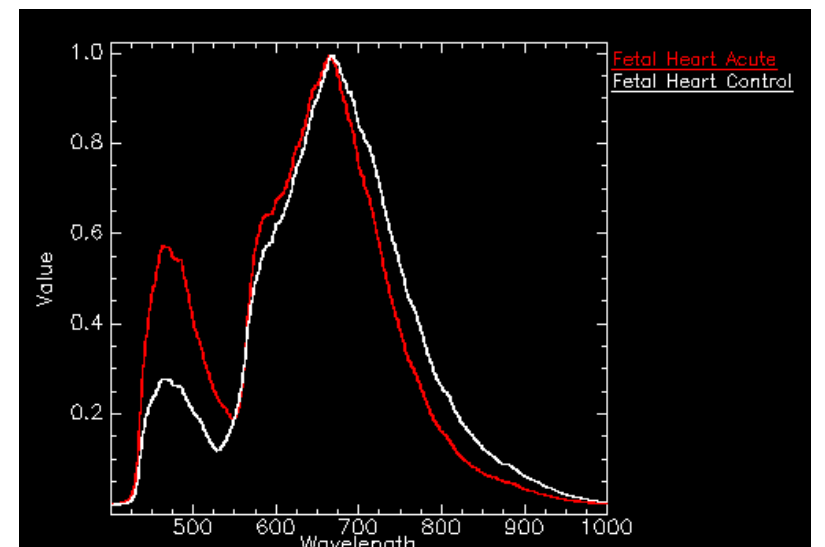
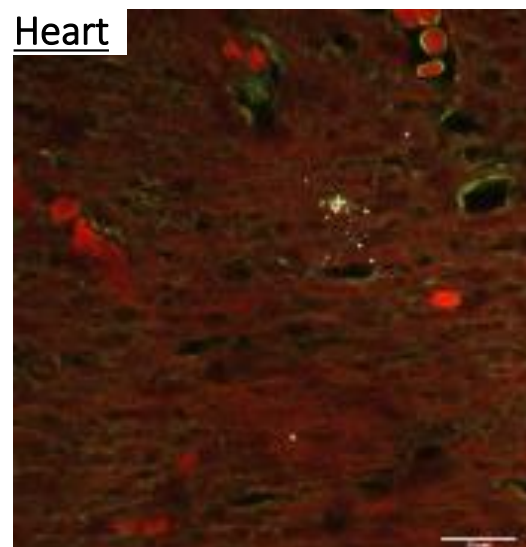
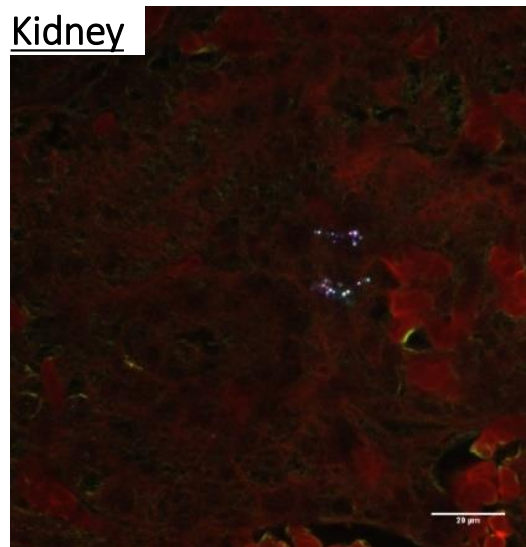
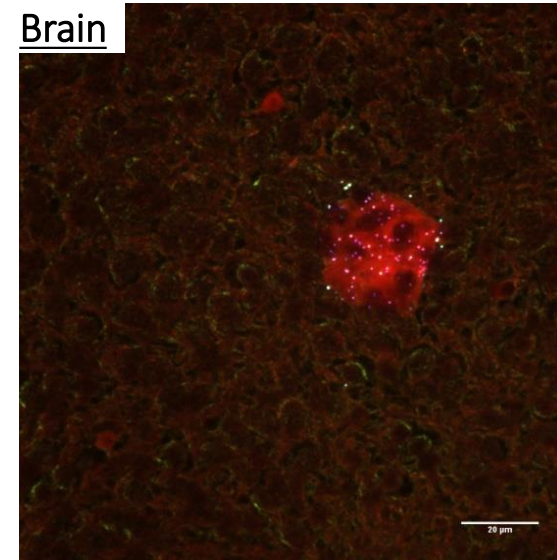
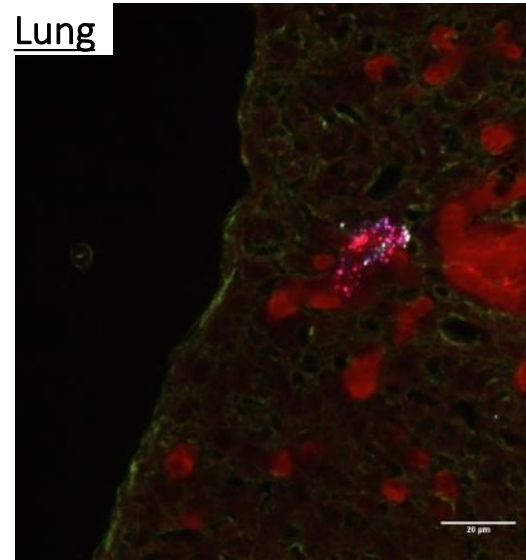
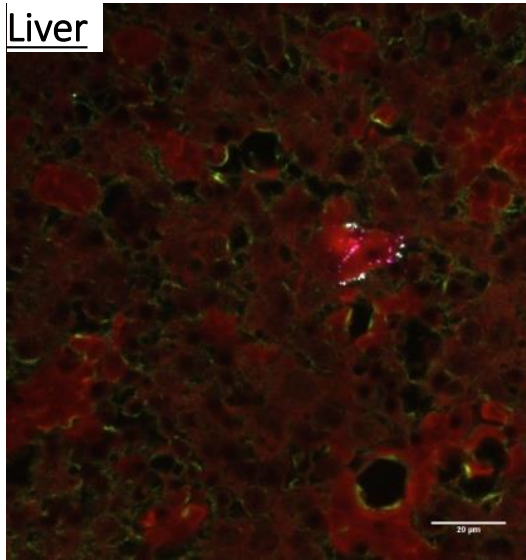
Nanoplastic Translocation to the Fetal Compartment

- In Vivo* Translocation (Optical Imaging)



Nanoplastic Translocation to the Fetal Compartment

*(Dark-Field
Microscopy)*



Microplastic particle migration to the human placenta after **real-world** exposure

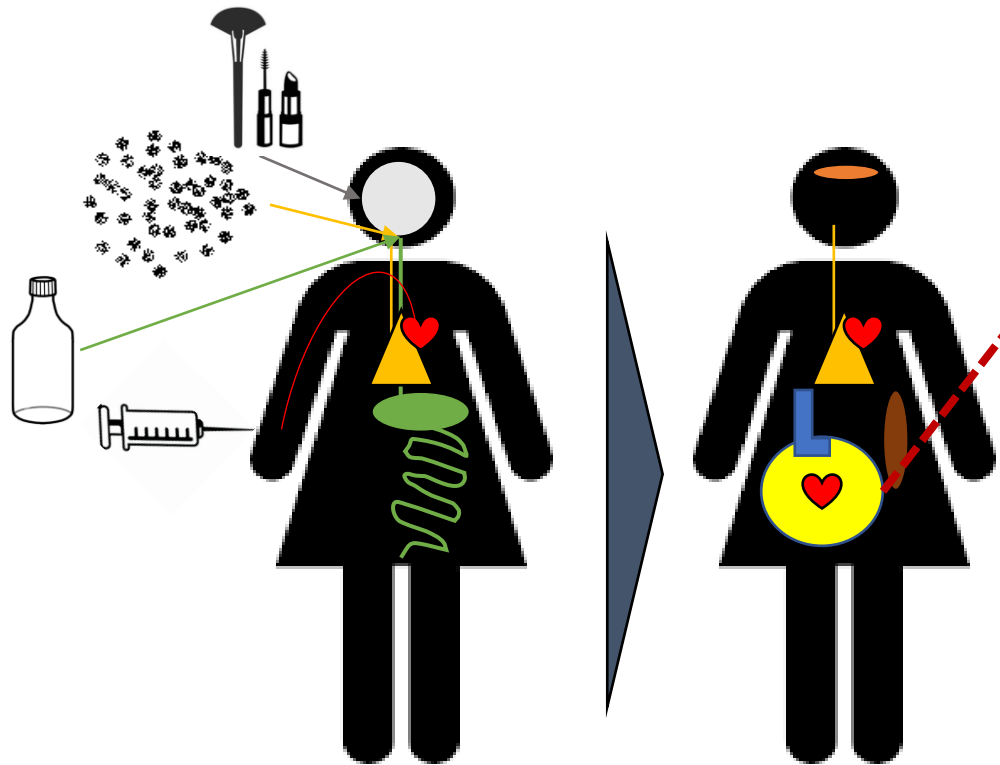


Figure 2

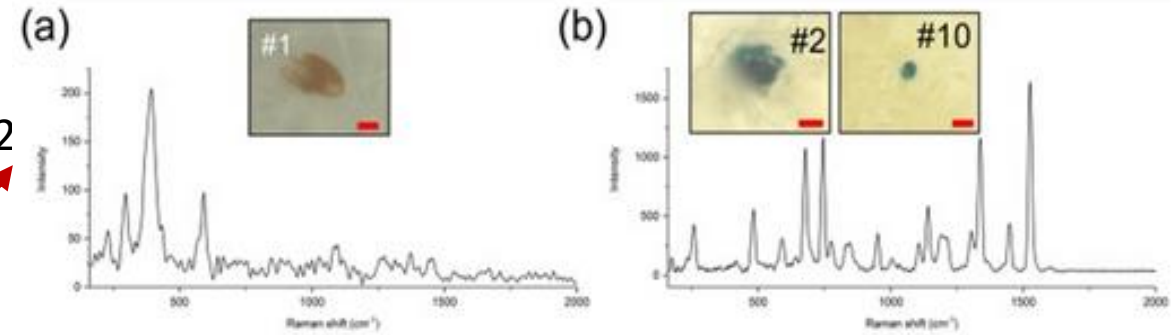


Table 1

Particle	Placenta Portion	Microparticles				Pigment	
		Size	Color	Polymer matrix	Generic name	Molecular formula and IUPAC name	
#1	FS	~10 μm	Orange	n.d.	Iron hydroxide oxide yellow (Pigment Yellow 43; C.I. Constitution 77492)	$\text{FeO}(\text{OH})$ iron(III) oxide hydroxide	
#2	CAM	~10 μm	Blue	Polypropylene	Copper phthalocyanine (Pigment Blue 15; C.I. Constitution 74160)	$\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{16}\text{CuN}_8$ (29H,31H- phthalocyaninato(2-)-N29,N30,N31, 15; C.I.	

What We Know

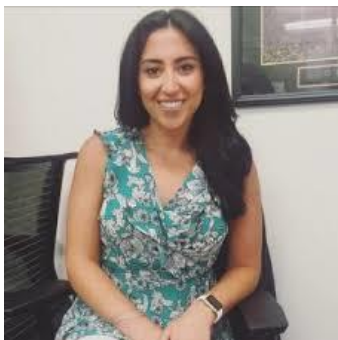
- Particles are in our air.
- Our laboratory animals are small for gestational age. *(Stapleton, 2013; Fournier, 2019)*
- Impaired uteroplacental blood flow after exposure. *(Stapleton, 2013; D'Errico 2019)*
- Particles or metal ions can translocate from the lungs to the placenta and the fetus within 24-hours. *(D'Errico 2019; Fournier, 2020; D'Errico, in Revision)*
- Prenatal exposure impacts offspring cardiovascular health. *(Stapleton, 2013; Stapleton, 2015; Fournier, 2019; Fournier, 2021)*

Needs/Solutions

- Understanding of local pollution levels – access, community partners, teamwork.
- Implementation of reduction programs.
- Understanding of the biological effects.
 - Know particles are getting in – and around – what are the local effects?
 - Maternal Effects
 - Placental Effects
 - Fetal Effects
 - Strategies to create an intervention/mitigate the biological outcome.



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GROUNDWORK
Elizabeth



National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Your Environment. Your Health.

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